

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

England & Wales · Charity number 1141879

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2011-05-12

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

Contact

Address The Parish Office
Pound Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 8AJ

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Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Activities: THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL CHURCH IS THE PROMOTION OF THE GOOD NEWS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, AND IN PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH, PASTORAL, EVANGELISTIC, SOCIAL AND ECUMENICAL..

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** WEST SUSSEX
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£183,695	£174,585	-	-
2024-12-31	£213,852	£210,286	-	-
2023-12-31	£160,860	£184,966	-	-
2022-12-31	£146,394	£113,026	-	-
2021-12-31	£117,927	£100,211	-	-
2020-12-31	£117,101	£94,460	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev JONATHAN SWINDELLS	Chair	2012-11-01
BEN HARVEY		2012-11-01
Catherine Jennifer Gray		2022-05-29
Emma Szepesi		2021-06-15
Lady Rosalind Ann Hutton		2022-05-29
RICHARD HOWESON		2022-07-12
RICHARD MICHAEL JARMAN		2022-07-12
Rev Charles Anthony Ashton Goddard		2021-06-15
STELLA MARIS PENDLETON		2012-11-01
Sally Christabel Shire		2022-05-29
Sophie Helen Relf		2018-05-03

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1141879

**Report of the Members of the Parochial Church Council and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025**

for

**The Parish of St Peter and St Paul,
West Wittering**

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

The members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul (PCC) present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025. The members of the PCC are the Charity Trustees.

The members of the PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2014.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number 1141879

Registered Name West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Principal address

Church Office
West Wittering Rectory
Pound Road
West Wittering
PO20 8AJ

Trustees after the APCM and post-APCM PCC meeting in 2025

Rector - In vacancy

Edd Costerton

Revd Anthony Goddard Clergy

Victoria Ford-Coates

Richard Goldsmith

Jenny Goddard Lay Vice Chair

Dick Howeson Stewardship Missioner & Treasurer

Lindy Hutton

Mike Jarman

Ferdy Pearson-Gee

Stella Pendleton Churchwarden, Deanery Synod

Emma Szepesi

Ross Tulloch

Sally Weatherall

Independent Examiner

Mr J Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
West Sussex
PO20 8HB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
94 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HD

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
74/75 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HR

Solicitors

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
Thomas Eggar House
Friary Lane
Chichester
PO19 1UF

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

BACKGROUND AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

West Wittering Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St. Peter and St Paul and the Church Room.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

The primary objective of West Wittering PCC is the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. During the vacancy, following Revd Jonathan Swindells' appointment as Rector of Storrington, the promotion of the mission of the church continued to be achieved through the five **Marks of Mission**:

TELL TEACH TEND TRANSFORM TREASURE

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The members of the PCC have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and remain committed to working to build the Kingdom of God for the good of the communities the Church in this place is called to serve. Further, the wider Benefice is committed to a shared vision to know Jesus, to discover the gift of His love and to follow in His way – the way that leads to life in all its fullness. This will be realised whenever the church is felt to be 'good news' by bringing a blessing on the communities she is called to serve.

CHURCH COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The only formal committee required by law is the Standing Committee, which normally meets throughout the year. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Other working groups meet to consider particular tasks – such as fabric maintenance – as the need arises.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Harbour Church services have grown both numerically and spiritually. The One Church Service held every week in either St James or St Peter and St Paul, West Wittering and on every fifth Sunday in St Nicholas, regularly make the churches feel comfortably full. There is a real buzz of joyful fellowship as people arrive for worship and at the end when they stay on for refreshments. From the perspective of a newcomer looking for a spiritual home, it is possible to slip in, enjoy a friendly welcome and join in without being uncomfortably conspicuous, as can happen with small congregations. In recent months church attendance at the One Church services has increased to around 80 at West Wittering with new people joining our church family.

The 8am Holy Communion service on Sunday mornings at West Wittering continues to attract 20 or more worshippers each week.

The total average number of different people attending worship on a Sunday at West Wittering is 98.

Harbour Churches have also continued to support families at times of loss and grief through funeral care and provision, as well as in the glad times of celebrating the blessing of life long, loving relationship through marriage and the gift of new life and faith in baptism. In 2025 there were 10 baptisms, eight marriages or services of dedication following civil marriage and eight funerals in West Wittering Church.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

ELECTORAL ROLL

A new Electoral Roll was compiled for 2025. Since then 16 new names have been added, making a total of 135 now on the register.

SUMMARY OF PCC MEETINGS

West Wittering currently has 12 lay members on the PCC (Dick, Edd, Emma, Ferdy, Jenny, Lindy, Mike, Richard, Ross, Sally, Stella and Victoria). Four meetings have taken place since the WW APCM in May 2025. Average attendance in 2025 was 75%. Three of these meetings were held jointly with B&I PCC. Some WW business was also transacted by the WW Standing Committee on behalf their PCC and an email vote by members of the PCC.

Decisions and actions taken by the PCC:

July 2025 WW PCC

- Addressing and improving social media presence.
- Church Giving speech by Dick planned for September and in progress.
- AV System lead paper has been circulated and is awaiting comments before next step can be taken
- Casual vacancies for Ferdy, Jenny and Sally were approved and Edd was co-opted.
- PCC Secretary (Beverley), Treasurer (Dick) Electoral Roll Officer (Hilary Byrne) and Standing Committee members (forthcoming Rector, Stella, Dick and Jenny) were approved unanimously.
- It was agreed that the expenditure for the proposed CONNECT initiative be underwritten by WW Church to the sum of £2,000.
- The previously circulated Safeguarding policies were approved.

July 2025 Joint meeting of PCCs

- Meeting chaired by Acting Archdeacon Tom Robson who formally appointed Peter Barnett Susan Monks and Stella Pendleton as Churchwardens
- Tom gave an update on the vacancy.
- The CONNECT initiative was discussed and the underwriting of the costs of £2,000. A new SLA position was proposed and agreed on a short-term basis of one school year. Anthony Goddard would lead on this and form a working group to include a Safeguarding Officer and PCC members from B&I and WW to formulate the requirements for the role and to initiate the Safer Recruitment process.
- It was agreed that a Youth Alpha course in the Benefice, hosted at Suzi and Edd Costerton's house could go forward subject to all DBS checks and safeguarding arrangements being in place.
- A review of the Joint Council Governance proposal was given. Key points included:
 - o The Finance subgroup will continue to harmonise the financial and accounting practices across the Benefice.
 - o Once a final decision has been made each PCC would go into abeyance and all property, rights, liabilities and functions transferred to the new legal entity of the Joint Council. This in turn would need to register with the Charity Commission.
 - o New elections for the Joint Council will be held, but each Church will retain a churchwarden.
 - o Safeguarding: it was agreed that all members of the PCCs will be DBS checked as is common practice in the Chichester Diocese.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

October 2025 Joint meeting of PCCs

- Canon Paul Doick (Acting Chair) confirmed that Revd Sam Parker and family would be moving into the Rectory at the end of November, with Licensing to follow (actual date was 16th December 2025).
- It was confirmed that the Diocesan Property Department has funded repairs to the Rectory, including the fitting of a new kitchen.
- The PCCs unanimously confirmed the nominations of Tracy Garrett and Claire Ralf for ALM Training in Pastoral Ministry and to share the costs as a benefice.
- A brief update on the Joint Council Governance process was given.
- Safeguarding policies on E-safety, Recruitment of ex-offenders, expressing concerns and 'whistleblowing', responding to safeguarding and allegations on the Parish, presented and approved.
- A discussion took place on how to effectively link PCCs/CWs/Ministry teams, and it was agreed that this should be put on hold until the new incumbent is in place.
- There was a discussion regarding access to PCC Minutes. Canon Doick cited the Church Representation Rules which state that Minutes are confidential although a more open policy can be adopted. Minutes may be available after full approval and only to those on the Electoral Roll and must not be published on Church websites.

September 2025 WW PCC Standing Committee approved works in Church Room:

New electrical circuits to increase capacity in Church Room kitchen and prevent fuses blowing (£450).

January 2026 WW PCC Standing Committee approved maintenance works:

- Investigation and repair of water ingress rear of the Lady Chapel/South aisle roof junction and the south chancel/north Lady Chapel roof junction. Cost £4,000 (excluding VAT).
- Repair of footpath in churchyard which leads to gap in west stone wall. Cost £2,610 (excluding VAT), 50% of which will be contributed by West Wittering Parish Council.

January 2026 WW PCC email vote on Parish Share Pledge for 2026 approved:

- Payment of £45,744 so that as a benefice we are contributing an additional 5% to support other less well-off parishes.

February 2026 Joint meeting of PCCs

- The result of the email vote on the Parish Share was disseminated.
- Adoption of the ChurchSuite software package was approved.
- Final approval to proceed towards a Full Joint Council was given.
- Interim PCC structure for transition to Joint Council was approved.
- Peter Barnett appointed Harbour Churches Health and Safety officer. Three working groups will be formed, one for each church. An overall Risk Assessment for buildings will be created and Peter will liaise with Safeguarding Officers for risk assessment of activities through regular meetings with them.
- The Lone Working Policy and the use of photographic and video images was approved.
- Registering the Benefice as a Bereavement Friendly Church was approved. Canon Yvonne Tulloch will lead the initiative.

The average attendance rate has been 63%. Meetings have been carried out in a positive and productive manner, working towards our mission to be good news, committing to the five Anglican Marks of Mission.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

DEANERY SYNOD

In June 2025 there was a presentation from Revd Jo King, Diocesan Disability Adviser and a report on the Diocesan Synod meeting. **In November 2025** a representative of Children on the Edge gave a presentation. The charity provides education and protection for some of the world's most marginalised children living in the toughest situations. There was also a report on the Diocesan Synod meeting. The Diocese was compared in a presentation with other similar dioceses. We have 8% more priests, but our giving is much less even than deprived dioceses, being 38% less than those with which we were compared. Average giving per week is £18.04. Parishioners must be generous, joyful and sacrificial.

In February 2026 the main part of the evening was a presentation by Sarah Adams, CEO of Chichester District Food Bank. Poverty in Chichester is hidden as it is regarded as an affluent area. There is now much more than giving out food to those who are in need. Participation groups have been formed, such as lunch and companionship and provision of advice on budgeting and batch cooking. Foodbank is now looking for parish ambassadors to keep in touch with Foodbank and take back the latest information to their parishes.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The following comments cover the period May 2025 to April 2026

We were deeply saddened by the death of Dr Susan Monks last October. Susan was a licensed Church of England Reader, churchwarden for St James Birdham and an amazingly energetic all-round supporter of the mission of Harbour Churches. She was past president and honorary member of The European Voice Teachers Association (EVTA) and a lecturer at the University of Chichester yet still found time to lead her Birdham Village choir and produce some wonderfully memorable concerts of sacred music in St James Church on many Palm Sundays.

We were in vacancy from 7th February 2025 following the appointment of our previous Rector, Revd Jonathan Swindells, as Rector of St. Mary's Storrington. During the vacancy the churchwardens were charged with running the benefice of three churches, ensuring that worship continued as before and liaising with the Diocese in the process of appointing a new Rector. As Harbour Churches, we were continuing to live out our stated vision to 'Be Good News' as we sought to grow God's Kingdom numerically and spiritually. We were looking for someone who would lead and walk with us in the next stage of our journey.

In July 2025 we were delighted when Revd Sam Parker was offered and accepted the post of Harbour Churches' Rector. Revd Sam and his family moved into the Rectory on 26th November and his collation by the Bishop of Chichester and induction by the Archdeacon of Chichester took place in West Wittering Church on December 16th 2025. This was a very joyful service attended by people from our three villages and also representatives from our local schools and local government, the wider Chichester Deanery, and Revd Sam's family and friends from his previous parish, St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common.

The Five Anglican Marks of Mission – TELL, TEACH, TEND, TRANSFORM, TREASURE have continued to be the priorities for the ongoing process of church renewal to realise the Diocesan strategic vision for growth. Our Mission Action Plan (MAP) was reviewed in 2025. It plans in the next 3-5 years to make our priorities as follows:

1. To provide vibrant worship in our One Church services.
2. To encourage more young families to become part of the worshipping Christian community.
3. To provide more opportunities for each village community to join vibrant worship in their community
4. To explore options to simplify our structure and governance so as to enable our energies and resources to be more focused on mission. This will require full consultation and separate votes for both PCCs.
5. To lay foundations for ministry in the new housing estates.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

TELLING AND TEACHING: We are immensely grateful to our dedicated Ministry Team for their wonderful support in maintaining services during the vacancy: Revd Anthony Goddard, Revd Canon Bruce Holben, Revd Jim Mould and Revd Canon Yvonne Tulloch; Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) Claire and Mark Ralf and Sue Graham Smith. Claire Ralf and Tracy Garrett will complete the Pastoral Ministry ALM Elective this May.

The Ministry Team have continued to develop our teaching and discipleship, for example:

- a Lent course focusing on the Beatitudes (Eric Eyre and Lindy Hutton)
- another adult Alpha course (Claire and Mark Ralf)
- a new Youth Alpha course (Suzi and Edd Costerton).
- Two additional CONNECTs each month in termtime (Sunday children and young people's group) (Alistair Ghinn and Suzi Costerton)

We also have a number of family activities for Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and Easter Day so as to attract more young families to worship.

Home Groups: The groups are open to anyone who worships at one of the Harbour Churches, and to others wanting to join who are looking for Christian fellowship. They meet and share in prayer and Bible reading and provide support for preaching themes. There are currently nine groups and around 70 members.

Monthly prayer meetings: These prayer meetings are held in the St James Centre, Birdham on the first Saturday morning of each month. The meetings focus on intercessory prayer for the mission of Harbour Churches. However, the needs of our troubled world are not forgotten. About 30 people from across the benefice participate each month.

Prayer tree in West Wittering Church: This provides a quiet space for people to write a prayer request for themselves or someone else in need, or for the needs of the world. Sometimes it is a comforting way of remembering someone who has died and is missed.

Life Events services are much appreciated, whether or not the people involved are regular churchgoers. Our clergy take time preparing couples for marriage, talking with parents before the baptism of their children and preparing adult candidates for baptism. They also spend time supporting bereaved relatives as they prepare for the funeral of a loved one. We are grateful to our Mission Support Facilitator for the work she does in liaising with all concerned in this important aspect of parish life.

TENDING: The Bereavement Support offered through Harbour Churches has been growing during recent years. Each November we have a 'Remembering Loved Ones' service of comfort, assurance and hope. It is usually held in Birdham Church and is followed by a 'Forget me not Tea' in the St James Centre. At our All Souls' Day Communion service at West Wittering Church, the names of loved ones who have died are read out. The 'Bereavement Journey' course of seven sessions is run regularly in the St James Centre. With the originator and the current national leader worshipping at our churches, the Centre has become the host for a charity that runs the Bereavement Journey, AtaLoss, which is enabling church bereavement ministry across the UK. Both PCCs have recently agreed to seek recognition for our benefice as a Bereavement Friendly Church.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

As well as support in times of bereavement, we increasingly TEND by sharing God's love, reaching out to people in our communities with activities that foster friendship and companionship. We have 130+ volunteers across the benefice who support a variety of activities. These include:

Soup Lunches: These are held on the third Wednesday in the month in West Wittering Church Room.

Shrove Tuesday fun evening in West Wittering Church Room with Beetle Drive, fish and chips and pancakes.

Outside the Box - a weekly lunch club with games for seniors in the St James Centre.

The Amblers - a friendly social group, of usually 15 - 30 people. They meet once a week to have a short walk together in Birdham or nearby villages. They finish up with coffee and chat in Birdham Church Pump Café which is also open to welcome Amblers who are less mobile.

Ducklings - A baby/toddler activity and parent/carer group. It takes place in the St James Centre on one morning a week in term time.

Children and young people have a range of group activities on offer led by Alistair, our Church Mission Worker (CMW), and supported by volunteers: CONNECT, our Sunday children and young people's group; the Explore group for older children and teenagers discovering faith; our weekly Tower Groups; and new Youth Alpha course. Each summer Alistair and his team run the popular and highly successful Redlands Camps for children and young people.

There are strong links between West Wittering and Birdham churches and the primary schools. School services are held in the churches and clergy and Alistair take assemblies on a regular basis. He has recently run another Parenting Course in West Wittering but open to all our parent/family contacts. At West Wittering school some church members help with the school's fundraising events and the reading support scheme.

Safeguarding remains an absolute priority. We are blessed in having two excellent Benefice Safeguarding Officers: Lois Smith and Victoria Ford-Coates. Regular training and necessary safeguarding checks are carried out. Our processes and policies are kept under review to ensure that Harbour Churches and all its activities are safe for all.

Our church building is a community resource, well used by residents of local villages and visitors to the area. The Friends of West Wittering Church hold regular fundraising events in the church. Last September there was a performance of 'Pride and Prejudice' and in December 'A Christmas Carol for Today' - both much enjoyed by attendees and players! Coming up this April is 'Jane Eyre'.

TRANSFORMING lives, supporting home and overseas mission and charities: We support the Chichester Food Bank throughout the year and also the *Children's Society* at our Christingle services and several other charities, such as *My Sisters' House* refuge.

West Wittering has provided longstanding support for St Paul's School in Bo, Sierra Leone. The project to build this secondary school was initiated by the church in 2006 and has drawn in members of the wider community. They have helped with fundraising and practical hands-on support for the school. Donations have been used for major ongoing school building programmes and sponsorship of children and young people who would otherwise have missed out on an education. Currently more than 2000 pupils aged 11-18 attend St Paul's.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

TREASURING our environment: The vast majority of church flower arranging in Harbour Churches is now carried out without the use of floral foam, such as oasis or similar synthetic products. We avoid the use of plastic cups and use Fair Trade coffee and tea. The toilet paper and paper hand towels used in the Parish Office and Church Room are sustainably sourced. Our new Prayer Tree in West Wittering Church is made of coppiced hazel branches so is sustainably sourced.

Our Wildlife Encounter Days, based in the churchyards of West Wittering and Birdham, continue to be very popular and are well supported by the wider nonchurch community. In West Wittering churchyard we have come to a better balance between meeting the needs of people and nature by having areas of longer vegetation confined to older graves not visited by relatives.

IMPROVING OUR USE OF RESOURCES: Governance Working Group (GWG)

In 2022 our two PCCs made the decision to meet jointly and work together across the Benefice so as to focus more of our energies and resources on growing our mission and less on administration.

Over the past 18 months a small group, appointed by the PCCs, has been working through the process set out by the Church of England for parishes to move from individual PCCs to form a Joint Council. In August the group announced that the draft scheme was ready for our new Rector's input and approval before we moved forward. Revd Sam enthusiastically supports the proposal and in February both PCCs unanimously approved moving forward to seek agreement and support of parishioners to the proposal to form a Joint Council.

Revd Sam, PCC members and members of the working group are all keen to engage with parishioners and explain why we believe this is the right step forward for Harbour Churches, share the detail of what we are proposing, understand everyone's views and address any concerns.

On June 21st Special Parochial Church Meetings will be held in each parish where every member of the electoral roll for that parish will be able to vote on the proposal. If approved by both parishes our proposal to form a Joint Council will be submitted to the Diocese for their approval in July with the aim of becoming operational on 1st January 2027.

(More information on this can be found on the Harbour Churches website)

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF RESOURCES

We are very grateful to Dick Howeson, our Stewardship Missioner, for all his care of West Wittering Church finances.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Key expenditure for 2025 was the planned redecoration of the church. The final cost was £51,733 of which £21,206 was covered by restricted donations from the Friends of West Wittering Church and others dealing in particular with restoration of the stonework. The remaining £30,527 came from the General Fund.

Unrestricted income for the year was £91,716 (2024: £106,899). The reduction is accounted for by three large one-off donations in the previous year. Outgoing unrestricted resources were £116,202 leading to a General Fund deficit of £24,486 for the year. Excluding the £30,527 contribution to the cost of redecoration there would have been a surplus of £6,041.

Home Mission. During the year the church also raised money for West Wittering Primary School, The Children's Society, The Royal British Legion, My Sisters' House, The British Red Cross, St Wilfred's Hospice, Sobell House and Canine Partners as well as paying 10% extra on our parish share to help other churches in the diocese. The total raised was over £9,000 (2024: £5,800)

Restricted Funds:

The Bo project in Sierra Leone: The school in Bo now has 2,100 pupils and 58 teachers and is in the top ten secondary schools in Sierra Leone.

In 2025 funds were used as follows: £4,500 was spent fitting toilets in the David Baker Hall so it could be hired out as a venue and raise money for the school, 1,000 further library books, donated by local people, were sent out and cabinets and shelving built for the library to take them, some £2,000 was provided for bikes to get more children living over 2 miles away to and from school. The security of the computer and science labs was increased by reinforcing the ceilings in the senior secondary school block following a break in in the administrative block. Fortunately, this attempt was foiled by a local resident who with some friends confronted the thief who was subsequently arrested by the police.

Three hundred and fifty of the poorest children are now sponsored, the vast majority of sponsors being local people. The sponsored children do better than those who have wealthier parents and end up becoming head girls and boys. The sponsorship fees are rising for the first time in 20 years from £5pm to £7pm, as the costs of sponsorship has eventually exceeded the income raised. Over £20,000 was spent on lunches, uniforms, books and sports kit for the sponsored children.

The year end balance was £12,749. The amount raised during the year was £30,695 (2024: £36,974) with expenditure of £35,889 (2024: £33,777)

Other Restricted Funds including a special donation of £37,500 to fund growth in the Christian youth work in the Benefice are covered on page 20.

RISKS & RESERVES

With unrestricted reserves of £44K at the 31st December 2025 and with the aim of maintaining a level of £15K working capital, there are currently sufficient funds to cover expected outgoings for the current year.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

The PCC has authority and power to invest funds in accordance with its legal responsibilities. It does not consider that there would be any benefit of such investment at the current time.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC

The Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 require the members of the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the members of the PCC should follow best practice and:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue its activities.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE PCC

Mrs J Goddard

Lay Vice Chair

Date: 8th May 2026

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Independent Examiner's Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J P Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex PO20 8HB



Date: 8th May 2026

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
Incoming Resources					
Income from Donors	2a	51,725	88,610	140,335	109,570
Other Voluntary income	2b	29,762	-	29,762	93,554
PCC Objectives	2c	8,817	-	8,817	7,346
Generated funds	2d	-	3,220	3,220	558
Investment income	2e	1,412	149	1,561	2,824
Total Incoming Resources		91,716	91,979	183,695	213,852
Resources expended					
Outgoing Resources					
Grants	3a	8,105	37,177	45,282	40,156
Work of the Church	3b	107,952	21,206	129,158	169,971
PCC Management & Admin	3c	145	-	145	159
Total Resources expended		116,202	58,383	174,585	210,286
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		(24,486)	33,596	9,110	3,566
Transfer from designated to restricted (page 18)				-	-
Net Movement in funds		(24,486)	33,596	9,110	3,566
Balance brought forward		68,947	29,663	98,610	95,044
Balance carried forward		44,461	63,259	107,720	98,610

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025

	Note	2025	2024
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	27,311	22,721
Short Term Deposits		36,421	60,057
Cash at bank and in hand		51,035	21,441
Total Current assets		114,767	104,219
Liabilities	8	(7,047)	(5,609)
Net Current Assets		107,720	98,610
Net Assets		107,720	98,610
Funds			
Unrestricted (designated as)			
General		44,461	68,947
Designated new church facilities			
		44,461	68,947
Restricted			
Sierra Leone Appeal		12,749	17,943
Refugees Appeal		1,531	1,961
AV Fund		9,759	9,759
Mission		196	-
Outside The Box		1,375	-
Youth Work		37,649	-
Total restricted funds		63,259	29,663
Total Funds		107,720	98,610

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

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Mrs J Gray, Lay Vice Chair

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act and Charity Law and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, subject to the departures referred to below

Planned giving, collections, donations, legacies and grants are recognised when received. Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings and equipment held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure, whether additions or improvements, is written off when incurred.

Incoming resources

Rents received from the letting of the Church Room are accounted for gross and when the rental is due. Interest and dividends are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income tax recoverable

Provision is made for tax recoverable on income received during the year.

Resources used

The parish contribution payable to the Diocese is accounted for in the year to which it relates and provision is made for any unpaid contributions. Remuneration and amounts due for goods supplied and services rendered are accounted for when invoiced. Grants and donations are accounted for when awarded.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are brought into the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to or owed by the PCC at 31st December 2025 for goods or services supplied are shown respectively as debtors or creditors. Provision is made for any liabilities known at 31st December 2025.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is legally responsible. The accounts do not include the accounts of Church groups that are administered or run by informal groups of Church members or any group affiliated to another body.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
2. Incoming resources				
2a Incoming resources from Donors				
Donations	37,504	75,450	112,954	89,730
Gift Aid recoverable	4,732	13,160	17,892	11,355
Collections	8,429		8,429	8,125
Other income	1,060	-	1,060	360
	51,725	88,610	140,335	109,570
2b Other Voluntary incoming resources				
Grants - Parish & Chichester Council	1,600	-	1,600	1,600
Donations, Appeals, etc.	28,162		28,162	91,954
Legacies		-	-	-
	29,762	-	29,762	93,554
2c Income from Operating Activities PCC				
Church Room lettings	1,365	-	1,365	2,641
Fees and benefice income	7,452	-	7,452	4,705
	8,817	-	8,817	7,346
2d Income from Operating Activities-Funds				
Fund Raising events	-	3,220	3,220	558
2e Other ordinary Incoming Resources				
CCLA Deposit Interest	1,412	149	1,561	2,824

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
3 Resources Expended				
3a Grants				
Church Overseas	200	35,889	36,089	33,777
Home Missions/other church societies	7,905	1,288	9,193	6,379
	8,105	37,177	45,282	40,156
3b Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church				
Ministry Diocesan Parish Share	40,722	-	40,722	41,330
Rector/Rectory expenses	1,964	-	1,964	6,488
Benefice & Admin costs	24,252	-	24,252	24,384
Other clergy costs	1,674	-	1,674	2,017
Less Birdham & Itchenor contribution	(13,946)	-	(13,946)	(16,444)
Church Running Expenses	3,209	-	3,209	3,492
Church Maintenance	3,604	-	3,604	10,055
Upkeep of Churchyard	6,740	-	6,740	8,170
Church Room running costs	2,666	-	2,666	2,477
Salaries and associated expenses	6,540	-	6,540	6,050
Sundry		-	-	-
	77,425	-	77,425	88,019
Church Refurbishment	30,527	21,206	51,733	81,952
Total	107,952	21,206	129,158	169,971

1. Rector's, Rectory and Benefice costs are shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.
2. Other clergy costs are also shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC. They represent the expenses of Assistant Clergy
3. Church running costs include upkeep of services, heating & lighting and worship resources.

3c PCC Management & Administration

	2025	2024
Bank Charges	46	74
Other Admin - Gift aid envelopes etc.	99	85
AGM costs	-	-
	145	159

4 Staff Costs

Wages, Fees and Salaries	6,540	-	6,540	6,050
Salaries include payment towards costs of the Youth Worker				

	2025	2024
Number of charitable staff (average monthly number employed)	-	-
No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.		

West Wittering Parochial Church Council**Notes to the Financial Statements**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2025	Total funds 2024
--	-----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC**5a Tangible Fixed Assets**

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is considered to be a heritage asset, so not shown at a valuation.

Leasehold Land & Buildings comprises the Church Room in Pound Road.

The land is owned by the Diocese and as such, no value has been given to it in these Accounts.

Church equipment comprises a sound system and a projector screen, which have a nil book value.

5b Investment Fixed Assets**Value as at 31.12.2024**

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Gains on disposals

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Unrealised gains/(losses)

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Disposal

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Value as at 31.12.2025

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

The investments are held to provide an investment return for the PCC.

6. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Held by Church of England Deposit Fund	36,421	-	36,421	60,057
Held by HSBC Bank	13,279	37,756	51,035	21,441
	49,700	37,756	87,456	81,498

7. Debtors

HMRC - estimated Gift Aid receipts outstanding	3,380	13,160	16,540	9,985
VAT Refund Due	1,628	-	1,628	1,371
Amounts due received after 31st December	9,143	-	9,143	11,365
Total Debtors	14,151	13,160	27,311	22,721

8. Liabilities

Other creditors and accruals	3,947	-	3,947	3,521
Charitable Giving	3,100	-	3,100	2,088
	7,047	-	7,047	5,609

9. Capital Commitments

There were no outstanding capital commitments as at 31st December 2025

10. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No member of the PCC received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee

Trustee Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received contributions towards their expenses incurred in their duties as a trustee within the parish (2024: nil).

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Movement on Funds	At 01.01.2025	Income	Outgoing	Revaluation	At 31.12.2025
Unrestricted Funds					
General	68,947	91,716	(116,202)		44,461
	-	-	-	-	-
	68,947	91,716	(116,202)	-	44,461
Restricted Funds					
Sierra Leone Appeal	17,943	30,695	(35,889)	-	12,749
Refugees Appeal	1,961	-	(430)	-	1,531
AV Fund	9,759	-	-	-	9,759
Mission Fund	-	854	(658)	-	196
Outside The Box	-	1,575	(200)	-	1,375
Youth Work	-	37,649		-	37,649
Church Refurbishment	-	21,206	(21,206)	-	-
	29,663	91,979	(58,383)	-	63,259
Total Funds	98,610	183,695	(174,585)	-	107,720

Restricted Funds

The Sierra Leone Appeal Fund was set up in 2006 when the Church agreed to raise funds to build and support a school in Bo, Sierra Leone, inviting the village to be involved. The school named St Paul's School has grown significantly since then thanks to support from people in the village and from further afield.

The AV Fund has been donated to go towards the provision of an AV sytem for the Church.

The Mission Fund, opened in late December 2025, is for donations made specifically to help spread the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the Benefice.

Outside The Box is a weekly social gathering held in West Wittering and Birdham to give anyone who is or is feeling isolated an opportunity to chat, play board games, enjoy talks and have some lunch. Set up by the church, it has received sponsorship from both church and non-church related sources.

Youth Work. An anonymous donation of £37,500 including gift aid was made to Harbour Churches in November 2025. The intention of this donation is to fund growth in the Christian youth work in the Benefice over and above existing activities (eg Connect, Tower Group, Redlands) so as to support the development of the Christian faith amongst children through to school leaving age.

Church Refurbishment. This was funding received from the Friends of St Peter and Paul's and others to cover the cost of internal stonework restoration and conservation work on the Ten Commanments decalogues.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1141879

**Report of the Members of the Parochial Church Council and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

for

**The Parish of St Peter and St Paul,
West Wittering**

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

The members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul (PCC) present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The members of the PCC are the Charity Trustees.

The members of the PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2014.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number 1141879

Registered Name West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Principal address

Church Office
West Wittering Rectory
Pound Road
West Wittering
PO20 8AJ

Trustees after the APCM in May 2024

Revd A. Goddard	Clergy
Mrs J. Gray	Lay Vice Chair
Mr. D. Howeson	Stewardship Missioner & Treasurer
Lady L. Hutton	
Mr M. Jarman	
Mr F. Pearson-Gee	Co-opted in June 23
Ms S. Pendleton	Churchwarden, Deanery Synod
Mr R. Tulloch	
Mrs S. Weatherall	
Revd J. Swindells	Chairman
Mrs E Szepesi	Secretary

Observer

Dr S. Monks Licensed Reader

Independent Examiner

Mr J Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
West Sussex
PO20 8HB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
94 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HD

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
74/75 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HR

Solicitors

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
Thomas Eggar House
Friary Lane
Chichester
PO19 1UF

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

BACKGROUND AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

West Wittering Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St. Peter and St Paul and the Church Room.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

The primary objective of West Wittering PCC is the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In co-operation with the incumbent, the promotion of the mission of the church was achieved through the five **Marks of Mission**:

TELL TEACH TEND TRANSFORM TREASURE

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The members of the PCC have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and remain committed to working to build the Kingdom of God for the good of the communities the Church in this place is called to serve. Further, the wider Benefice is committed to a shared vision to know Jesus, to discover the gift of His love and to follow in His way – the way that leads to life in all its fullness. This will be realised whenever the church is felt to be 'good news' by bringing a blessing on the communities she is called to serve.

CHURCH COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The only formal committee required by law is the Standing Committee, which normally meets throughout the year. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Other working groups meet to consider particular tasks – such as fabric maintenance – as the need arises.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Harbour Church services have grown both numerically and spiritually. The One Church Service held every week in either St James or St Peter and St Paul, West Wittering and on every fifth Sunday in St Nicholas, regularly make the churches feel comfortably full. In addition the 8am Holy Communion on Sunday mornings at West Wittering regularly attracts 20 or more worshippers.

Harbour Churches have also continued to support families at times of loss and grief through funeral care and provision, as well as in the glad times of celebrating the blessing of life long, loving relationship through marriage and the gift of new life and faith in baptism. In 2024 there were 15 baptisms, three marriages and 15 funerals in West Wittering Church.

On Advent Sunday 2024, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Martin to a service of celebration and thanksgiving for the restoration of the church tower. He led the service and preached. It was also a joy that our architect, principal contractor and others involved in the project were able to join us.

During closure of the church for redecoration and stonework restoration in January and February 2025 we held regular services in the Church Room and also one service in West Wittering Memorial Hall.

At our main service on Easter Day 2025, the church was filled with 57 under 16's and 169 adults.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

ELECTORAL ROLL

Total of 156 with six deaths and one removed. There was one new name. A new Electoral Roll has been for 2025 with a total of 119 now on the register. This is a reduction on the previous year's figure of 154.

SUMMARY OF PCC MEETINGS

West Wittering currently has ten lay members on the PCC (Dick, Emma, Ferdy, Jenny, Lindy, Mike, Ross, Sally, Stella and Victoria). Since the last APCM held in May 2024, West Wittering PCC have held nine meetings, six of which were held jointly with Birdham with Itchenor PCC.

The average attendance rate has been 73%. Meetings have been carried out in a positive and productive manner, working towards our mission to be good news, committing to the five Anglican Marks of Mission.

Decisions and actions taken by the PCC:

- June 2024: West Wittering PCC and Birdham with West Itchenor PCC noted the appointment of Tracy Garrett to the role of Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, received feedback on the Archdeacon's Visitation and agreed to review Governance.
- June 2024: West Wittering PCC discussed finance, redecoration of the Church Room and the AV project.
- July 2024: West Wittering PCC discussed the issue of shared benefice finances.
- September 2024: two meetings related to governance and the Mission Action Plan were held by West Wittering PCC along with Birdham with West Itchenor PCC. It was agreed that work would be undertaken by an augmented Governance Group to develop a full Joint Council Scheme using the legal framework provided by the Church of England.
- October 2024: West Wittering PCC discussed finance and approved an increase in SLA remuneration for our Church Mission Worker. They approved redecoration and stonework restoration in the church and are very grateful to the Friends of West Wittering Church for funding the stonework. They also discussed the AV project and welcomed Victoria Ford Coates to fill a casual PCC vacancy.
- In January, March and April 2025, three joint meetings of West Wittering PCC and Birdham with West Itchenor PCC were held to understand church life in times of Vacancy and to prepare the Parish Profile. This needed to be approved before the post of Rector for the Benefice could be advertised. Acting Archdeacon Tom Robson attended the January and April meetings and the PCCs thanked him for his support to them and to the Churchwardens.

DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod held its annual deanery finance meeting in October 2024. The Revd Paul Doick took up his role as our Rural Dean in November 2024. In January 2025 the Synod's agenda included the Diocesan Synod report, Deanery Governance and working together and a roundup of good news from the Deanery. The Deanery Day was in June 2024. It focused on the environment and intergenerational worship.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The following comments cover the period May 2023 to May 2024

We have been in vacancy since 7th February 2025 after our Rector, Revd Jonathan Swindells, was licensed in St. Mary's Storrington at Candlemas. Since then the three churchwardens have been charged with running the benefice of three churches, ensuring that worship continues as before and preparing the Parish Profile with the PCCs to be ready for the Section 11 meeting. At this meeting on 26th April 2025, the Profile was approved and four Parish Representatives appointed, two from each PCC. A decision was made to request the vacancy be advertised.

Throughout 2024 to the present time, Harbour Churches is living out its stated vision to 'Be Good News' as we seek to grow God's Kingdom numerically and spiritually.

The Five Anglican Marks of Mission – TELL, TEACH, TEND, TRANSFORM, TREASURE have continued to be the priorities for the ongoing process of church renewal to realise the Diocesan strategic vision for growth. Our Mission Action Plan (MAP) is under review. The main thrust of this is to improve our worship and make it more appealing to young families, and through continued growth to return to holding a main service in both Birdham and West Wittering every Sunday. In so doing, we will prepare the ground for reaching the people in the new housing estates being built in the area.

TELLING AND TEACHING: We are very grateful to our dedicated Ministry Team who have continued to develop our teaching and discipleship, for example, with a Lent course focusing on the Nicene Creed, another Alpha course and a number of 'Family Fun' activities for Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and Easter Day so as to attract more young families to worship. Our Ministry Team comprises a licensed curate Revd. Anthony, three retired ministers – Revd Canon Bruce, Revd Jim and Revd Eric, one licensed Reader, Susan, and another member of clergy with Permission to Officiate, Revd Canon Yvonne. We also have three Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs), Sue, Mark and Claire. The ALMs have all been trained to lead worship; one has also been trained to preach; and two have recently completed chaplaincy training. The Ministry Team brings a wealth of experience and diverse ministry to the life of the parishes. They are involved in the Harbour Home Groups and participate in many benefice activities as well as providing pastoral care in liaison with our Pastoral Care Coordinator, Tracy, who took up this role last year. We are also fortunate to have Mark and Claire run the Alpha course and they achieved the remarkable number of 80 people at Harbour Churches who have completed this with them since they first began in 2016.

Home Groups: The groups are open to anyone who worships at one of the Harbour Churches, and to others wanting to join who are looking for Christian fellowship. They meet and share in prayer and Bible reading and provide support for preaching themes. There are currently nine groups and around 70 members.

Monthly prayer meetings: These prayer meetings are held in the St James Centre, Birdham on the first Saturday morning of each month. The meetings focus on intercessory prayer for the mission of Harbour Churches. However, the needs of our troubled world are not forgotten. About 30 people from across the benefice participate each month.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

Life Events services are much appreciated, whether or not the people involved are regular churchgoers. Our clergy take time preparing couples for marriage, talking with parents before the baptism of their children and preparing adult candidates for baptism. They also spend time supporting bereaved relatives as they prepare for the funeral of a loved one. We are grateful to our Mission Support Facilitator for the work she does in liaising with all concerned in this important aspect of parish life.

TENDING: The Bereavement Support offered through Harbour Churches has been growing during recent years. Each November we have a 'Remembering Loved Ones' service of comfort, assurance and hope. It is held in Birdham Church and is followed by a 'Forget me not Tea' in the St James Centre. At our All Souls' Day Communion service at West Wittering Church, the names of loved ones who have died are read out. The 'Bereavement Journey' course of seven sessions is run regularly in the St James Centre. With the originator and the current national leader worshipping at our churches, the Centre has also recently become the host for a charity that runs the Bereavement Journey, AtALoss, which is enabling church bereavement ministry across the UK.

As well as support in times of bereavement, we increasingly TEND by sharing God's love, reaching out to people in our communities with activities that foster friendship and companionship. We have 130+ volunteers across the benefice who support a variety of activities. These include:

Soup Lunches: These are held on the third Wednesday in the month in West Wittering Church Room.

Shrove Tuesday fun evening in West Wittering Church Room with Beetle Drive, fish and chips and pancakes.

Outside the Box - a weekly lunch club with games for seniors in the St James Centre.

The Amblers - a friendly social group, of usually 15 - 30 people. They meet once a week to have a short walk together in Birdham or nearby villages. They finish up with coffee and chat in Birdham Church Pump Café which is also open to welcome Amblers who are less mobile.

Ducklings - A baby/toddler activity and parent/carer group. It takes place in the St James Centre on one morning a week in term time.

Children and young people have a range of group activities on offer led by Alistair, our Church Mission Worker (CMW), and supported by volunteers: Connect, our Sunday children and young people's group; the Explore group for older children and teenagers discovering faith; and for our weekly Tower Groups. This area of children and youth work continues to flourish and grow, with everyone looking forward to Redlands Camps in the summer.

There are strong links between West Wittering and Birdham churches and the primary schools. School services are held in the churches and clergy and Alistair take assemblies on a regular basis. He has also run Parenting Courses in West Wittering but open to all our parent/family contacts. At West Wittering school some church members help with the school's fundraising events and the reading support scheme.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

Safeguarding remains an absolute priority. This year has seen a change in those leading on Safeguarding for the PCCs with Victoria Ford-Coates joining Lois Smith as Safeguarding Officers for the Benefice. Our processes have been reviewed as we continue to ensure that Harbour Churches and all its activities are safe for everyone. Nevertheless, we are not complacent and strongly believe that safeguarding is everybody's business.

Our church building is a community resource, well used by residents of local villages and visitors to the area. The Friends of West Wittering Church hold regular fundraising events in the church. Last year there was an organ recital and a performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Coming up this September is Pride and Prejudice.

TRANSFORMING lives, supporting home and overseas mission and charities: We support the Chichester Food Bank throughout the year and also the Children's Society at our Christingle services and several other charities, such as My Sisters' House refuge.

West Wittering has provided longstanding support for St Paul's School in Bo, Sierra Leone. The project to build this secondary school was initiated by the church in 2006 and has drawn in members of the wider community. They have helped with fundraising and practical hands-on support for the school. Donations have been used for major ongoing school building programmes and sponsorship of children and young people who would otherwise have missed out on an education. Currently more than 2000 pupils aged 11-18 attend St Paul's.

TREASURING our environment: The vast majority of church flower arranging in Harbour Churches is now carried out without the use of floral foam, such as oasis or similar synthetic products. We avoid the use of plastic cups and use Fair Trade coffee and tea. Our Wildlife Encounter Days, based in the churchyards of West Wittering and Birdham, are proving to be very popular and are well supported by the wider non-church community with many children from our local primary schools participating. We are continuing to adopt best practice for managing our churchyard through the environmental charity 'Caring for God's Acre'. In West Wittering churchyard we have come to a better balance between meeting the needs of people and nature by having areas of longer vegetation confined to older graves not visited by relatives.

IMPROVING OUR USE OF RESOURCES: Governance Working Group (GWG)

In recent years, as our two parishes have worked more closely together, it has become apparent that the way in which we manage our administrative and financial affairs (our governance) is fragmented and over-complex. This means that too much effort is expended on administration which detracts from our focus on mission. We therefore need to make sure that we are organised in a way that makes the very best use of all our resources across Harbour Churches, while ensuring that we are consistently compliant with legal and diocesan requirements. In 2024, well before the vacancy, the GWG had been commissioned by both PCCs to start planning for an application to the diocese for full Joint Council status. This would involve the PCC of each parish transferring authority and decision making on all issues, including finance, to the Joint Council. The PCCs would then go into abeyance, but the parishes would continue as they are now. This change would need to be voted on at meetings in each parish before an application is made to the Diocese for approval. *(More information on this can be found on the Harbour Churches website)*

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This year we still managed to achieve a surplus for unrestricted funds of £907 (2023: £13,306) despite planned (one off) church maintenance costs of £16,000. These included £12,000 for work on the tower not covered by the Woodger grant, £2,500 for a broadband internet link from the rectory to the church and £1,500 for quinquennial electrical upgrades. During January / February 2025 a further £43,000 has been spent on decoration and restoration of the the interior of the church with around half of this funded by The Friends of West Wittering Church (a separate charity).

Unrestricted income of £106,899 was up by £5,673 thanks to the wonderful generosity of our supporters.

Excluding Bo, restricted income was made up of £69,979 being the remaining installments from the Woodger Trust for the work on the tower (see note on page 18). During the year the church also raised money for West Wittering Primary School, The Children's society, The Royal British Legion, Chichester Foodbank, My Sisters' House, The British Red Cross, Chichester Hospice, Sage House, Bo Cathedral and Canine Partners as well as paying 5% extra on our parish share to help other churches in the diocese. The total raised was over £5,800

The Bo project in Sierra Leone:

Once again our wonderful village and friends came up trumps. We ended 2023 with a very low balance due to the cost of the computer lab and the 6 classroom block which completed the Senior Secondary School. However during the year we raised £36,974 and only spent £33,777 as our ambitions have been lower. The first half of the year we were fundraising for the Domestic Science Lab which cost £12,579 and is just perfect for the school. Whereas, previously, students had not been signing up for this really important course because of the poor facilities, there is now a queue. The students now have the opportunity to learn about labour-saving electrical gadgets as well as traditional methods of housekeeping, they have running water and drainage too.

The second big investment of the year was the fitting of solar power to allow the recharging of the computer batteries used in the computer lab and hopefully many more things with time. This has just been completed at a cost of £6,874.

In addition 311 children are now sponsored giving them a nourishing daily meal, uniforms, sports kit and books; and all at just £5/month despite inflation.

Looking ahead we need more book shelves for the library as an additional 700+ books will be going out next month, and we are also planning to fit the long-overdue toilets to the David Baker Hall. Before our next visit in 2026, the 20th anniversary of the project, we will be hoping to raise funds to extend the use of solar power and computers to other areas of the school.

RISKS & RESERVES

With unrestricted reserves of £69K at the 31st December 2024 and with the aim of maintaining a level of £15K working capital, there are currently sufficient funds to cover expected outgoings for the current year.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

The PCC has authority and power to invest funds in accordance with its legal responsibilities. It does not consider that there would be any benefit of such investment at the current time.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC

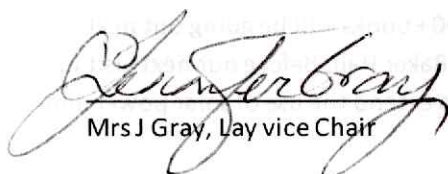
The Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 require the members of the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the members of the PCC should follow best practice and:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue its activities.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE PCC



Mrs J Gray, Lay vice Chair

Date: May 2025

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Independent Examiner's Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J P Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex PO20 8HB



Date: 16th May 2025

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2024

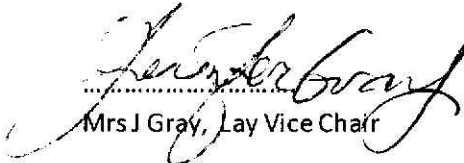
	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
Incoming Resources					
Income from Donors	2a	72,873	36,416	109,289	108,945
Other Voluntary income	2b	23,575	69,979	93,554	41,690
PCC Objectives	2c	7,346	-	7,346	7,830
Generated funds	2d	281	558	839	293
Investment income	2e	2,824	-	2,824	2,102
Total Incoming Resources		106,899	106,953	213,852	160,860
Resources expended					
Outgoing Resources					
Grants	3a	5,841	34,315	40,156	82,184
Work of the Church	3b	99,992	69,979	169,971	102,624
PCC Management & Admin	3c	159	-	159	158
Total Resources expended		105,992	104,294	210,286	184,966
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		907	2,659	3,566	(24,106)
Transfer from designated to restricted (page 18)		(2,877)	2,877	-	-
Net Movement in funds		(1,970)	5,536	3,566	(24,106)
Balance brought forward		70,916	24,127	95,043	119,149
Balance carried forward		68,946	29,663	98,609	95,043

The notes on pages 14 to 18 form part of these accounts.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Balance sheet as at 31st December 2024

	Note	2024	2023
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	22,721	33,771
Short Term Deposits		60,057	57,304
Cash at bank and in hand		21,441	15,142
Total Current assets		104,219	106,217
Liabilities	8	(5,610)	(11,174)
Net Current Assets		98,609	95,043
Net Assets		98,609	95,043
Funds			
Unrestricted (designated as)			
General		68,946	68,039
Designated new church facilities			2,877
		68,946	70,916
Restricted			
Sierra Leone Appeal		17,943	14,746
New Church facilities		9,759	6,882
Refugees Appeal		1,961	2,499
Total restricted funds		29,663	24,127
Total Funds		98,609	95,043

The notes on pages 14 to 18 form part of these accounts.


 Mrs J Gray, Lay Vice Chair

May 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act and Charity Law and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, subject to the departures referred to below

Planned giving, collections, donations, legacies and grants are recognised when received. Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings and equipment held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure, whether additions or improvements, is written off when incurred.

Incoming resources

Rents received from the letting of the Church Room are accounted for gross and when the rental is due. Interest and dividends are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income tax recoverable

Provision is made for tax recoverable on income received during the year.

Resources used

The parish contribution payable to the Diocese is accounted for in the year to which it relates and provision is made for any unpaid contributions. Remuneration and amounts due for goods supplied and services rendered are accounted for when invoiced. Grants and donations are accounted for when awarded.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are brought into the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to or owed by the PCC at 31st December 2024 for goods or services supplied are shown respectively as debtors or creditors. Provision is made for any liabilities known at 31st December 2024.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is legally responsible. The accounts do not include the accounts of Church groups that are administered or run by informal groups of Church members or any group affiliated to another body.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
2. Incoming resources				
2a Incoming resources from Donors				
Donations	59,310	30,139	89,449	88,712
Gift Aid recoverable	5,078	6,277	11,355	11,178
Collections	8,125		8,125	7,775
Other income	360	-	360	1,280
	72,873	36,416	109,289	108,945
2b Other Voluntary incoming resources				
Grants - Parish & Chichester Council	1,600	-	1,600	1,500
Donations, Appeals, etc.	21,975	69,979	91,954	35,190
Legacies		-	-	5,000
	23,575	69,979	93,554	41,690
2c Income from Operating Activities PCC				
Church Room lettings	2,641	-	2,641	673
Fees and benefice income	4,705	-	4,705	7,157
	7,346	-	7,346	7,830
2d Income from Operating Activities-Funds				
Deposit box for Parish Magazine	281	-	281	293
Fetes, Bazaars & Other Fundraising events		558	558	
	281	558	839	293
2e Other ordinary Incoming Resources				
CCLA Deposit Interest	2,824	-	2,824	2,102

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
3 Resources Expended				
3a Grants				
Church Overseas	-	33,777	33,777	72,602
Home Missions/other church societies	5,841	538	6,379	9,582
	5,841	34,315	40,156	82,184
3b Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church				
Ministry Diocesan Parish Share	41,330	-	41,330	39,398
Rector/Rectory expenses	6,488	-	6,488	6,891
Benefice & Admin costs	24,384	-	24,384	26,229
Other clergy costs	2,017	-	2,017	2,233
Less Birdham & Itchenor contribution	(16,444)	-	(16,444)	(17,677)
Church Running Expenses	3,492	-	3,492	4,011
Church Maintenance	10,055	-	10,055	4,293
Upkeep of Churchyard	8,170	-	8,170	5,843
Church Room running costs	2,477	-	2,477	3,011
Salaries and associated expenses	6,050	-	6,050	6,510
Sundry		-	-	(139)
	88,019	-	88,019	80,603
Tower Repairs	11,973	69,979	81,952	22,021
Total	99,992	69,979	169,971	102,624

1. Rector's, Rectory and Benefice costs are shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.
2. Other clergy costs are also shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC. They represent the expenses of Assistant Clergy
3. Church running costs include upkeep of services, heating & lighting and worship resources.

3c PCC Management & Administration

			2024	2023
Bank Charges	74	-	74	73
Other Admin - Gift aid envelopes etc.	85	-	85	85
AGM costs	-	-	-	-
	159	-	159	158

4 Staff Costs

Wages, Fees and Salaries	6,050	-	6,050	6,510
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Salaries include payment towards costs of the Youth Worker

	2024	2023
Number of charitable staff (average monthly number employed)	-	-
No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.		

West Wittering Parochial Church Council**Notes to the Financial Statements**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2024	Total funds 2023
--	-----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC**5a Tangible Fixed Assets**

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is considered to be a heritage asset, so not shown at a valuation.

Leasehold Land & Buildings comprises the Church Room in Pound Road.

The land is owned by the Diocese and as such, no value has been given to it in these Accounts.

Church equipment comprises a sound system and a projector screen, which have a nil book value.

5b Investment Fixed Assets**Value as at 31.12.2023**

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Gains on disposals

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Unrealised gains/(losses)

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Disposal

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Value as at 31.12.2024

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

The investments are held to provide an investment return for the PCC.

6. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Held by Church of England Deposit Fund	60,057	-	60,057	57,304
Held by HSBC Bank	10,457	10,984	21,441	15,142
	70,514	10,984	81,498	72,446

7. Debtors

HMRC - estimated Gift Aid receipts outstanding	3,800	6,185	9,985	10,931
VAT Refund Due	1,371	-	1,371	3,706
Amounts due received after 31st December	11,365	-	11,365	19,134
Total Debtors	16,536	6,185	22,721	33,771

8. Liabilities

Other creditors and accruals	3,522	-	3,522	9,646
Charitable Giving	2,088	-	2,088	1,528
	5,610	-	5,610	11,174

9. Capital Commitments

There were no outstanding capital commitments as at 31st December 2024

10. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No member of the PCC received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee

Trustee Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received contributions towards their expenses incurred in their duties as a trustee within the parish (2023: nil).

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Movement on Funds	At 01.01.2024	Income	Outgoing	Revaluation	At 31.12.2024
Unrestricted Funds					
General	68,039	106,899	(105,992)	(2,877)	68,946
Designated for new church facilities	2,877	(2,877)	-	-	-
	70,916	104,022	(105,992)	(2,877)	68,946
Restricted Funds					
Sierra Leone Appeal	14,746	36,974	(33,777)	-	17,943
Refugees Appeal	2,499	-	(538)	-	1,961
New Church Facilities	6,882	2,877		-	9,759
Tower Repairs	-	69,979	(69,979)	-	-
	24,127	109,830	(104,294)	-	29,663
Total Funds	95,043	213,852	(210,286)	(2,877)	98,609

Designated Funds

The Designated New Facilities Fund

This fund was opened with a 2015 donation from the Parish News (£5,395) and is designated to go towards the provision of new facilities and decoration for the Church. The aim is to make the church more friendly and appealing for services and more practical for hosting community events. The amount outstanding (£2,877) has been transferred to a restricted fund for the provision of an AV system for the church.

Restricted Funds

The Sierra Leone Appeal Fund was set up in 2006 when the Church agreed to raise funds to build and support a school in Bo, Sierra Leone, inviting the village to be involved. The school named St Paul's School has grown significantly since then thanks to support from people in the village and from further afield.

The New Church Facilities fund is made up of donations to go towards the AV system.

Tower Repairs

Following the discovery of water leaking into the tower apex, a programme of repair and restoration was initiated: new oak shingles (tiles) to tower roof, new oak louvres, stonework repairs, re-gilding of cockerel weathervane, new gilded N, S, E and W letters, leadwork at base of weathervane. When approached for help with the cost, the F Glenister Woodger Trust very generously contributed £92,000. The whole project was finally completed just before Easter 2024.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1141879

**Report of the Members of the Parochial Church Council and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

for

**The Parish of St Peter and St Paul,
West Wittering**

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

The members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul (PCC) present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The members of the PCC are the Charity Trustees.

The members of the PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2014.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number	1141879
Registered Name	West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Principal address

Church Office
West Wittering Rectory
Pound Road
West Wittering
PO20 8AJ

Trustees after the APCM in May 2023

Revd A. Goddard	Clergy
Mrs J. Gray	
Mr B. Harvey	
Mr. D. Howeson	Stewardship Missioner & Treasurer
Lady L. Hutton	
Mr M. Jarman	
Mr F. Pearson-Gee	Co-opted in June 23
Ms S. Pendleton	Churchwarden, Deanery Synod
Mrs S. Weatherall	
Revd J. Swindells	Chairman
Mrs E Szepesi	Secretary

Observer

Dr S. Monks	Licensed Reader
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Independent Examiner

Mr J Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
West Sussex
PO20 8HB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
94 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HD

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
74/75 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HR

Solicitors

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
Thomas Eggar House
Friary Lane
Chichester
PO19 1UF

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

BACKGROUND AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

West Wittering Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St. Peter and St Paul and the Church Room.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

The primary objective of West Wittering PCC is the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In co-operation with the incumbent, the promotion of the mission of the church was achieved through the five **Marks of Mission**:

TELL TEACH TEND TRANSFORM TREASURE

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The members of the PCC have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and remain committed to working to build the Kingdom of God for the good of the communities the Church in this place is called to serve. Further, the wider Benefice is committed to a shared vision to know Jesus, to discover the gift of His love and to follow in His way – the way that leads to life in all its fullness. This will be realised whenever the church is felt to be 'good news' by bringing a blessing on the communities she is called to serve.

CHURCH COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The only formal committee required by law is the Standing Committee, which normally meets throughout the year. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Other working groups meet to consider particular tasks – such as fabric maintenance – as the need arises.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Across the Church of England attendance has been very challenging to assess as a consequence of the impact of Covid. The Parish Mission Statistics submitted to the Diocese/national Church are available via the website. They also indicate that Harbour Churches has continued to support families at times of loss and grief through funeral care and provision, as well as in the glad times of celebrating the blessing of life long, loving relationship through marriage and the gift of new life and faith in baptism. There has been an increase in all occasional offices. What the statistics cannot measure is the 'quality' of faithfulness of a congregation. Harbour Churches are growing both numerically and spiritually.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

SUMMARY OF PCC MEETINGS

West Wittering currently has eight members on the PCC (Dick, Emma, Jenny, Lindy, Mike, Sally, Stella and Ferdy). Since the last APCM held in May 2023, West Wittering PCC have held two solo West Wittering and four Benefice Board meetings, with two being held via zoom. The average attendance rate has been 69%. Meetings have been carried out in a positive and productive manner, working towards our mission to be good news, committing to the five T's.

Decisions and actions taken by the PCC:

- In June 2023 West Wittering along with Birdham with West Itchenor PCC committed to making our Churchyards eco-friendlier.
- In July 2023 West Wittering along with Birdham with West Itchenor PCC got together to discuss the GAP and how to move forward with the 5 T's.
West Wittering PCC agreed to use PCC funds to fund the shortfall of the proposed audio-visual enhancement for the Church of St Peter and St Paul.
West Wittering PCC approved installation of equipment for wireless broadband.
- In October 2023 West Wittering along with Birdham with West Itchenor PCC identified families and children as a key focus area for 2024.
The PCCs were delighted to learn that Canon Yvonne, at her request, had been licensed with permission to officiate in the Benefice and will occasionally lead worship.
West Wittering PCC gave thanks to the Woodger Trust for their generous donation of up to £75,000 to fund the repair and re-shingling of the Church Tower.
- In December 2023 West Wittering along with Birdham with Itchenor PCC discussed the proposals of new initiatives for 2024: monthly Prayer meetings and Contemplative Worship services.
- In January 2024 West Wittering PCC met via Zoom, to discuss Claire and Mark Ralf's generous offer to fund and coordinate the redecoration of The Church Room.
We gave thanks to the Woodger Trust to extend their donation to cover the replacement of Wooden Louvres in the Church tower.
- In April 2024 Harbour Churches welcomed the Archdeacon's visit and several members of the PCCs were able to attend.
- In May 2024 West Wittering PCC met and concluded that going into the next year, Governance will be a high priority.

We thank all who work so tirelessly to support Harbour Churches and help us continue our mission to 'be good news'.

DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod has endeavoured to meet the challenging aspirations for the Deanery to realise its missional purpose and the pressing need to be financially viable.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The following comments cover the period May 2023 to May 2024 and seek to demonstrate how Harbour Churches is living out its stated vision to 'Be Good News' as we seek to grow God's Kingdom in growing numerically and spiritually. The comments address the Five Marks of Mission which are the starting point for the church's development plan (GAP - Growth Action Plan) which sets the priorities for the ongoing process of church renewal to realize the Diocesan strategic vision for growth.

Bishop Martin believes that vital to church growth is an experience of joyful, confident Sunday morning worship which is full of hope in the "happy news" of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Bishop Martin sums up his challenge like this:

**With what degree of confidence would we always,
and spontaneously say to someone who has never been to church,
"Come to church with me; it's amazing. You'll love it."**

Harbour Churches remains committed through TELL to the ongoing renewal of worship as we seek to celebrate the good news of God's kingdom through inspiring worship, accessible, contemporaneous and resonant to all. Later in 2024, we will look to review both our patterns of worship and through this, ask pertinent questions as to how our life of worship can encourage families, children and a younger generation find their place within the body of Christ at Harbour Churches and a rooted faith. This process will, in part, be facilitated by Canon Rob Dillingham of the Diocesan mission team.

Our three new Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) for liturgy have been a blessing and it is encouraging to see them grow in craft and confidence. The Liturgy and Spirituality Group (LSG) has created an effective forum for those responsible for delivering worship and the church family remain hugely grateful to Revd. Jim, Bruce, Roger, Susan our brilliant Reader and ALMs Sue, Claire and Mark. Of particular note has been our joy at welcoming back Revd. Anthony to continue his training as assistant Curate.

Communications throughout the Benefice remain the responsibility of the Mission Support Facilitator. There has been marked improvement in the scope of all forms of communication and the graphic and branding of Harbour Churches. The excellent new website continues to do most of the 'heavy lifting' comms work. Moving forward, all three churches and two church facilities need to reconsider how most effectively to use hard copy, visible communications.

Time and training was given to enhance the experience of welcome offered by the church at all services and events – particularly in response to the increasing number of those who are new to Harbour Churches. This remains a critical aspect of our growth mindset.

There have been so many TELL highlights over the past twelve months: Wintershall 'Life of Christ' visit, Coronation Party and Sing Along, St Francistide Pet Service, Christmas Services overflowing with worshippers and especially our outreach through the best attended Carols in the Community, Messiah concert and Easter Services full of new life, 5th Sunday One Church services at St Nicks giving huge encouragement to our little sister church and now monthly prayer meetings for the life of our church. Bishop Ruth's visit in Advent was also a particular joy and encouragement for the Church Family.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

Harbour Churches seeks to be a learning church, skilfully developing discipleship. We have continued to prioritise the nurture of existing church members and those new to, or exploring, faith through the mission focus of **TEACH**.

Preaching has embraced the Diocesan Years of the Old and New Testament. Thematic preaching has impacted on this and the LSG plans to incorporate further thematic preaching through careful planning based on material in New Patterns of Worship.

The Harbour Groups continue to thrive and have been ably led by Sue Graham Smith. The HGs successfully ran a short new series of Advent Talks. These were well received but it was recognised that it is a very busy time in the calendar! Courageously, Harbour Churches embraced the 'Living in Love and Faith' study programme sensitively led by Susan Monks. This too was well received and supported - though some found it challenging. What it did reveal was the lack of theological rigour and learning taking place in the life of the church. In response the Lent Talks had as their focus 'Let's Do Theology' and we were hugely blessed and inspired to welcome Bishop Laurie to lead us in this. We will invite him again as the learning continues...

The Alpha Course is a real encouragement to faith and had its largest number of catechumens this year. Mark and Claire Ralf, supported by their team of volunteers, are to be thanked for this. It is a particular encouragement that six adults of a younger, more diverse demographic were Confirmed.

Every baptised Christian is called to minister God's healing and wholeness in Christ – to TEND his flock. It continues to be such an encouragement to see so many activities offering this ministry and the opportunity of life restoring relationships.

The bereavement work of the church is also very evident and meaningful. The Clergy Team continue to support many families through the experience of the death of a loved one and the process of grief. In the past twelve months they oversaw more than 50 funerals. This mainstay of parochial ministry was supported through the Bereavement Journey course and Next Steps. The 'Forget Me Not Tea' outreach is well received as is the annual 'Remembering Loved Ones' service. We are excited too at the prospect of working in partnership with the national bereavement charity Ataloss.

The 'Parish Pump Café' at the St James Centre is now a growing outreach offering a welcoming presence to all members of the community and those taking advantage of the beautiful location the church finds itself in. It is a recognised 'Warm Spaces' meeting place. The 'Amblers' group continue to meet for their weekly walks and offer comfort and support to those experiencing loneliness, loss and infirmity. This ministry has been further complemented by a new initiative 'Out of the Box' led by the previous Afghan Refugee team. The monthly Soup Lunches attract a wide group of folk who enjoy the relaxed and supportive opportunity to have lunch together. And the Shrove Tuesday Beetle Drive party was a real joy. The Itchenor Lunch Group now meets to have lunch again - instead of coffee, and is very much appreciated. Itchenor also hosts the popular 'Knit and Natter' group.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

It is hoped that we will very soon appoint a co-ordinator for TEND to take oversight of the great work being done and also to help us more effectively manage and measure this critical area of Harbour Churches 'being good news'. The Lay Pastoral Group (LPG) has yet to be established but it may well find fresh focus through the role of the TEND co-ordinator.

Harbour Churches successfully delivered Parenting Courses working in partnership with our primary schools to meet the needs of particular parents.

There are countless other untold acts of Christian neighbourliness and goodness which are a source of great blessing to so many. **The whole church family can be thanked for being 'good news' in this.**

Harbour Churches has made a lively response to working for justice, mercy and peace as an inclusive church seeking opportunities to **TRANSFORM** our communities and wider world, committed to the well-being of the marginalised and to peace-making.

The wider church has been regularly updated and challenged with contemporary issues of concern and is beginning to truly appreciate incarnational ministry in action. However, 'events' give this mark of mission particular focus and intensity. The Lent Talks challenged the church to reflect on how it can rediscover an authentic and legitimately Christian voice of advocacy and not fear being political.

One of the highlights of the Churches' work to transform communities is its work in Sierra Leone in Africa through the Bo Project. For the past 18 years people in the benefice have been supporting the education of children in Bo by establishing a school there and the project has gone from strength to strength with 2022-23 being a spectacularly successful year. A new 6-classroom block was completed in time for the start of the Autumn term, allowing numbers to increase to 2,000 pupils. There was also a visit by a team that included Nick Matthews (WW School Head) who had designed and ordered a computer lab for St Paul's School. During the visit the computer lab was installed and despite many problems everything worked and has been working ever since. Such things are rare in Sierra Leone and it can truly be considered a triumph (in adversity). St Paul's School is now an 'A' rated school (their Ofsted equivalent), one of only ten in the country.

Also, during the visit to Bo, Revd Bruce Holben was installed as Canon in Bo Cathedral in recognition of the Church and Village's work for St Paul's Anglican Secondary School and the Diocese of Bo.

Critically, many of our outreach missional activities are a consequence of the Harbour Churches acting as 'salt yeast and light' and then **working in partnership** with non-church members and the wider community.

It should be perplexing that as such an active church, Harbour Churches make no explicit claim on cherishing God's creation in how we **TREASURE** living in environmentally sustainable ways and honouring the sanctity of life. Is it that we are so busy in doing other things that this 'sentinel' work of the witnessing church in a time of climate crisis is so sidelined? However, quiet progress is being made and it is encouraging to report that the vast majority of church flower arranging in Harbour Churches is now carried out without the use of floral foam, such as oasis or similar synthetic products. Our Wildlife Encounter Days, based in the churchyards of

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

St James and St Peter and St Paul, are proving to be very popular and are well supported by the wider non-church community with many children from our local primary schools participating. Further, we are adopting best practice for managing our churchyards through the environmental charity 'Caring for God's Acre'.

The ongoing work of maintaining and restoring all our church buildings continues to be taken seriously and carried out with due diligence and care. It is encouraging to see the scaffolding up at St James and urgent maintenance underway. St Peter and St Paul completed extensive and expensive work to the tower. Much of the £100K cost was covered by a hugely appreciated donation from the GF Woodger Trust. Stella Pendleton, Churchwarden, continues to make an amazing contribution to how the church fabric is treasured. St Nicholas was also blessed with the conservation and restoration of the Memorial Window. Much of the cost was borne by the generosity of the wider Itchenor community. Sue Pope, a constant support in many matters of Harbour Churches life, did so much to make this happen and we remain deeply indebted to her – as we do to all those who volunteer to support our fabric: the church cleaning teams, gardening teams and not forgetting our gifted flower arrangers who do so much to beautify our places of worship.

Previously, our work with children has come under TEACH. However, for the purposes of this report and to better enable us to fully appreciate the importance this ministry moving forward, it will be seen as an aspect to TREASURE - after the example of Christ (Matt. 19.14).

The 'Ducklings' parent and toddler group, based at the St James Centre, continues to thrive. We are still to realise the as yet untapped potential to integrate those who come with the life of the church. Nevertheless, we celebrated over 38 baptisms in the past year and, additionally, prepared for marriage and conducted the wedding celebrations of over 20 couples – many of whom will be back to have babies baptised!

The Sunday children and young people's group 'Connect', is thriving thanks to its skilful stewarding by Alistair Ghinn (our Church Mission Worker) and the team. We celebrated seven young people going forward for Confirmation and hope to see more again this coming summer. The 'Explore' group for older children and teenagers discovering faith is also in good heart and our weekly youth clubs 'Tower Group' are thriving with numbers better than ever. The Redlands Youth Camps continue to be a great success and ever popular. As a church we are very blessed in all this and hugely grateful to Alistair.

Other areas of missional focus and priority

Family, Young People and Children

Over the coming year we will continue to aim to increase and improve our provision in this missional field and seek to build on, and from, the great work we have already done to ensure that this vital (and missing) demographic can feel that Harbour Churches is 'good news' for them. In this we will be assisted by the Church House missional team and others with tried and tested expertise.

Governance

Very significantly, Harbour Churches welcomed Archdeacon Luke for his official 'Archdeacon's Visitation' – the first in 24 years! This was a process of forensic scrutiny across all areas of church life with a particular focus on

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

church governance. We already knew that this was a challenging area for us and one that we have continued to work hard on. Thankfully, Fr. Luke gave us a clean bill of health and, whilst recognising that some of our operation is irregular, we are a church serious in fulfilling the Diocesan Mission Strategy at a local level. There will be wider learning from this process and, in the coming year and the Archdeacon has encouraged us in our shared desire to make our Governance as fit for purpose as we can.

Financial management and deployment of resources

This continues to be a challenge - as it is for the vast majority of churches. The Epiphanytide stewardship campaign was impactful and encouraging with greater focus on the pounds, shillings and pence aligned to need. Dick Howeson, Sophie Relf, Robin Hamilton and Katie Wilson are to be thanked for all their help in this area.

It continues to be a cause of real celebration that we been able to continue to pay 105+% of Parish Share Costs throughout the year and that we finished the financial year in the 'black' with an increase in income. As detailed in the sets of accounts, charitable giving continues to be generous.

It goes without saying that thanks should be given to so many people who serve the life of the church for the sake of the Kingdom. In having a dynamic vision, it is easy to overlook all that is so good in who we are and what we do. To this end, the Rector aims to invite the PCCs and wider church family to take more ownership of all that is going on, to give time to fully appreciate all that is taking place and to better nurture and encourage activities, Critical in this is to ensure that we are valuing and equipping our many volunteers (who number over 100!). Our Safeguarding Officers and the Rector will be utilising our 'safer recruitment' processes to enable us in this important expression of being 'good news'.

Finally, we end on a bittersweet note. In November the great twisted tree outside St James fell. After over 250 years its time with us came to an end. It was a cause of much sadness and sense of loss for many. The St James Churchwarden Ian Strong, was, as ever, on hand to faithfully deal with the situation (and the many annoyances that came with it...) as he was with so many issues of parish pump life.

It came as an even greater shock that Ian died suddenly in early May. Our sympathies and prayers are with Marianne and their family. To say Ian will be missed is an understatement. However, he had complete faith in his 'Dad' - our heavenly Father. His faithfulness and generosity of heart touched many, many people within and without the church. Personally, I am mourning his passing and feel bereft. I do though take comfort in his spirit of enduring evangelistic optimism and his trusting to God's providence in all things. And so, I end this report quoting the scripture (he loved God's Word!) that was his 'family motto'. I hope it will inspire Harbour Churches in continuing to grow numerically and spiritually as we seek to grow God's Kingdom:

**Give, and it will be given to you.
A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over,
will be poured into your lap.
For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.**

Luke 6.38

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This was another positive year from a financial perspective with a surplus for unrestricted funds of £13,306 (2022: £12,702).

Unrestricted income of £101,225 was up by £13,557 enormously helped by a much appreciated legacy and some very generous donations.

Excluding Bo, restricted income was made up of £22,021 being the first installment requirement for the work on the tower (see note on page 20). During the year the church also raised money for the MND charity, The Children's society, The Royal British Legion, Chichester Sanctuary, Chichester Foodbank, My sisters' House and Canine Partners as well paying 5% extra on our parish share to help other churches in the diocese. The total raised was over £7,000

Church running costs were up by £8,657 with the increase due to increased admin costs. This increase includes £1,712 (170%) for heat and light, £3,170 for our MSF and £1,568 for upkeep of the churchyard. (2023 was a good year for growing grass!)

The Bo project in Sierra Leone:

Our wonderful Community raised £37,614 (2022: £28,120) during the year including funds from regular donors sponsoring individual children.

Grants expended for the year amounted to £72,601 which included covering the cost of a new 6-classroom block completed in time for the start of the Autumn term. This now allows for numbers to increase to 2,000 pupils to accommodate the Sierra Leone Government's edict that all 11 yr olds were to attend secondary school.

£15,000 covered the cost of a computer lab with the equipment that was shipped from the UK and designed and installed by Nick Matthews (WW School Head).

The Grants also included funds provided by local sponsors providing sponsorship for just under 300 of the poorest children. This sponsorship covers the cost of providing uniforms, sports kit, books etc, as well as a daily lunch on school days.

Future plans include a Domestic Science Lab and Solar Power with a fund raising Quiz night planned for 29th June and further events in the Autumn.

RISKS & RESERVES

With unrestricted reserves of £68K at the 31st December 2023 and with the aim of maintaining a level of £15K working capital, there are currently sufficient funds to cover expected outgoings for the current year.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

The PCC has authority and power to invest funds in accordance with its legal responsibilities. It does not consider that there would be any benefit of such investment at the current time.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC

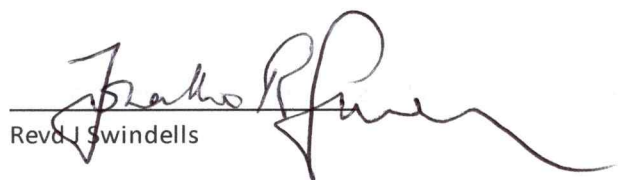
The Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 require the members of the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the members of the PCC should follow best practice and:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue its activities.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE PCC


Revd J Swindells

Date: May 2024

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Independent Examiner's Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J P Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex PO20 8HB



Date: May 2024

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
Incoming Resources					
Income from Donors	2a	71,331	37,614	108,945	109,138
Other Voluntary income	2b	19,669	22,021	41,690	30,702
PCC Objectives	2c	7,830	-	7,830	5,798
Generated funds	2d	293	-	293	596
Investment income	2e	2,102	-	2,102	160
Total Incoming Resources		101,225	59,635	160,860	146,394
Resources expended					
Outgoing Resources					
Grants	3a	7,159	75,025	82,184	34,371
Work of the Church	3b	80,603	22,021	102,624	78,502
PCC Management & Admin	3c	158	-	158	153
Total Resources expended		87,920	97,046	184,966	113,026
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		13,305	(37,411)	(24,106)	33,368
Gains & Losses on Investments		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in funds		13,305	(37,411)	(24,106)	33,368
Balance brought forward		57,611	61,538	119,149	85,781
Balance carried forward		70,916	24,127	95,043	119,149

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Balance sheet as at 31st December 2023

	Note	2023	2022
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	33,771	24,907
Short Term Deposits		57,304	12,296
Cash at bank and in hand		15,142	91,757
Total Current assets		106,217	128,960
Liabilities	8	(11,174)	(9,811)
Net Current Assets		95,043	119,149
Net Assets		95,043	119,149
Funds			
Unrestricted (designated as)			
General		68,039	54,734
Designated new church facilities		2,877	2,877
Designated CYE Youth work		-	-
		70,916	57,611
Restricted			
Sierra Leone Appeal		14,746	49,734
New Church facilities		6,882	6,875
Refugees Appeal		2,499	4,922
Repairs to Church Yard			7
Total restricted funds		24,127	61,538
		95,043	119,149

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

.....
 Revd J Swindells

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act and Charity Law and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, subject to the departures referred to below

Planned giving, collections, donations, legacies and grants are recognised when received. Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings and equipment held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure, whether additions or improvements, is written off when incurred.

Incoming resources

Rents received from the letting of the Church Room are accounted for gross and when the rental is due. Interest and dividends are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income tax recoverable

Provision is made for tax recoverable on income received during the year.

Resources used

The parish contribution payable to the Diocese is accounted for in the year to which it relates and provision is made for any unpaid contributions. Remuneration and amounts due for goods supplied and services rendered are accounted for when invoiced. Grants and donations are accounted for when awarded.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are brought into the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to or owed by the PCC at 31st December 2023 for goods or services supplied are shown respectively as debtors or creditors. Provision is made for any liabilities known at 31st December 2023.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is legally responsible. The accounts do not include the accounts of Church groups that are administered or run by informal groups of Church members or any group affiliated to another body.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
2. Incoming resources				
2a Incoming resources from Donors				
Donations	57,076	31,636	88,712	90,042
Gift Aid recoverable	5,200	5,978	11,178	11,535
Collections	7,775		7,775	5,901
Other income	1,280	-	1,280	1,660
	71,331	37,614	108,945	109,138
2b Other Voluntary incoming resources				
Grants - Parish & Chichester Council	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Donations, Appeals, etc.	13,169	22,021	35,190	29,202
Legacies	5,000	-	5,000	
	19,669	22,021	41,690	30,702
2c Income from Operating Activities PCC				
Church Room lettings	673	-	673	492
Fees and benefice income	7,157	-	7,157	5,306
	7,830	-	7,830	5,798
2d Income from Operating Activities-Funds				
Deposit box for Parish Magazine	293	-	293	596
Fetes, Bazaars & Other Fundraising events			-	
	293	-	293	596
2e Other ordinary Incoming Resources				
Investment income & CCLA Deposit Interest	2,102	-	2,102	160

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
3 Resources Expended				
3a Grants				
Church Overseas	-	72,602	72,602	18,739
Home Missions/other church societies	7,159	2,423	9,582	15,632
	7,159	75,025	82,184	34,371
3b Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church				
Ministry Diocesan Parish Share	39,398	-	39,398	38,484
Rector/Rectory expenses	6,891	-	6,891	5,465
Benefice & Admin costs	26,229	-	26,229	20,351
Other clergy costs	2,233	-	2,233	1,710
Less Birdham & Itchenor contribution	(17,677)	-	(17,677)	(13,763)
Church Running Expenses	4,011	-	4,011	1,806
Church Maintenance	4,293	-	4,293	6,537
Upkeep of Churchyard	5,843	-	5,843	4,275
Church Room running costs	3,011	-	3,011	1,372
Salaries and associated expenses	6,510	-	6,510	4,883
Sundry	(139)	-	(139)	507
	80,603	-	80,603	71,627
Pillar Refurbishment	-	-	-	5,175
Tower Repairs	-	22,021	22,021	-
6th Bell	-	-	-	-
Repairs to Church Yard	-	-	-	1,700
Total	80,603	22,021	102,624	78,502

1. Rector's, Rectory and Benefice costs are shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.
2. Other clergy costs are also shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC. They represent the expenses of Assistant Clergy
3. Church running costs include upkeep of services, heating & lighting and worship resources.

3c PCC Management & Administration

Bank Charges	-	-	-	-
Other Admin - Gift aid envelopes etc.	158	-	158	153
AGM costs	-	-	-	-
	158	-	158	153

4 Staff Costs

Wages, Fees and Salaries	6,510	-	6,510	4,883
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Salaries include payment towards costs of the Youth Worker
During the year the PCC employed a Secretary, 50% of these costs are met by Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.

	2023	2022
Number of charitable staff (average monthly number employed)	-	-
No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.		

West Wittering Parochial Church Council**Notes to the Financial Statements**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2023	Total funds 2022
--	-----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC**5a Tangible Fixed Assets**

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is considered to be a heritage asset, so not shown at a valuation.

Leasehold Land & Buildings comprises the Church Room in Pound Road.

The land is owned by the Diocese and as such, no value has been given to it in these Accounts.

Church equipment comprises a sound system and a projector screen, which have a nil book value.

5b Investment Fixed Assets**Value as at 31.12.2022**

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Gains on disposals

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Unrealised gains/(losses)

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Disposal

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

Value as at 31.12.2023

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

The investments are held to provide an investment return for the PCC.

6. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Held by Church of England Deposit Fund	57,304	-	57,304	12,296
Held by HSBC Bank	7,235	7,907	15,142	91,757
	64,539	7,907	72,446	104,053

7. Debtors

HMRC - estimated Gift Aid receipts outstanding	5,031	5,900	10,931	10,286
VAT Refund Due	3,706	-	3,706	133
Amounts due received after 31st December	19,134	-	19,134	14,488
Total Debtors	27,871	5,900	33,771	24,907

8. Liabilities

Other creditors and accruals	9,646	-	9,646	7,301
Charitable Giving	1,528	-	1,528	2,510
	11,174	-	11,174	9,811

9. Capital Commitments

There were no outstanding capital commitments as at 31st December 2023

10. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No member of the PCC received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee

Trustee Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received contributions towards their expenses incurred in their duties as a trustee within the parish (2022: nil).

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Movement on Funds	At 01.01.2023	Income	Outgoing	Revaluation	At 31.12.2023
Unrestricted Funds					
General	54,734	101,225	(87,920)	-	68,039
Designated for new church facilities	2,877	-	-	-	2,877
Designated Youth work	-	-	-	-	-
	57,611	101,225	(87,920)	-	70,916
Restricted Funds					
Sierra Leone Appeal	49,734	37,614	(72,602)	-	14,746
Refugees Appeal	4,922	-	(2,423)	-	2,499
New Church Facilities	6,875	-	7	-	6,882
Tower Repairs	-	22,021	(22,021)	-	-
Repairs to Church Yard	7	-	(7)	-	-
	61,538	59,635	(97,046)	-	24,127
Total Funds	119,149	160,860	(184,966)	-	95,043

Designated Funds

The Designated New Facilities Fund

This fund was opened with a 2015 donation from the Parish News (£5,395) and is designated to go towards the provision of new facilities and decoration for the Church. The aim is to make the church more friendly and appealing for services and more practical for hosting community events. The amount outstanding (£2,877) is currently designated to go towards the provision of an AV system for the church

Restricted Funds

The Sierra Leone Appeal Fund was set up in 2006 when the Church agreed to raise funds to build and support a school in Bo, Sierra Leone, inviting the village to be involved. The school named St Paul's School has grown significantly since then thanks to support from people in the village and from further afield.

The New Church Facilities fund is made up of donations to go towards the AV system.

Tower Repairs

Following the discovery of water leaking into the tower apex, a programme of repair and restoration was initiated: new oak shingles (tiles) to tower roof, new oak louvres, stonework repairs, re-gilding of cockerel weathervane, new gilded N, S, E and W letters, leadwork at base of weathervane. When approached for help with the cost, the F Glenister Woodger Trust very generously contributed £92,000. The whole project was finally completed just before Easter 2024.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1141879

**Report of the Members of the Parochial Church Council and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

for

**The Parish of St Peter and St Paul,
West Wittering**

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

The members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul (PCC) present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The members of the PCC are the Charity Trustees.

The members of the PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2014.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number	1141879
Registered Name	West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Principal address

Church Office
West Wittering Rectory
Pound Road
West Wittering
PO20 8AJ

Trustees after the APCM in May 2022

Mr B. Harvey	Lay Chair
Revd A. Goddard	Clergy
Mr. D. Howeson	Stewardship Missioner & Treasurer
Mr M. Jarman	
Ms S. Pendleton	Churchwarden / Deanery Synod
Mrs S. Relf	Safeguarding Officer
Revd J. Swindells	Chairman
Mrs E Szepesi	Secretary
Mrs L. Hutton	
Mrs J. Gray	
Mrs S. Shire	
Mr F. Pearson-Gee (Apprentice)	

Observer

Dr S. Monks	Licensed Reader
-------------	-----------------

Independent Examiner

Mr J Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
West Sussex
PO20 8HB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
94 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HD

Bankers

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74/75 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HR

Solicitors

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
Thomas Eggar House
Friary Lane
Chichester
PO19 1UF

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

BACKGROUND AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

West Wittering Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St. Peter and St Paul and the Church Room.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

The primary objective of West Wittering PCC is the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In co-operation with the incumbent, the promotion of the mission of the church was achieved through the five **Marks of Mission**:

TELL	<i>Celebrating the 'Happy News'</i> - inspiring worship for everyone that is life changing
TEACH	<i>Nurturing believers 'old and new'</i> - a learning church skilfully developing discipleship
TEND	<i>Responding to human need</i> - building life restoring relationships offering healing and wholeness
TRANSFORM	<i>Working for justice, mercy and peace</i> - an inclusive church committed to the well-being of the marginalised and to peace-making
TREASURE	<i>Cherishing God's creation - living in environmentally sustainable ways and</i> honouring the sanctity of life

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The members of the PCC have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and remain committed to working to build the Kingdom of God for the good of the communities the Church in this place is called to serve. Further, the wider Benefice is committed to a shared vision to know Jesus, to discover the gift of His love and to follow in His way – the way that leads to life in all its fullness. This will be realised whenever the church is felt to be 'good news' by bringing a blessing on the communities she is called to serve.

CHURCH COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The only formal committee required by law is the Standing Committee, which normally meets throughout the year. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Other working groups meet to consider particular tasks – such as fabric maintenance – as the need arises.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Across the Church of England attendance has been very challenging to assess as a consequence of the impact of Covid. The Parish Mission Statistics submitted to the Diocese/national Church are available via the website. They also indicate that Harbour Churches has continued to support families at times of loss and grief through funeral care and provision, as well as in the glad times of celebrating the blessing of life long, loving relationship through marriage and the gift of new life and faith in baptism. There has been an increase in all occasional offices. What the statistics cannot measure is the 'quality' of faithfulness of a congregation. Harbour Churches are growing both numerically and spiritually.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

ELECTORAL ROLL

Total of 156 with six deaths and one removed. There was one new name.

SUMMARY OF PCC MEETINGS

West Wittering currently has eight lay members on the PCC (Dick, Sophie, Emma, Lindy, Jenny, Sally, Mike and Stella), and an apprentice Ferdy. Since the last APCM held in May 2022, West Wittering PCC have held two solo West Wittering and five Benefice Board meetings, with one being held via zoom. The average attendance rate has been 72%. Meetings have been carried out in a positive and productive manner, working towards our mission to be good news.

Decisions and actions taken by the PCC:

- In June 2022 West Wittering along with Birdham with Itchenor PCC signed off on the Safeguarding Policy. We are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of all our members. We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- Work on the Growth Action Plan has begun and the PCCs voted to have a fitted projector in both St James and St Peter and St Paul and a permanent screen and monitors in St Peter and St Paul.
- In October West Wittering PCC voted in favour of memorial benches for Charlie Gray and Michael Beer to be placed in the Church Room Garden and Churchyard, respectively.
- In November 2022 the Benefice Board voted on favour of the recommendation of Claire and Mark Ralf and Sue Graham Smith on becoming Authorised Lay Ministers.
- In November 2022 the Benefice Board voted in favour of a new website.
- In December 2022 West Wittering PCC voted in favour of vital tree works in the Churchyard and Church Room Garden.
- In February 2023 West Wittering PCC voted in favour of helping to fund Breakfast Club and Parenting classes for West Wittering School. We also vote in favour of Suzi Costern becoming our Foundation Governor, bridging the gap between the school and the Church.
- In March 2023 the Benefice board voted in favour of Susan Monks conducting funerals, following her recent training at Ripon College.
- In April 2023 the Benefice Board supported Sophie's recommendations to change the online giving platform to 'Invest My Community' following recent issues with Sumup.

We thank all who work so tirelessly to support Harbour Churches and help us continue our mission.

DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod has endeavoured to meet the challenging aspirations for the Deanery to realise its missional purpose and the pressing need to be financially viable.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

*The following comments cover the period May 2022 to May 2023 – a period which saw organisations and institutions move from Covid restrictions. The comments address the **Five Marks of Mission** which are the starting point for the church's development plan (GAP - Growth Action Plan) that sets the priorities for the ongoing process of church renewal to realize the Diocesan strategic vision for **growth** – both numerical and spiritual.*

The PCCs conducted an annual review of the GAP. This is available on the website and hard copies are in each of the three parish churches. This report will summarise progress made moving forward.

Harbour Churches remains committed through **TELL** to the renewal of worship undertaken from 2019, as we seek to celebrate the good news of God's kingdom through inspiring worship, accessible and resonant to all. The new pattern of worship - an aspect of our learning from lockdown and ongoing renewal of worship – is established and the PCC, led by the Rector, will undertake to review the provision of worship across the Benefice in the coming year.

We welcome three new Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) for liturgy. They have the Bishop's permission to annually lead six acts of non-sacramental worship annually with the Incumbent present. To that end, the Rector initiated and received PCC approval to form a new Liturgy and Spirituality Working Group (LSG). This supersedes the previous responsibility for worship held by the Ministry Team.

A priority for the next year will be to secure final funding for the installation of upgraded IT and AV facilities in each parish church to include live stream cameras. It is also urgent that a working group is formed to oversee the installation.

Communications throughout the Benefice are now the responsibility of the Mission Support Facilitator. There has been marked improvement in the scope of all forms of communication and the graphic and branding of Harbour Churches. Of particular note is the excellent new website which was delivered on time and to budget. Moving forward, all three churches and two church facilities will undergo a make over of all hard copy, visible communications.

Particular thanks must also be given to the Ministry Team of Revd's Anthony, Bruce and Jim and to our Readers – Susan and Michael. Michael has graciously retired from active Reader ministry. The church family was able to express its thanks to Michael who made the difficult decision to retire. His contributions to the life of the church both here and elsewhere must surely delight the heart of God. Revd. Anthony felt it appropriate, with Diocesan and Benefice support, to temporarily step away from active duties as Assistant Curate in Training to focus of caring for his wife Carrie. The existing Ministry Team also recognises it no longer has the capacity it once had and would not be able to offer the extensive pattern of worship enjoyed across the Benefice pre-pandemic.

Finally, the coming year will see significant energy being given to enhancing the experience of **welcome** offered by the church at all services and events – particularly in response to the increasing number of those who are new to Harbour Churches.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

Harbour Churches seeks to be a learning church, skilfully developing discipleship. We have continued to prioritise the nurture of existing church members and those new to, or exploring, faith through the mission focus of **TEACH**.

Preaching has embraced the Diocesan Year of the Old Testament. Thematic preaching has had the OT as its focus and greater emphasis is being placed on the appropriate use and appreciation of readings from the Common Lectionary. Moving forward, the LSG will take responsibility for this area of church life.

The Harbour Groups continue to thrive and are now being ably led by Sue Graham Smith. The HGs successfully ran the Lent Talks and Revd Eric Eyre led them with deep wisdom and pastoral insight – a blessing. The Alpha Course has continued to run and is a real encouragement to faith. Mark and Claire Ralf, supported by their team, are to be thanked for this. It is hoped that both Alpha and the Harbour Groups can explore ways to engage with those on the fringe of church life – especially the under-forties and parents of our child and youth groups. It is a particular encouragement that there are six adults of that demographic going forward for Confirmation.

The Sunday children and young people's group 'Connect', is thriving thanks to its skilful stewarding by Alistair Ghinn (our Church Mission Worker) and his team. We look forward to some of the young people going forward for Confirmation. The 'Explore' group for older children and teenagers discovering faith is also in good heart and our weekly youth clubs 'Tower Group' are thriving with numbers better than ever. The Redlands Youth Camps continue to be a great success and ever popular. As a church we are very blessed in all this and hugely grateful to Alistair.

As previously noted, it is a great encouragement to have had three ALMs commissioned for service. Harbour Churches will continue to seek to nurture vocations through the ALM electives.

Every baptised Christian is called to minister God's healing and wholeness in Christ – to **TEND** his sheep. It has been such an encouragement to share in the many ways in which, together, Harbour Churches is offering this ministry and offering life restoring relationships.

The 'Ducklings' parent and toddler group, based at the St James Centre, continues to thrive. Connecting those who come with the wider life of the church as a faith community should be our next priority.

The bereavement work of the church is also very evident and meaningful. The Ministry Team continue to support many families through the experience of the death of a loved one and the process of grief. The 'Forget-me-not Tea' outreach is very well received as is the annual 'Remembering Loved Ones' event. The church also offers bereavement courses, and it is hoped that we can utilise the course run through HTB and the resources of AtaLoss.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

The 'Parish Pump Café' is now a growing outreach offering a welcoming presence to all members of the community and those taking advantage of the beautiful location the church finds itself in. It became a recognised 'Warm Spaces' meeting place in response to the ongoing cost of living crisis. The 'Amblers' group continue to meet for their weekly walks and offer comfort and support to those experiencing loneliness, loss and infirmity. The monthly 'Soup Lunches' are once again being offered and it is hoped they will attract a wider number who enjoy the relaxed and supportive opportunity to have lunch together. The Itchenor Lunch Group now meet as a monthly coffee morning group and are very much appreciated. Itchenor also hosts the popular 'Knit and Natter' group.

The coming year will see the formation of an explicit pastoral befriending team utilising the training offered through the ALM electives. The Lay Pastoral Group (LPG) will incorporate and build on the work of the Tabitha Team.

Harbour Churches successfully delivered Parenting Courses working in partnership with our primary schools to meet the needs of particular parents.

There are countless other untold acts of Christian neighbourliness and goodness which are a source of great blessing to so many. **The whole church family can be thanked for being 'good news' in this.**

Harbour Churches has made a lively response to working for justice, mercy and peace as an inclusive church seeking opportunities to **TRANSFORM** our communities and the wider world, committed to the well-being of the marginalised and to peace-making.

The wider church has been regularly updated and challenged with contemporary issues of concern and is beginning to truly appreciate incarnational ministry in action. However, 'events' give this mark of mission particular focus and intensity.

Our work hosting Afghan refugees weekly continues to bring a great blessing and the ongoing partnership with WSCC has been very effective. The dedicated work with Ukrainian refugees continues through the initiative of the Peninsular Support Group.

Finally, Harbour Churches continues to support St Paul's School in Bo, Sierra Leone which itself goes from strength to strength.

Critically, all these initiatives of transformation were a consequence of Harbour Churches acting as 'salt, yeast and light' and then working in partnership with non-church members and the wider community.

Whilst we recognise the demands on the church to sustain the existing work and ensure volunteers are supported and valued, we recognise too the importance of Harbour Churches in encouraging courageous advocacy in speaking truth to power and seeking out those marginalised groups and individuals who need 'lifting up'.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

The Covid pandemic, cost of living crisis, political and economic instability and the war in Ukraine has understandably captured all our attentions. It is a source of concern that as a church community, Harbour Churches makes no explicit claim on cherishing God's creation in how we **TREASURE** living in environmentally sustainable ways and honouring the sanctity of life.

It was a hopeful sign that we were able to host a Vigil of Prayer for the last COP 27 Conference. Further, initial connections have been made with the Manhood Heritage and Wildlife Group, linking them with our primary schools and our churchyards. However, this remains the one mark of mission that has not yet been meaningfully engaged in.

Nevertheless, it does encompass the ongoing work of maintaining and restoring all our church buildings as well as churchyards and green spaces. Presently these areas are very well managed, although there is still significant scope to re-imagine the extensive work and demand on resource associated with a clearer missional purpose.

Other areas of missional focus and priority

Working alongside the five marks of mission, the PCCs also supported the initiative of the Leadership Team in addressing three key areas of church life which it was felt could work more efficiently and effectively.

The **governance** of Harbour Churches has been significantly re-modelled to ensure that it is fit for purpose for a church focussed on growth. There is still a need to ensure that new ways of working become embedded and understood by the wider church family. In addition, recruitment to key committees, roles and offices is critical and will be a mark of effective governance. Sadly, this continues to be difficult to achieve – as it is across the wider church. Is the Spirit telling us to be more progressive in how we remodel our existing PCC model in recognition of the numerical and spiritual growth we are experiencing in being 'Harbour Churches' - one church serving three communities?

Financial management and deployment of resources continues to be a challenge - as it is for the vast majority of churches. Harbour Churches is well served by its Treasurers, and a recent stewardship campaign went some way to communicate the resource realities of a growing church to the wider congregation and community. However, there is much more that still needs to be done to encourage our stewardship and ensure that missional priorities are understood as having financial implications.

It continues to be a cause of real celebration (and surprise?) that Harbour Churches has been able to continue to pay 100+% of share throughout the year and that both PCCs finished the financial year in the 'black' with a significant increase in income for West Wittering.

It goes without saying that thanks should be given to so many people who serve the life of the church for the sake of the Kingdom. In having a dynamic vision for the future, it is easy to overlook all that is SO good in who we are and what we do.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

And finally, here is just one of the many testimonies that are now regularly received from those who have experienced Harbour Churches as 'good news':

*I just wanted to say thank you for all that the church does. I have been in a dark place this past year,
but it has strengthened my faith, which has been a good thing.
Things are finally looking sunnier.
I have come to see that God does listen;
I just need to see the little things he does.
I have discovered how amazing and loving our Church family is.*

SAFEGUARDING

This continues to be an aspect of church life rigorously undertaken. The Safeguarding group have been engaged as appropriate when considering the implications of our Covid response measures and have worked with Alistair as he returned to in-person activities. There was one cause for concern relating to one off church activity that was dealt with to the satisfaction of the Diocese and PCC.

We are indebted to the excellent work of Sophie Relf and Lois Smith in ensuring Safeguarding policy and procedure is discharged so carefully.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This was another positive year from a financial perspective with a surplus for unrestricted funds of £12,702 (2021: £10,058).

Unrestricted income of £87,668 was up by £11,773 enormously helped by an increase in giving via the Parish Giving Scheme of £11,422 taking this from £33,206 to £44,629 for the year. Collections taken during services were also up from £3,354 (2021) to £6,597 (2022).

Excluding Bo, **restricted income** was up from £4,000 in 2021 to £29,418 which included £17,368 for Afghan and Ukrainian refugees, £6,875 for the proposed new AV system and £3,765 for work on the stone pillars in the church. Retiring collections also raised money for the Children's Society (£200), The Chichester Food Bank (£700), The Chichester Sanctuary (£600) and The Royal British Legion (£300).

Church running costs were up by £8,642 with the increase due increased admin costs and increased running costs following the resumption of normal services. As well as paying our Parish share in full, we were also able to contribute £1,386 for the diocese to be able help less fortunate churches.

The Bo project raised £28,120 during the year including funds from regular donors sponsoring individual children. Expenditure also included c.£3,000 for one off emergency repairs and storm drains.

Fund raisers included a Summer Tea Party in the WWCC in the Millennium Meadow, Carols on the Green which raised a record £1,400 to be shared with WW School and a very successful Quiz Night which filled the Memorial Hall and left guests clamouring for a repeat. On top of this we had a late summer visit from the former Head of St Paul's, Solomon Scott-Manga, now Bishop of Bo, and held a reception in his honour where he met many of our supporters. With over 1,600 children attending the school, we now support just under 300 of the poorest children with mostly local sponsors providing uniforms, sports kit, books etc, as well as a daily lunch on school days.

In the coming year we plan a visit to install the computer lab as well as a new Canon, appointed by the Bishop of Bo on his visit, as recognition for all the Committee, church and village have done to build and support the School over the past 17 + years.

The Government of Sierra Leone have recently decreed that every child over the age of 11 has to attend secondary school, where previously only one in five had. This has caused considerable overcrowding and the head, Cecil Williams, has begged us for more classrooms and so a 6-classroom block for a further 400 children is currently under construction at a cost of c. £30,000. Taken together with £15,000 for the Computer Lab and usual expenditure on sponsored children this will use up most of the Bo restricted fund. Assuming the continued fantastic support from our wonderful community, this should not be a problem.

RISKS & RESERVES

With unrestricted reserves of £54K at the 31st December 2022 and with the aim of maintaining a level of £15K working capital, there are currently sufficient funds to cover expected outgoings for the current year.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

The PCC has authority and power to invest funds in accordance with its legal responsibilities. It does not consider that there would be any benefit of such investment at the current time.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC

The Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 require the members of the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the members of the PCC should follow best practice and:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue its activities.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE PCC

Revd J Swindells

Date: 16th May 2023

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Independent Examiner's Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J P Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex PO20 8HB



Date: 16th May 2023

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
Incoming Resources					
Income from Donors	2a	72,955	36,183	109,138	93,308
Other Voluntary income	2b	8,159	22,543	30,702	18,774
PCC Objectives	2c	5,798	-	5,798	5,431
Generated funds	2d	596	-	596	408
Investment income	2e	160	-	160	6
Total Incoming Resources		87,668	58,726	146,394	117,927
Resources expended					
Outgoing Resources					
Grants	3a	3,186	31,185	34,371	34,421
Work of the Church	3b	71,627	6,875	78,502	65,424
PCC Management & Admin	3c	153	-	153	366
Total Resources expended		74,966	38,060	113,026	100,211
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		12,702	20,666	33,368	17,716
Gains & Losses on Investments		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in funds		12,702	20,666	33,368	17,716
Balance brought forward		44,909	40,872	85,781	68,065
Balance carried forward		57,611	61,538	119,149	85,781

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Balance sheet as at 31st December 2022

	Note	2022	2021
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	24,907	17,411
Short Term Deposits		12,296	12,136
Cash at bank and in hand		91,757	57,487
Total Current assets		128,960	87,034
Liabilities	8	(9,811)	(1,253)
Net Current Assets		119,149	85,781
Net Assets		119,149	85,781
Funds			
Unrestricted (designated as)			
General		54,734	42,032
Designated new church facilities		2,877	2,877
Designated CYE Youth work		-	-
		<u>57,611</u>	<u>44,909</u>
Restricted			
Sierra Leone Appeal		49,734	39,165
New Church facilities		6,875	-
Refugees Appeal		4,922	-
Repairs to Church Yard		7	1,707
Total restricted funds		61,538	40,872
		<u>119,149</u>	<u>85,781</u>

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

.....
 Revd J Swindells

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act and Charity Law and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, subject to the departures referred to below.

Planned giving, collections, donations, legacies and grants are recognised when received.

Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings and equipment held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure, whether additions or improvements, is written off when incurred.

Incoming resources

Rents received from the letting of the Church Room are accounted for gross and when the rental is due. Interest and dividends are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income tax recoverable

Provision is made for tax recoverable on income received during the year.

Resources used

The parish contribution payable to the Diocese is accounted for in the year to which it relates and provision is made for any unpaid contributions. Remuneration and amounts due for goods supplied and services rendered are accounted for when invoiced. Grants and donations are accounted for when awarded.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are brought into the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to or owed by the PCC at 31st December 2022 for goods or services supplied are shown respectively as debtors or creditors. Provision is made for any liabilities known at 31st December 2022.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is legally responsible. The accounts do not include the accounts of Church groups that are administered or run by informal groups of Church members or any group affiliated to another body.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
2. Incoming resources				
2a Incoming resources from Donors				
Donations	59,584	30,458	90,042	77,809
Gift Aid recoverable	5,810	5,725	11,535	12,085
Collections	5,901		5,901	3,354
Other income	1,660	-	1,660	60
	72,955	36,183	109,138	93,308
2b Other Voluntary incoming resources				
Grants - Parish & Chichester Council	1,500	-	1,500	1,100
Donations, Appeals, etc.	6,659	22,543	29,202	16,924
Legacies	-	-	-	750
	8,159	22,543	30,702	18,774
2c Income from Operating Activities PCC				
Church Room lettings	492	-	492	413
Fees and benefice income	5,306	-	5,306	5,018
	5,798	-	5,798	5,431
2d Income from Operating Activities-Funds				
Deposit box for Parish Magazine	596	-	596	408
Fetes, Bazaars & Other Fundraising events			-	
	596	-	596	408
2e Other ordinary Incoming Resources				
Investment income & CCLA Deposit Interest	160	-	160	6

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
3 Resources Expended				
3a Grants				
Church Overseas	-	18,739	18,739	31,721
Home Missions/other church societies	3,186	12,446	15,632	2,700
	3,186	31,185	34,371	34,421
3b Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church				
Ministry Diocesan Parish Share	38,484	-	38,484	37,970
Rector/Rectory expenses	5,465	-	5,465	3,723
Benefice & Admin costs	20,351	-	20,351	1,778
Other clergy costs	1,710	-	1,710	182
Less Birdham & Itchenor contribution	(13,763)	-	(13,763)	(2,840)
Church Running Expenses	1,806	-	1,806	1,170
Church Maintenance	6,537	-	6,537	4,668
Upkeep of Churchyard	4,275	-	4,275	4,483
Church Room running costs	1,372	-	1,372	955
Salaries and associated expenses	4,883	-	4,883	10,682
Sundry	507	-	507	-
	71,627	-	71,627	62,771
Pillar Refurbishment	-	5,175	5,175	-
Lighting	-	-	-	-
6th Bell	-	-	-	360
Repairs to Church Yard	-	1,700	1,700	2,293
Total	71,627	6,875	78,502	65,424

1. Rector's, Rectory and Benefice costs are shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.
2. Other clergy costs are also shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC. They represent the expenses of Assistant Clergy
3. Church running costs include upkeep of services, heating & lighting and worship resources.

3c PCC Management & Administration

Bank Charges	-	-	-	-
Other Admin - Gift aid envelopes etc.	153	-	153	366
AGM costs	-	-	-	-
	153	-	153	366

4 Staff Costs

Wages, Fees and Salaries	4,883	-	4,883	10,682
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Salaries include payment towards costs of the Youth Worker
During the year the PCC employed a Secretary, 50% of these costs are met by Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.

	2022	2021
Number of charitable staff (average monthly number employed)	-	1
No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.		

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2022	Total funds 2021
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5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC

5a Tangible Fixed Assets

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is considered to be a heritage asset, so not shown at a valuation.

Leasehold Land & Buildings comprises the Church Room in Pound Road.

The land is owned by the Diocese and as such, no value has been given to it in these Accounts.

Church equipment comprises a sound system and a projector screen, which have a nil book value.

5b Investment Fixed Assets

Value as at 31.12.2021

	-	-	-	-
Gains on disposals	-	-	-	-
Unrealised gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-

Value as at 31.12.2022

	-	-	-	-
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The investments are held to provide an investment return for the PCC.

6. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Held by Church of England Deposit Fund	12,296	-	12,296	12,136
Held by HSBC Bank	47,449	44,308	91,757	57,487
	59,745	44,308	104,053	69,623

7. Debtors

HMRC - estimated Gift Aid receipts outstanding	5,986	4,300	10,286	11,155
VAT Refund Due	133	-	133	35
Amounts due received after 31st December	14,488	-	14,488	6,221
Total Debtors	20,607	4,300	24,907	17,411

8. Liabilities

Other creditors and accruals	7,301	-	7,301	953
Charitable Giving	2,510	-	2,510	300
	9,811	-	9,811	1,253

9. Capital Commitments

There were no outstanding capital commitments as at 31st December 2022

10. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No member of the PCC received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee

Trustee Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received contributions towards their expenses incurred in their duties as a trustee within the parish (2021: nil).

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Movement on Funds	At 01.01.2022	Income	Outgoing	Revaluation	At 31.12.2022
Unrestricted Funds					
General	42,032	87,668	(74,966)	-	54,734
Designated for new church facilities	2,877	-	-	-	2,877
Designated Youth work	-	-	-	-	-
	44,909	87,668	(74,966)	-	57,611
Restricted Funds					
Sierra Leone Appeal	39,165	29,308	(18,739)	-	49,734
Refugess Appeal	-	17,368	(12,446)	-	4,922
New Church Facilities	-	6,875	-	-	6,875
Pillar refurbishment	-	5,175	(5,175)	-	-
Repairs to Church Yard	1,707	-	(1,700)	-	7
	40,872	58,726	(38,060)	-	61,538
Total Funds	85,781	146,394	(113,026)	-	119,149

Designated Funds

The Designated New Facilities Fund

This fund was opened with a 2015 donation from the Parish News (£5,395) and is designated to go towards the provision of new facilities and decoration for the Church. The aim is to make the church more friendly and appealing for services and more practical for hosting community events.

The amount outstanding (£2,877) is currently designated to go towards the provision of an AV system for the Church.

Restricted Funds

The Sierra Leone Appeal Fund was set up in 2006 when the Church agreed to raise funds to build and support a school in Bo, Sierra Leone, inviting the village to be involved. The school named St Paul's School has grown significantly since then thanks to support from people in the village and from further afield.

The New Church Facilities fund is made up of donations to go towards the AV system.

The Friends of the church provide funding for the **refurbishment of the central pillars**.

In 2021 West Wittering Estates and another donor provided funding for **repairs to Church Yard** including the provision of a new shed. This work was completed in 2022.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1141879

**Report of the Members of the Parochial Church Council and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

for

**The Parish of St Peter and St Paul,
West Wittering**

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

The members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul (PCC) present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021. The members of the PCC are the Charity Trustees.

The members of the PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2014.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number	1141879
Registered Name	West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Principal address

Church Office
West Wittering Rectory
Pound Road
West Wittering
PO20 8AJ

Trustees after the APCM in May 2021

Mr B. Harvey	Lay Chair
Revd A. Goddard	Clergy
Mr. D. Howeson	Stewardship Missioner
Mr M. Jarman	
Ms S. Pendleton	Churchwarden / Deanery Synod
Mrs S. Relf	Safeguarding Officer
Revd J. Swindells	Chairman
Mrs E Szepesi	Secretary
Mrs T. Wilson	

Observer

Dr S. Monks	Licensed Reader
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Independent Examiner

Mr J Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
West Sussex
PO20 8HB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
94 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HD

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
74/75 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HR

Solicitors

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
Thomas Eggar House
Friary Lane
Chichester
PO19 1UF

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

BACKGROUND AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

West Wittering Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St. Peter and St Paul and the Church Room.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

The primary objective of West Wittering PCC is the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In co-operation with the incumbent, the promotion of the mission of the church was achieved through the five **Marks of Mission**:

TELL	<i>Celebrating the 'Happy News'</i> - inspiring worship for everyone that is life changing
TEACH	<i>Nurturing believers 'old and new'</i> - a learning church skilfully developing discipleship
TEND	<i>Responding to human need</i> - building life restoring relationships offering healing and wholeness
TRANSFORM	<i>Working for justice, mercy and peace</i> - an inclusive church committed to the well-being of the marginalised and to peace-making
TREASURE	<i>Cherishing God's creation - living in environmentally sustainable ways and</i> honouring the sanctity of life

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The members of the PCC have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and remain committed to working to build the Kingdom of God for the good of the communities the Church in this place is called to serve. Further, the wider Benefice is committed to a shared vision to know Jesus, to discover the gift of His love and to follow in His way – the way that leads to life in all its fullness. This will be realised whenever the church is felt to be 'good news' by bringing a blessing on the communities she is called to serve.

CHURCH COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The only formal committee required by law is the Standing Committee, which normally meets throughout the year. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Other working groups meet to consider particular tasks – such as fabric maintenance – as the need arises.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Across the Church of England attendance has been very challenging to assess. To that end, both parishes' Mission Statistics Reports submitted to the Diocese/national Church are available on the Harbour Churches website. They also indicate that, if only in very limited ways, Harbour Churches have continued to support families at times of loss and grief through funeral care and provision, as well as in the glad times of celebrating the blessing of lifelong, loving relationship through marriage and the gift of new life and faith in baptism.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

ELECTORAL ROLL

Total of 161 names with five deaths and one removed. There were no new names.

SUMMARY OF PCC MEETINGS

West Wittering PCC currently has seven lay members. Since the last virtual APCM held in May 2021, West Wittering PCC have held one in-person meeting in June 2021, two virtual meetings via Zoom in March and May 2022 and two in-person Benefice Board meetings in September and November 2021, made up of Birdham with Itchenor PCC and West Wittering PCC. The average attendance rate for West Wittering has been 75%. Covid-19 infection rates have still played a huge part in our meetings and public gatherings.

Decisions and actions taken by the PCC:

- We are still moving towards being a 'cashless Church', one off payment can now be made via QR code and via the Harbour Churches website. Direct Debit payments continue.
- Collaboration will continue between the West Wittering PCC and the PCC of Birdham with Itchenor with regular Benefice Board meetings.
- The Church's pattern of services has altered in the wake of the pandemic. The PCCs recognise that this revised pattern will form part of Harbour Churches Growth Action Plan and, as such, will be regularly reviewed by the Leadership and Ministry Team and periodically by the PCCs and wider church family over the next three years.
- At the November 2021 Benefice Board meeting, both PCCs agreed a revised package of activities offered by Alistair Ghinn to be implemented from January 2022. The package included restarting CONNECT at the Church Room on the first Sunday of the month. The PCCs express their gratitude to Alistair for all he does to support the children and young people across our Benefice.
- In February 2022 a joint e-vote went out to the Benefice Board, with unanimous agreement to authorise the Rector to advertise the roles of Parish Administrator; to form an interview panel by invitation to individuals who sit on the PCCs; to conduct interviews; and to make appointments as deemed appropriate by the panel, on the basis of service level agreements. This role has since been filled by Sophie Relf, with the revised title of Mission Support Facilitator.
- In March 2022, West Wittering PCC agreed the annual accounts and the Parish Share.
- In May 2022 West Wittering PCC voted that the west end window should be restored and that the Friends of West Wittering Church should be asked to fund this work. Urgent repair is needed to prevent water leaking into the electrical distribution box below.
- The PCC's Standing Committee conferred as necessary during the year to agree necessary business: servicing of the church heating system, approval of electrical work in church and Church Room, health and safety measures related to trees in the churchyard and Church Room garden.
- A secretary for West Wittering PCC is still being sought.

Meetings have been carried out in a positive and constructive manner, with Safeguarding being a standing item at every PCC meeting.

DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod has operated in a very limited way over the period of Covid restrictions and its work has been focused on responses to the pandemic. A new Rural Dean was appointed and has set a challenging aspiration for the Deanery to be financially viable, with the expectation of significant increases in expected Parish Share.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

*The following comments cover the period April 2021 to May 2022 and must be seen in the light of the challenges of a continuing worldwide pandemic and its ongoing consequences. The comments address the Five Marks of Mission which are the starting point for the church's development plan. This plan, our Growth Action Plan (GAP), sets the priorities for the ongoing process of church renewal to realise the Diocesan strategic vision for **growth** – both numerical and spiritual.*

The GAP is available on the website and clearly details the priorities – and actions and resources needed to meet them. This report will not detail those but will summarise progress made moving forward.

TELL

Harbour Churches continued to respond inclusively and creatively to the challenges of holding in-person services and offering Zoom services and on-line worship. From May, the church family were invited to worship together outside in the grounds of Birdham parish church. Again, this was very well received as was the continued focus on themed preaching and the permission to sing outdoors unmasked. The Ministry Team had a particular focus on the place and priority of Holy Communion following low numbers receiving this sacrament at in-person worship during periods of the pandemic. Sadly, the new variant Omicron impacted significantly on in-person worship at Christmas and into the New Year.

In October the church was able to return to in-person 'building based' worship. In response to this the Leadership and Ministry Team, led by the Incumbent, proposed a new pattern of worship to reflect the positive experiences of coming together as three congregations during lockdowns and especially for outdoor worship and the lighter liturgical approach that had been so well received and was clearly a factor in attracting new members to the worshipping congregation through the pandemic. These proposals were agreed by the PCCs, and the congregations were invited to consider them at open meetings and in discussion with their parochial representatives. However, it was the nature of the extraordinary times in which the church found herself that the new pattern of worship did not have the time that some needed to be fully understood and appreciated. In particular, not enough thought was given to its impact on the Birdham choir and organist, which had faithfully served the worship of congregation of the church of St James pre-pandemic. At a meeting of the choir, the Incumbent apologised for this oversight and invited existing choir members to support a church choir which would cover the main acts of worship across Harbour Churches. An offer was also made to the organist to support this initiative. Neither party felt able to support the proposal for a joint choir.

This disappointment should not take away the positives of the new pattern and style of worship which is, over time, becoming more secure and fulfilling its objective to pool the resources of the wider church and grow a discrete congregation that will have lasting viability into the next decade. Jane Swindells and Sue Graham-Smith deserve special thanks for all they have done to support the worship of Harbour Churches during this difficult time.

Particular thanks must also be given to the Ministry Team of Reverends Anthony, Bruce and Jim and to our Readers – Susan, Michael and Ben. The church family was able to express its thanks to Ben who made the difficult decision to retire. His contributions to the life of the church both here and elsewhere must surely delight the heart of God. The Ministry Team has also recognised it no longer has the capacity it had and would not be able to offer the extensive pattern of worship pre-pandemic.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

The key priorities moving forward are to:

- 1 continue to deliver a secure pattern and style of worship, building on our on-going renewal of worship for growth
- 2 enhance the AV and IT capacity of our church buildings to support worship in person and on-line.
- 3 review the spiritual and missional impact of worship
- 4 ensure the church is an inclusive environment for worship e.g., dementia friendly and for the hearing impaired.

TEACH

Establishing and delivering preaching themes and focuses has been well received and impactful. The Harbour Groups, led by Revd Anthony, continue to develop, and provide fellowship and develop discipleship among a wide number of the congregation and take a lead in delivering our Lent courses and supporting preaching themes. The Alpha Course has continued to run and is also a real encouragement to faith. Mark and Claire Ralf, supported by their team, are to be thanked for this.

The priorities moving forward are to:

- 1 further develop and broaden the Harbour Groups
- 2 equip worship leaders for their roles
- 3 encourage vocations, leadership and meet other training needs
- 4 re-imagine discipling families, children and young people

Alistair Ghinn has restarted in-person youth work and attendance is encouraging. Two Redlands Youth Camps are in planning and sign-up is promising. CONNECT has begun again and is soon to be offered twice a month.

TEND

Every baptised Christian is called to minister God's healing and wholeness in Christ. It has been such an encouragement to share in the many ways in which together Harbour Churches is offering this ministry.

The 'Ducklings' parent and toddler group, based at the St James Centre, continues to thrive. Recently, it was a joy and blessing to welcome a Ukrainian mother and child. The bereavement work of the church is also very evident and meaningful. The Ministry Team continue to support many families through the experience of the death of a loved one and the process of grief. The 'Forget-me-not Tea' outreach is very well received as is the annual 'Remembering Loved Ones' event. The church also offers bereavement courses. The 'Parish Pump Café' is now a growing outreach offering a welcoming presence to all members of the community and those taking advantage of the beautiful location the church finds itself in. The 'Amblers' group continue to meet for their weekly walks and offer comfort and support to those experiencing loneliness, loss and infirmity. This group was instigated by Revd Eric and his wife Margaret. Sadly, they have had to step aside due to ill health, but they are to be sincerely thanked for the amazing work they have done to establish the group. The monthly 'Soup Lunches' are once again being offered and it is hoped they will attract a wider number who enjoy the relaxed and supportive opportunity to have lunch together. The Itchenor Lunch Group now meet as a monthly coffee morning group which is very much appreciated.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

There are countless other untold acts of Christian neighbourliness and goodness which are a source of great blessing to so many. **The whole church family can to be thanked for being 'good news' in this.**

The priorities moving forward are to:

- 1 realise the missional and evangelistic opportunities of 'Ducklings' and other groups.
- 2 adopt and implement the 'Place of Welcome' CofE initiative for the St James Centre
- 3 establish Harbour Churches as a 'Dementia Friendly Church'.
- 4 gather and equip a 'Befrienders' lay pastoral team

TRANSFORM

Harbour Churches has made a lively response to working for justice, mercy and peace as an inclusive church committed to the well-being of the marginalised and to peace-making.

The wider church has been regularly updated and challenged with contemporary issues of concern and is beginning to appreciate incarnational ministry in action. However, 'events' have given this mark of mission particular focus and intensity.

As a consequence of the abandonment of Afghanistan to Taliban rule in August 2021, the plight of those who had supported the British forces and agencies became a national cause for concern. It was decided to see how Harbour Churches could be 'good news' in that situation. After a tremendous response and effort from 20+ volunteers, Afghan refugees in West Sussex are now hosted for weekly visits to enjoy a day out at the beach and local area, with lunch and refreshments. The cultural exchange has been hugely rewarding, as has the impetus for missional work derived from the success of this initiative. It is hoped that this initiative will find meaningful support from other churches in the Deanery of Chichester.

Further, the outbreak of war in Ukraine and the subsequent refugee crisis, has prompted another amazing response from the church family. In a short time, a support hub has been set up and is already organising events and delivery of help and support to Ukrainian guests and their host families.

Finally, Harbour Churches continues to support St Paul's School in Bo, Sierra Leone, which itself goes from strength to strength.

Critically, all these initiatives of transformation were a consequence of the Harbour Churches acting as 'salt, yeast and light' and then **working in partnership** with non-church members and the wider community.

As a consequence of the high level of engagement in this mark of mission, the future priorities will be to sustain the existing work and ensure volunteers are supported and valued.

TREASURE

This remains the one mark of mission that has not yet been meaningfully engaged in. However, it does encompass our ongoing commitment to care for God's creation; for example, by reducing our use of plastic, enabling recycling and choosing Fairtrade products. Also relevant is the way we work to maintain our churchyards and green spaces. Presently these areas are very well managed. Nevertheless, there is significant scope to review the current extensive work and demand on resources and to re-imagine, with a clearer missional purpose, what we do.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

To progress the missional work in this area, it is critical to appoint a 'champion' supported by a small team of volunteers who feel called to what is a very contemporary issue in terms of our stewardship of the environment and sustainability.

Future priorities have been set but the first step must be finding individuals to champion this very important mark of mission.

Other areas of missional focus and priority

Working alongside the five marks of mission, the PCCs also supported the initiative of the Leadership Team in addressing three key areas of church life which it was felt could work more efficiently and effectively.

The **governance** of Harbour Churches has been significantly re-modelled to ensure that it is fit for purpose for a church focussed on growth. There is still a need to ensure that new ways of working become embedded and understood by the wider church family. In addition, recruitment to key committees, roles and offices is critical and will be a mark of effective governance.

Finance is another key area of church life and Harbour Churches is well served by its Treasurers. However, it is recognised that alongside changes in governance, there is a need to re-imagine financial management and deployment of resources. This will ensure that the missional priority for growth, numerical and spiritual, is given greater focus, both by the PCCs and the wider church. To this end, a stewardship campaign 'Gracious Giving' is underway and will culminate in opportunities for the widest participation in the life of the church and, importantly, enable future mission-focussed budgeting and planning.

It should be a point of some celebration that throughout the period of Covid, Harbour Churches has been able to continue to pay 100+% of Parish Share and has remained financially viable.

Another very positive step has been the appointment of a Mission Support Facilitator. Sophie Relf was appointed to this new role following the retirement of the Parish Administrator, Clare Blevins, following ten years of dedicated service. This appointment will significantly support the church's intent to improve all areas of **communication** – both internal and external and ensure that we operate as efficiently and effectively as possible to realise our mission.

It goes without saying that thanks should be given to so many people who serve the life of the church for the sake of the Kingdom. In having a dynamic vision for the future, it is easy to overlook all that is good in who we are and what we do. And so, these comments conclude with a prayer for **a church alive to its calling but honest about the fact that we remain only clay jars in which God entrusts us with his life giving Spirit:**

*It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our
efforts, it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny
fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.
Nothing we do is complete, which is a way
of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.*

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

*No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No program accomplishes the church's mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about:
We plant the seeds that one day will
grow. We water seeds already planted,
knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that.
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for
the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the
master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.
Amen.*

SAFEGUARDING

This continues to be an aspect of church life rigorously undertaken. The Safeguarding group have been engaged as appropriate when considering the implications of our Covid response measures and have worked with Alistair as he returned to in-person activities.

We are indebted to the excellent work of Sophie Relf and Lois Smith in ensuring Safeguarding policy and procedure is discharged so carefully.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This was another positive year from a financial perspective with a surplus for unrestricted funds of £10,058 (2020: £10,269).

During the previous year there were some very generous donations to help with the void caused by Covid. These included a one off grant of £5,000 from Chichester council. These have been replaced this year by an increase in regular giving of £6,877 significantly helped by more people donating with the Parish Giving Scheme and via the website. Collections were also up by £1,563 at £3,194 due to more services being held following a reduction in Covid restrictions. As a result income at £75,895 was only down by £2,212 on the previous year.

Outgoings were in line with the previous year at £65,837 with a net reduction of £2,001.

It has been the second difficult year in a row for the Bo Project with three out of our four fund-raisers having to be cancelled. However, goodwill towards the project remained encouragingly high as demonstrated by a record income from the only fund-raiser to survive Covid, our summer Paella and Sangria party which raised just over £4,000; and a very generous donation of £500 to compensate for the cancellation of Carols on the Green. A full programme for 2022 commenced with a Songs of Praise service, 4pm on Sunday 24th April in West Wittering church. Sponsorship has remained strong during the year and the number of sponsored children has risen to 270 and we continue to provide free lunches for all the sponsored children which has made a noticeable difference to their learning in many ways, as well as school uniforms, sports kit and other equipment. Installation of the computer lab is still outstanding but is planned to take place during an October visit as well as taking forward the plans for a job creation scheme via a programmed business support scheme which we trust will create many jobs in the long term.

Sadly our first village chair of the project died during the year, but the charity was chosen for donations in his memory at the funeral and this amounted to over £2,000 and it is intended to name the Computer Lab in his memory.

RISKS & RESERVES

With unrestricted reserves of £42K at the December 2021 year end and with the aim of maintaining a level of £15K working capital, there are currently sufficient funds to cover expected outgoings for the current year.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

The PCC has authority and power to invest funds in accordance with its legal responsibilities. It does not consider that there would be any benefit of such investment at the current time.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC

The Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 require the members of the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the members of the PCC should follow best practice and:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue its activities.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE PCC

Revd J Swindells

Date: 23rd May 2022

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Independent Examiner's Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2021.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J P Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex PO20 8HB



Date: 23rd May 2022

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
Incoming Resources					
Income from Donors	2a	55,276	38,032	93,308	79,925
Other Voluntary income	2b	14,774	4,000	18,774	29,571
PCC Objectives	2c	5,431	-	5,431	4,714
Generated funds	2d	408	-	408	2,840
Investment income	2e	6	-	6	51
Total Incoming Resources		75,895	42,032	117,927	117,101
Resources expended					
			6,311		
Outgoing Resources					
Grants	3a	2,700	31,721	34,421	24,763
Work of the Church	3b	62,771	2,653	65,424	69,483
PCC Management & Admin	3c	366	-	366	214
Total Resources expended		65,837	34,374	100,211	94,460
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		10,058	7,658	17,716	22,641
Gains & Losses on Investments		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in funds		10,058	7,658	17,716	22,641
Balance brought forward		34,851	33,214	68,065	104,480
Balance carried forward		44,909	40,872	85,781	127,121

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Balance sheet as at 31st December 2021

	Note	2021	2020
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	17,411	12,887
Short Term Deposits		12,136	12,130
Cash at bank and in hand		57,487	44,675
Total Current assets		87,034	69,692
Liabilities	8	(1,253)	(1,627)
Net Current Assets		85,781	68,065
Net Assets		85,781	68,065
Funds			
Unrestricted (designated as)			
General		42,032	31,974
Designated new church facilities		2,877	2,877
Designated CYE Youth work		-	-
		44,909	34,851
Restricted			
Sierra Leone Appeal		39,165	32,854
6th Bell			360
Repairs to Church Yard		1,707	-
Total restricted funds		40,872	33,214
		85,781	68,065

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

.....
 Revd J Swindells

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act and Charity Law and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, subject to the departures referred to below.

Planned giving, collections, donations, legacies and grants are recognised when received.

Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings and equipment held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure, whether additions or improvements, is written off when incurred.

Incoming resources

Rents received from the letting of the Church Room are accounted for gross and when the rental is due. Interest and dividends are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income tax recoverable

Provision is made for tax recoverable on income received during the year.

Resources used

The parish contribution payable to the Diocese is accounted for in the year to which it relates and provision is made for any unpaid contributions. Remuneration and amounts due for goods supplied and services rendered are accounted for when invoiced. Grants and donations are accounted for when awarded.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are brought into the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to or owed by the PCC at 31st December 2021 for goods or services supplied are shown respectively as debtors or creditors. Provision is made for any liabilities known at 31st December 2021.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is legally responsible. The accounts do not include the accounts of Church groups that are administered or run by informal groups of Church members or any group affiliated to another body.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
2. Incoming resources				
2a Incoming resources from Donors				
Donations	46,880	30,929	77,809	66,791
Gift Aid recoverable	4,982	7,103	12,085	11,241
Collections	3,354		3,354	1,833
Other income	60	-	60	60
	55,276	38,032	93,308	79,925
2b Other Voluntary incoming resources				
Grants - Parish & Chichester Council	1,100	-	1,100	6,500
Donations, Appeals, etc.	12,924	4,000	16,924	23,071
Legacies	750	-	750	-
	14,774	4,000	18,774	29,571
2c Income from Operating Activities PCC				
Church Room lettings	413	-	413	146
Fees and benefice income	5,018	-	5,018	4,568
	5,431	-	5,431	4,714
2d Income from Operating Activities-Funds				
Deposit box for Parish Magazine	408	-	408	78
Fetes, Bazaars & Other Fundraising events			-	2,762
	408	-	408	2,840
2e Other ordinary Incoming Resources				
Investment income & CCLA Deposit Interest	6	-	6	51

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
3 Resources Expended				
3a Grants				
Church Overseas	-	31,721	31,721	20,927
Home Missions/other church societies	2,700	-	2,700	3,836
	2,700	31,721	34,421	24,763
3b Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church				
Ministry Diocesan Parish Share	37,970	-	37,970	37,970
Rector/Rectory expenses	3,723	-	3,723	4,588
Benefice & Admin costs	1,778	-	1,778	1,671
Other clergy costs	182	-	182	2,018
Less Birdham & Itchenor contribution	(2,840)	-	(2,840)	(4,138)
Church Running Expenses	1,170	-	1,170	1,418
Church Maintenance	4,668	-	4,668	3,466
Upkeep of Churchyard	4,483	-	4,483	3,623
Church Room running costs	955	-	955	1,747
Salaries and associated expenses	10,682	-	10,682	11,425
Sundry	-	-	-	-
	62,771	-	62,771	63,788
Pillar Refurbishment	-	-	-	-
Lighting	-	-	-	-
6th Bell	-	360	360	5,695
Repairs to Church Yard	-	2,293	2,293	-
Total	62,771	2,653	65,424	69,483

1. Rector's, Rectory and Benefice costs are shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.
2. Other clergy costs are also shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC. They represent the expenses of Assistant Clergy
3. Church running costs include upkeep of services, heating & lighting and worship resources.

3c PCC Management & Administration

Bank Charges	-	-	-	-
Other Admin - Gift aid envelopes etc.	366	-	366	214
AGM costs	-	-	-	-
	366	-	366	214

4 Staff Costs

Wages, Fees and Salaries	10,682	-	10,682	11,425
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Salaries include payment towards costs of the Youth Worker
During the year the PCC employed a Secretary, 50% of these costs are met by Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.

	2021	2020
Number of charitable staff (average monthly number employed)	1	1
No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.		

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2021	Total funds 2020
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5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC

5a Tangible Fixed Assets

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is considered to be a heritage asset, so not shown at a valuation.

Leasehold Land & Buildings comprises the Church Room in Pound Road.

The land is owned by the Diocese and as such, no value has been given to it in these Accounts.

Church equipment comprises a sound system and a projector screen, which have a nil book value.

5b Investment Fixed Assets

Value as at 31.12.2020

	-	-	-	-
Gains on disposals	-	-	-	-
Unrealised gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-

Value as at 31.12.2021

	-	-	-	-
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The investments are held to provide an investment return for the PCC.

6. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Held by Church of England Deposit Fund	12,136	-	12,136	12,130
Held by HSBC Bank	25,431	32,056	57,487	44,675
	37,567	32,056	69,623	56,805

7. Debtors

HMRC - estimated Gift Aid receipts outstanding	4,055	7,100	11,155	10,342
VAT Refund Due	35	-	35	53
Amounts due received after 31st December	6,221	-	6,221	2,492
Total Debtors	10,311	7,100	17,411	12,887

8. Liabilities

Other creditors and accruals	953	-	953	246
Charitable Giving	300	-	300	1,381
	1,253	-	1,253	1,627

9. Capital Commitments

There were no outstanding capital commitments as at 31st December 2021

10. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No member of the PCC received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee

Trustee Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received contributions towards their expenses incurred in their duties within the parish (2020: nil).

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Movement on Funds	At 01.01.2021	Income	Outgoing	Revaluation	At 31.12.2021
Unrestricted Funds					
General	31,974	75,895	(65,837)	-	42,032
Designated for new church facilities	2,877	-	-	-	2,877
Designated Youth work	-	-	-	-	-
	34,851	75,895	(65,837)	-	44,909
Restricted Funds					
Sierra Leone Appeal	32,854	38,032	(31,721)	-	39,165
6th Bell	360	-	(360)	-	-
Repairs to Church Yard	-	4,000	(2,293)	-	1,707
	33,214	42,032	(34,374)	-	40,872
Total Funds	68,065	117,927	(100,211)	-	85,781

Designated Funds

The Designated New Facilities Fund

This fund was opened with a 2015 donation from the Parish News (£5,395) and is designated to go towards the provision of new facilities and decoration for the Church. The aim is to make the church more friendly and appealing for services and more practical for hosting community events.

The amount outstanding (£2,877) is currently designated to go towards the provision of an AV system for the Church.

Restricted Funds

The Sierra Leone Appeal Fund was set up in 2006 when the Church agreed to raise funds to build and support a school in Bo, Sierra Leone, inviting the village to be involved. The school named St Paul's School has grown significantly since then thanks to support from people in the village and from further afield.

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1141879

**Report of the Members of the Parochial Church Council and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

for

**The Parish of St Peter and St Paul,
West Wittering**

WEST WITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

The members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul (PCC) present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The members of the PCC are the Charity Trustees.

The members of the PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2014.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number	1141879
Registered Name	West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Principal address

Church Office
West Wittering Rectory
Pound Road
West Wittering
PO20 8AJ

Trustees after the APCM in October 2020

Mr B. Harvey	Lay Chair
Revd A. Goddard	Clergy
Mr. D. Howeson	Stewardship Missioner
Mr M. Jarman	Safeguarding Officer
Ms S. Pendleton	Churchwarden / Deanery Synod
Mrs S. Relf	
Revd J. Swindells	Chairman
Mrs E Szepesi	Secretary
Mrs T. Wilson	

Observer

Dr S. Monks	Licensed Reader
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Independent Examiner

Mr J Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
West Sussex
PO20 8HB

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
94 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HD

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
74/75 East Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1HR

Solicitors

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
Thomas Eggar House
Friary Lane
Chichester
PO19 1UF

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

BACKGROUND AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

West Wittering Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St. Peter and St Paul and the Church Room.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

The primary objective of West Wittering PCC is the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In co-operation with the incumbent, the promotion of the mission of the church was achieved through:

Worship and Prayer

- Services of Holy Communion
- Prayer meetings

Preaching and Teaching

- Sunday Morning and Evening Services
- Bible studies
- Home Groups

Missionary Work

- Support of the work in Bo
- Other overseas missionary work
- UK missionary work

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The members of the PCC have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and remain committed to working to build the Kingdom of God for the good of the communities the Church in this place is called to serve. Further, the wider Benefice is committed to a shared vision to know Jesus, to discover the gift of His love and to follow in His way – the way that leads to life in all its fullness. This will be realised whenever the Church is felt to bring a blessing on the communities it is called to serve.

CHURCH COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The only formal committee required by law is the Standing Committee, which normally meets regularly during the year. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Other working groups meet to consider particular tasks – such as social activities – as the need arises.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Across the Church of England attendance has been very challenging to assess. To that end, both parishes' Mission Statistics Reports submitted to the Diocese/national Church are available on the Harbour Churches website. They also indicate that, if only in very limited ways, Harbour Churches have continued to support families at times of loss and grief through funeral care and provision, as well as in the glad times of celebrating the blessing of lifelong, loving relationship through marriage.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll shows 168 names. There has been one death since the last roll.

SUMMARY OF PCC MEETINGS

West Wittering PCC currently has nine members and has held five virtual meetings via Zoom since the last APCM in October 2020. The average attendance rate has been 88%. Due to national Covid-19 restrictions it has not been possible to hold in-person meetings during the entire year.

Meetings have been carried out in a positive manner, with Safeguarding being a regular item at every PCC meeting. We welcome Sophie Relf as our new Safeguarding Officer and give thanks to Mike Jarman for his many years of service.

Decisions and actions taken by the PCC:

- In January 2021, a joint PCC meeting with Birdham and Itchenor was held and a resolution was passed to suspend public worship in the Benefice for the duration of the national lockdown.
- The faculty for reordering of the West End has been received and work can begin.
- A contactless card payment machine will be installed in West Wittering Church as a safer way to give. We give thanks to Dick Howeson and Alan Rymer for setting this up.
- We thank Alistair Ghinn for his work keeping the Youth Groups running virtually during lockdown and look forward to in-person groups beginning again.
- The PCC agree to keep their giving to the Mothers' Union and Royal British Legion the same as last year, recognising the struggles they must also be facing during the pandemic.

DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod has operated in a very limited way over the period of Covid restrictions and its work has been focused on responses to the pandemic. Meetings have been on-line.

SAFEGUARDING

This continues to be an aspect of church life rigorously undertaken. The Safeguarding group have been engaged as appropriate when considering the implications of our Covid response measures and have worked with Alistair in delivering on-line youth work.

Mr Mike Jarman stood down as the West Wittering Safeguarding Officer and convener of the Benefice Safeguarding Team in January 2021 after over a decade of outstanding commitment to safeguarding in the Benefice, both in terms of his supportive leadership and establishment of good policies and procedures. He has been replaced by Mrs Sophie Relf, who continues to competently lead on matters relating to SQP with Mrs Lois Smith continuing as an excellent Safeguarding Officer for Birdham with Itchenor and working on the Safeguarding Team.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

At the 2020 APCM, the Rector presented a report outlining the ongoing process of church renewal to realise the Diocesan wide strategic intent for growth – both numerical and spiritual. The report outlined three strands in ‘Stepping Up to the Vision’.

In Step One members of the Ministry Team, supported by the church family, would audit church life to see what we already do under the 5 Ts, how effective it is and what ***priorities for ministry we adopt moving forward and how they can be resourced***. At the time of writing this process is now underway with the first three Ts of TELL, TEACH and TEND and the other two soon to be underway.

In **Step Two**, Harbour Churches were to explore through prayer, praise and preaching, study groups and virtual church the four *characteristics* identified as foundational to the renewal of church life – **Hospitality, Nurture, Freedom and Gratitude**. This was undertaken from Advent 2020 and was completed by Easter Day of 2021. The feedback was overwhelming positive, with the Ministry Team and guest preachers ably preaching engaging sermons and the characteristics becoming ‘conversation pieces’ in general church life. Work still needs to be done to embed and revisit these characteristics – also part of the work of Step One.

The third and final Step Three – concerned as it is with significant organizational change – was always recognized as being the most challenging. At the time of writing the second area of organizational restructuring **Church Representation, Governance and Accountability** has been ably undertaken through the leadership of Reverend Anthony Goddard and the Task Group has produced a first draft report for wider consideration and consultation. It was felt that this area needed to be undertaken first as its findings would inform and shape the areas of **Communication** and **Finance**. A Communication Task Group is now beginning to consider its response and the Finance Task Group, which has already done informal work to ‘test the waters’, can now undertake its work more confident in the proposed organizational systems for Harbour Churches. In conclusion, this significant and demanding process is underway, established and beginning to deliver concrete proposals.

The past year has been unprecedented, with the Church denied in-person worship for over half the year and what in-person worship has taken place impacted by de-personalizing restrictions.

Nevertheless, the in-person worship that has taken place was characterized by skilful liturgical planning and delivery, utilizing a range of media to compensate for Covid restrictions. The range of services offered had to be severely limited. Numbers attending were limited as a result of the two-metre ‘rule’ and as a consequence attendance was dramatically reduced. Further, the bookings system impacted on individuals’ capacity to attend - as did the ongoing concerns of the majority of the congregations for gathering with others in confined spaces.

The ‘Out Door Act of Worship’ which ran on Sundays from late June through until the end of September was a particular highlight of worship despite – and because – of Covid. Having a blend of live and recorded music was well received, as was the variety of styles of worship music and material. The most significant aspect of the worship was in the way it brought together all three congregations. This was already underway pre-Covid with the fifth Sunday ‘One Church’ service and has now gained further momentum through the pandemic.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (cont')

On-line worship was again a blessing both because - and despite - of Covid. The 'Sofa Service', initially hugely popular and achieving over 300 viewers week by week, has now become more modest in terms of viewer numbers but is still an integral part of the worship experience of Harbour Churches. The incidental 'Wednesday Meditations' and regularly posting weekly sermons on-line, has also sustained the life of the churches' worship and teaching and a broader sense of 'living faith through lockdown'. Latterly, from the time of the third lockdown in January 2020 the church family has gathered for worship via Zoom and, despite early technical challenges, is now a highly competently delivered act of on-line worship supported by the diverse skills of the Ministry Team and congregational members and widely valued. It has further reinforced the benefits of joining together in worship and witness as one Church serving individually in three communities.

Alistair Ghinn has offered monthly 'All Age' on-line worship which has been very well received. Last, but by no means least, our brilliant Reader, Dr. Susan Monks, has offered bespoke on-line worship and reflection for children with the 'Littles' service.

Morning and Night Prayer take place daily on-line and have demonstrated how on-line gathering facilitates and encourages corporate prayer and fellowship. The Harbour Groups are becoming well established and following the very successful Lent Course 'How to Pray' participated in by over 100 people, they now number seven and encourage greater sharing of faith and fellowship across the Benefice.

'Helping Hands', a church-based initiative to support the community with neighbourly help, operated successfully and with impact during the first lockdown. The decision was taken to suspend its activities later in 2020 as the need for it diminished. However, a good number of those who volunteered for it went on to offer community support in other areas such as lifts to vaccinations.

At the time of writing the Leadership Team and other members of the church family are planning to meet to look at how we can embrace the 'new normal' and build back even better. Without question, the learnings from lockdown in regard to worship and how we pattern services and embrace the mixed economy of in-person and online, will feature significantly.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Unrestricted income for the year was in line with the previous year despite lockdown. With the loss of church service collections, church room lettings and fees for weddings and funerals due to the pandemic this could have been much worse. However we were blessed with the wonderful support of our parishioners including three very generous donations. We were also fortunate to receive a grant from Chichester Council of £5,000 which was very much appreciated.

Outgoings were reduced wherever possible with savings amounting to almost £8,000. In 2019 there was also quinquennial expenditure of £5,635 leading to a total reduction in outgoings of £14,459 for 2020 compared to 2019.

This has led to an overall surplus for the year of £10,269 compared to a deficit of £3,436 for 2019. Despite the savings in outgoings, without the generous donations and grant from the council we would have ended the year with a deficit in excess of £10,000. Bearing in mind the continued uncertainties, the 2020 surplus provides us with a welcome buffer which is likely to be needed as we deal with the challenges of 2021.

Finally, for the Bo Committee, it has obviously been a difficult year to raise funds, but several high profile campaigns using the church network have turned things around in a number of ways. The first and biggest was the 'Price is Rice' campaign which using the 'invest my community' website raised £6,195 inc GA, equivalent of 500 sacks of rice, over Spring and Summer months; a programme which undoubtedly kept many families alive as an excessive lockdown had caused a famine in the Bo district. A virtual 'Songs of Praise for Bo', run by Luke Megenney, was held in August and raised £1,065; and Carols on the Green which morphed into Carols on the Beach and then into a Christmas Appeal in lieu for St Paul's School, Bo and WW Primary School together as organisers of CoG raised £2,762.50, half of which has subsequently been transferred to WW Primary School. Sponsorship money continued as the school remained open for most of the year but seven sponsors were lost and have not yet been replaced. The Library was completed in September when over 500 books which had been donated from around the benefice arrived in Bo and the Domestic Science Lab was funded in January. Two more specialist classrooms, the Science and Computer labs have now also been built enabling the senior secondary school to provide education up to A level equivalent standard although a visit will still be required to install the computer lab. In addition a Bikes for Bo project initiated by Richard Holben and funded mostly by his employers has seen the delivery of 27 bikes so far. The bikes will save those living furthest away literally hours each day getting to and from school.

RISKS & RESERVES

Whilst there are restricted services (or none at all) and based on the current level of regular giving, the monthly deficit is between £1,000 and £1,500. With unrestricted reserves of £32K at the December 2020 year end and with the aim of maintaining a level of £15K working capital, there are currently sufficient funds to cover expected outgoings for the current year.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

The PCC has authority and power to invest funds in accordance with its legal responsibilities. It does not consider that there would be any benefit of such investment at the current time.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Report of the Members of
West Wittering Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PCC

The Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 require the members of the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the members of the PCC should follow best practice and:-

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue its activities.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE PCC

Revd J Swindells

Date: 16th May 2021

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Independent Examiner's Report of the Members of West Wittering Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2020.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J P Jeffers BA (Hons) FCCA
2 Culimore Road
West Wittering
Chichester
West Sussex PO20 8HB



Date: 16th May 2021

West Wittering Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020	Total funds 2019
Incoming Resources					
Income from Donors	2a	48,398	31,527	79,925	92,099
Other Voluntary income	2b	23,485	6,086	29,571	16,982
PCC Objectives	2c	4,714	-	4,714	9,956
Generated funds	2d	1,459	1,381	2,840	1,090
Investment income	2e	51	-	51	226
Total Incoming Resources		78,107	38,994	117,101	120,353
Resources expended					
Outgoing Resources					
Grants	3a	3,836	20,927	24,763	45,534
Work of the Church	3b	63,788	5,695	69,483	133,122
PCC Management & Admin	3c	214	-	214	207
Total Resources expended		67,838	26,622	94,460	178,863
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		10,269	12,372	22,641	(58,510)
Gains & Losses on Investments		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in funds		10,269	12,372	22,641	(58,510)
Balance brought forward		24,582	21,388	45,970	104,480
Balance carried forward		34,851	33,760	68,611	45,970

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Balance sheet as at 31st December 2020

	Note	2020	2019
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	12,887	15,814
Short Term Deposits		12,130	12,079
Cash at bank and in hand		44,675	21,009
Total Current assets		69,692	48,902
Liabilities	8	(1,627)	(2,932)
Net Current Assets		68,065	45,970
Net Assets		68,065	45,970
Funds			
Unrestricted (designated as)			
General		31,974	21,705
Designated new church facilities		2,877	2,877
Designated CYE Youth work		-	-
		34,851	24,582
Restricted			
Sierra Leone Appeal		32,854	20,872
6th Bell		360	516
Church refurbishment		-	-
Total restricted funds		33,214	21,388
		68,065	45,970

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

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 Revd J Swindells

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act and Charity Law and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, subject to the departures referred to below.

Planned giving, collections, donations, legacies and grants are recognised when received.

Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings and equipment held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure, whether additions or improvements, is written off when incurred.

Incoming resources

Rents received from the letting of the Church Room are accounted for gross and when the rental is due. Interest and dividends are accounted for gross when receivable.

Income tax recoverable

Provision is made for tax recoverable on income received during the year.

Resources used

The parish contribution payable to the Diocese is accounted for in the year to which it relates and provision is made for any unpaid contributions. Remuneration and amounts due for goods supplied and services rendered are accounted for when invoiced. Grants and donations are accounted for when awarded.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains or losses are brought into the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities.

Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to or owed by the PCC at 31st December 2020 for goods or services supplied are shown respectively as debtors or creditors. Provision is made for any liabilities known at 31st December 2020.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is legally responsible. The accounts do not include the accounts of Church groups that are administered or run by informal groups of Church members or any group affiliated to another body.

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020	Total funds 2019
2. Incoming resources				
2a Incoming resources from Donors				
Donations	41,466	25,325	66,791	72,815
Gift Aid recoverable	5,914	5,327	11,241	11,982
Collections	958	875	1,833	7,222
Other income	60	-	60	80
	48,398	31,527	79,925	92,099
2b Other Voluntary incoming resources				
Grants - Parish & Chichester Council	6,500	-	6,500	1,010
Donations, Appeals, etc.	16,985	6,086	23,071	15,972
Legacies	-	-	-	-
	23,485	6,086	29,571	16,982
2c Income from Operating Activities PCC				
Church Room lettings	146	-	146	1,445
Fees and benefice income	4,568	-	4,568	8,511
	4,714	-	4,714	9,956
2d Income from Operating Activities-Funds				
Deposit box for Parish Magazine	78	-	78	462
Fetes, Bazaars & Other Fundraising events	1,381	1,381	2,762	628
	1,459	1,381	2,840	1,090
2e Other ordinary Incoming Resources				
Investment income & CCLA Deposit Interest	51	-	51	226

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds 2020	Total funds 2019
3 Resources Expended				
3a Grants				
Church Overseas	-	20,927	20,927	41,711
Home Missions/other church societies	3,836	-	3,836	3,823
	3,836	20,927	24,763	45,534
3b Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church				
Ministry Diocesan Parish Share	37,970	-	37,970	36,854
Rector/Rectory expenses	4,588	-	4,588	7,593
Benefice & Admin costs	1,671	-	1,671	2,822
Other clergy costs	2,018	-	2,018	9,087
Less Birdham & Itchenor contribution	(4,138)	-	(4,138)	(9,751)
Church Running Expenses	1,418	-	1,418	3,055
Church Maintenance	3,466	-	3,466	9,212
Upkeep of Churchyard	3,623	-	3,623	5,291
Church Room running costs	1,747	-	1,747	1,109
Salaries and associated expenses	11,425	-	11,425	12,851
Sundry	-	-	-	131
	63,788	-	63,788	78,254
Pillar Refurbishment	-	-	-	1,493
Lighting	-	-	-	49,298
6th Bell	-	5,695	5,695	3,124
Sound System	-	-	-	953
Total	63,788	5,695	69,483	133,122

1. Rector's, Rectory and Benefice costs are shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.

2. Other clergy costs are also shared equally with Birdham & West Itchenor PCC. They represent the expenses of Assistant Clergy

3. Church running costs include upkeep of services, heating & lighting and worship resources.

3c PCC Management & Administration

Bank Charges	-	-	-	-
Other Admin - Gift aid envelopes etc.	214	-	214	207
AGM costs	-	-	-	-
	214	-	214	207

4 Staff Costs

Wages, Fees and Salaries	11,425	-	11,425	12,851
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Salaries include payment towards costs of the Youth Worker
During the year the PCC employed a Secretary, 50% of these costs are met by Birdham & West Itchenor PCC.

	2020	2019
Number of charitable staff (average monthly number employed)	1	1
No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 per annum.		

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2020	Total funds 2019
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5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC

5a Tangible Fixed Assets

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is considered to be a heritage asset, so not shown at a valuation.

Leasehold Land & Buildings comprises the Church Room in Pound Road.

The land is owned by the Diocese and as such, no value has been given to it in these Accounts.

Church equipment comprises a sound system and a projector screen, which have a nil book value.

5b Investment Fixed Assets

Value as at 31.12.2019

	-	-	-	-
Gains on disposals	-	-	-	-
Unrealised gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-

Value as at 31.12.2020

	-	-	-	-
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The investments are held to provide an investment return for the PCC.

6. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Held by Church of England Deposit Fund	12,130	-	12,130	12,079
Held by HSBC Bank	17,001	27,674	44,675	21,009
	29,131	27,674	56,805	33,088

7. Debtors

HMRC - estimated Gift Aid receipts outstanding	5,034	5,308	10,342	7,251
VAT Refund Due	53	-	53	701
Amounts due received after 31st December	2,492	-	2,492	7,862
Total Debtors	7,579	5,308	12,887	15,814

8. Liabilities

Other creditors and accruals	246	-	246	2,932
Charitable Giving	1,381	-	1,381	-
	1,627	-	1,627	2,932

9. Capital Commitments

There were no outstanding capital commitments as at 31st December 2020

10. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No member of the PCC received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee

Trustee Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received contributions towards their expenses incurred in their duties within the parish (2019: nil).

West Wittering Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Movement on Funds	At 01.01.2020	Income	Outgoing	Revaluation	At 31.12.2020
Unrestricted Funds					
General	21,705	78,107	(67,838)	-	31,974
Designated for new church facilities	2,877	-	-	-	2,877
Designated Youth work	-	-	-	-	-
	24,582	78,107	(67,838)	-	34,851
Restricted Funds					
Sierra Leone Appeal	20,872	30,652	(20,927)	-	30,597
6th Bell	516	5,539	(5,695)	-	360
Church Refurbishment	-	-	-	-	-
	21,388	36,191	(26,622)	-	30,957
Total Funds	45,970	114,298	(94,460)	-	65,808

Designated Funds

The Designated New Facilities Fund

This fund was opened with a 2015 donation from the Parish News (£5,395) and is designated to go towards the provision of new facilities and decoration for the Church. The aim is to make the church more friendly and appealing for services and more practical for hosting community events.

The amount outstanding (£2,877) is currently designated to go towards the provision of an AV system for the Church.

Restricted Funds

The Sierra Leone Appeal Fund was set up in 2006 when the Church agreed to raise funds to build and support a school in Bo, Sierra Leone, inviting the village to be involved. The school named St Paul's School has grown significantly since then thanks to support from people in the village and from further afield.

The Sixth Bell

An anonymous donor has funded the provision of a bell (£9,179) to complete the chime of six. The installation of the new bell was completed on 25th July 2020