

St Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood
Charity Registration No. 1147737

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

2024



Ver 1.3
12-3-2025

Legal and Administrative Information

Parochial Church Council

Ex-Officio Members

Vicar:	Rev. Peter Jenner (until April 2024)
Associate Minister:	Rev Caroline Mullins
Churchwardens:	Mrs Jane Barnett Ms Julia Bowden (from APCM 2024)
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mrs Jean Hoseason Ms Liz Hammond (from APCM 2024)

Elected Members:

Ms Stephanie Post
Mrs Hilary Lach (from APCM 2024)
Mr Kwan Ng (from APCM 2024)
Mrs Rebecca Willis (from APCM 2024)

Co-opted members:

(None)

Charity Number 1147737

Independent examiner Frances Wilde FCCA DChA
Warner Wilde
Chartered Certified Accountants
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley Surrey GU24 4QS

Bankers

Co-operative Bank Plc
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

Lloyds Bank plc
Surbiton Branch
1 Claremont Road
Surbiton
Surrey KT6 4QS

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Parochial Church Council's Report

The PCC meets six times a year to take the main policy decisions of the church. The Standing Committee is a statutory group which consists of the Church Warden, Vicar and Officers of the PCC. It meets when necessary to conduct the day-to-day business and implement the policies of the PCC, and reports to the PCC.

The Parochial Church Council have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Maintenance, repair, or replacement of essential installations is carried out periodically so that key operational objectives of St Christopher's are delivered. Fire safety inspections occur annually ensuring that high-risk areas are adequately supplied with fire safety equipment. All building and liability insurances are in place reducing financial risk. The PCC has ensured that the church complies with the latest safeguarding policies and practices for children and vulnerable adults issued by the House of Bishops and has a safeguarding officer to whom any concerns can be directed.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objectives are to co-operate with the vicar, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for St Christopher's. The Parochial Church Council have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. A summary of the activities carried out has been incorporated within the '*Achievements and Performance: Overview of 2024*' section of the PCC report.

Achievements and Performance: Overview of 2024

Sunday morning services have continued in hybrid format throughout the year. Each week there are a few people who make use of the option of being able to join in the worship from their home, especially when they are unwell, or the weather is particularly challenging. In addition to services based on the liturgical calendar, we have celebrated Mothering Sunday, Climate Sunday and Safeguarding Sunday.

There have been extra services to the Sunday Eucharist on: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, All Souls' Sunday, Remembrance Sunday, the Nine Lessons and Carols Service, the Christmas Eve Crib Service, Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and a Eucharist on Christmas Day. Together@Ten Services have continued on 1st Sundays, celebrating Epiphany, Candlemas, All Saints Day and Christingle.

A big thank you to Caroline for presiding over the majority of the services during 2024. Worship at St Christopher's would be sadly lacking without the tremendous amount of time and effort that she gives.

Early in January our vicar, Peter Jenner, informed us that he would be leaving the parish at Easter. We are grateful to him for keeping St Christopher's Church on a steady path with regard to our finances and technology. He introduced many new procedures during his six years with us that undoubtedly saved us money and dragged us into the 21st Century with hybrid services and Zoom meetings.

The start of a period of vacancy meant that Caroline, the church wardens and the PCC were involved in many extra meetings. The Archdeacon explained first to the PCC, and then to the whole congregation, the steps involved in looking for a new person to lead St. Christopher's. We were informed that we could advertise for a priest-in-charge to be appointed, initially, for a three-year period. Then we spent a great deal of time preparing our parish profile and writing the advertisement. Just before Christmas the church wardens had a Teams meeting with the Bishop of Dorking, the Archdeacon and the Area Dean. We decided to interview two candidates that seemed suitably qualified for the post and are delighted that the Rev. Josh Baines has now been appointed. We look forward to welcoming Joshua and his family to our parish in due course in 2025.

On our event's calendar there were two very successful Quiz Nights, organised by Derek and Jane Barnett, that were both attended by over one hundred happy people and raised a large sum of money on both occasions. We are grateful to Richard, our quizmaster for producing a great range of challenging and interesting questions. Thank you to Tracey who supports us by marking all the answer papers and recording the scores on a screen for everyone to keep track of how they are doing. At the end of November, Caroline provided (washable) tattoos for the children who came along to the Hinchley Wood Residents Association Christmas Event in the Memorial

Gardens. In December we had a wonderful afternoon concert when Stephen Bryant (Leader of the BBC Symphony Orchestra), Mark Sheridan (Cellist & member of BBC Symphony Orchestra) and Caroline Jaya-Ratnam (World renowned pianist & accompanist) came and played a variety of pieces that they were planning to record on a CD. Thank you to them for selecting St Christopher's as their practice venue.

Our Christmas Lunch, held at The Angel Pub, was very successful, a great meal and no washing up for any of us! Thank you to Simon Crome for organising the event again this year. A group from our congregation went along to Gibson Court, a retirement housing complex, to sing carols with the people who live there. A festive evening with refreshments provided for us after the singing.

Parish life depends on many more people than just the clergy, churchwarden and PCC. There are those who help out on the various rotas for readers and intercessors, chalice assistants and welcomers, and for serving refreshments after services. There are a number of areas of parish life that other people organise and which they can describe better than us, and we are grateful to them for all the time they give and for their reports below: Tea & Hymns, Together@Ten, Safeguarding, Baptisms, Fabric of the Church/Maintenance, our Musicians, a Hearing Clinic, Pastoral Ministry, Prayer Chain, the Mothers' Union, Deanery Synod, the Men's Group and Eco Church. Ann Ellis continues to maintain the electoral roll. As we look back over the last year, there is the unfortunate certainty that we will have overlooked others whose contributions deserve particular appreciation.

Jane Barnett and Julia Bowden

Church Wardens

PCC Meetings

THE PROCEEDINGS OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL, 2024

The following meetings have been held, and the key points of discussion are noted below, and the contribution and service of all those involved in helping run the parish is acknowledged with gratitude.

16 January 2024

Ministry:

- There was a review of all the Christmas services. The Nine Lessons and Carol Service went very well but the attendance was disappointing. Mulled wine and mince pies were missed, and it was agreed that these should be provided next year. The Christingle Service had increased in numbers since the Covid years, and the Crib Service was attended by 25 adults and 50 children. Midnight Mass and the Christmas Day Eucharist were mainly attended by visitors, as our own congregation seems to visit family away from Hinchley Wood.
- It was agreed that the Together @ Ten Services would be reviewed in August.
- As Peter had announced on the previous Sunday that he would be leaving the parish at Easter, he informed the PCC the Parish Needs Process would be suspended during the vacancy.

Prayers of Love and Faith:

- The PCC of St Christopher's Church agreed, with one abstention, to adopt the Prayers of Love and Faith for use, on request, in existing services.

Standing Committee:

- Emergency expenditure of £3,000 on the Church boilers (Worcester Bosch) had been agreed. A further £1,000 had been approved for church hall lighting.

Treasurer's Report:

- It was reported that in the year ended 31 December 2023, St Christopher's nearly broke even with an income/expenditure deficit of £142.87. Maintenance costs were heavy but on the whole, they were borne quite well. Towards the end of the year, electrical faults and a breakdown of the Church boilers presented serious costs which had to be met from reserves.

Church Warden report:

- It was proposed that two redundant WCs and wash hand basins be removed from the stage area of the Church Hall and the space used for storage. This was unanimously passed.
- There was a discussion about this year's APCM, and deadlines were fixed for all the various documents to be collated.

Maintenance report:

- There had been recent major work undertaken on the Church's boilers and the Hall lighting. Future major expenditure would be required for work on guttering, and a decision would be needed to de-commission the fire-alarms in the hall and the church.

4 March 2024

Ministry:

- Responsibilities for services during Holy Week would be divided between Fr. Peter and Caroline, with Fr. Peter taking charge of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Caroline would be providing weekly briefing for the foreseeable future. It was noted that a number of people would be away during Mothering Sunday.

Safeguarding:

- The Safeguarding Action Plan Level 3 had been circulated for review by the PCC. Persons had been notified of outstanding training needs and risk assessments had been reviewed and updated as necessary. The PCC confirmed that the Safeguarding Action Plan had been reviewed for this year.

Standing Committee Report:

- The PCC were asked to approve two decisions 1) to appoint Tracey Warren as the new Treasurer 2) to agree to the addition of Tracey Warren, Julia Bowden and Caroline as signatories on the Co-Op bank accounts. Both decisions were agreed unanimously.

APCM:

- Drafts of the Financial Report had been circulated. These will be sent to the Independent Examiner who will return them for formal approval by the PCC on 25 March.

Treasurer's Report:

- The 2023 budget had been completed with a deficit of £2,059.18 instead of the break-even or £142 over as anticipated, due to urgent maintenance costs. A further severe unbudgeted demand of £17,000, because of the breakdown of boilers and electrical work had to be met from capital and reserves. Urgent thought would have to be given, amongst other things, to building up the reserves and protecting the legacy money of £30,000 from any possible emergency demands on it. A further demand will arise from the increase in the Parish Share from £74,196 to £77,203 from April. More people should be encouraged to join the Parish Giving Scheme.

Church Warden report:

- It was reported that, to date, we have been unable to secure cover at all for April services. The PCC approved in principle to use the Clergy-on-Call register, if necessary, which would cost £47 per session. If no Clergy were available, the Churchwarden would then be legally responsible for taking Morning Prayer. Caroline

confirmed that she would lead the Remembrance Day Service at the Memorial Gardens later this year, as The Revd. Jack Mulder would be unable to do so.

25 March 2024 [additional meeting]

Ministry:

- The PCC agreed to adopt the Diocesan Dignity at Work Policy which is designed to deal with complaints about bullying and harassment in the church environment.

Safeguarding:

- All actions had been updated on the parish dashboard and PCC members are all up to date with their training.

APCM:

- A few anomalies were found in the accounting figures, and these were checked out and amended by our independent examiner. The PCC approved the Annual Report. The Electoral Roll report was submitted; the current number of people on roll is 67. The report was approved unanimously.

15 April 2024

Vacancy briefing

- Further to an earlier preliminary meeting with Jane, Caroline and Stephanie in February, Archdeacon Martin Breadmore briefed the PCC on potential paths for the future of St. Christophers on hopes for the future with the vacancy likely to last at least one year. He encouraged the PCC to continue to work together and seriously think about whether the church is ready for change and revitalisation, which would include a commitment to bring in more families with children. He explained that a Parish Plant might be considered and explained the current resources for revitalisation provided by the Diocese including Mission Enablers in the fields of Families, Youth Work, Communities, Stewardship and Revitalisation matters.
- The process for appointing a new incumbent was laid out in statute and Martin explained the key steps that would need to be taken including the creation of a Parish Profile and a Section 11 meeting required to confirm the Parish Profile, the advertisement, and the appointment of two parish representatives who would join Bishop Andrew, Archdeacon Martin, and the Area Dean on the interview panel. The vacancy would be advertised on the diocesan website and in the Church times, with the interview panel shortlisting the candidates.
- The Archdeacon was pleased to hear that coverage for services for most of the foreseeable vacancy had been organised, the PCC expressed thanks for his time, and he left the meeting.

The new PCC

- New elected members Hilary (Billy) Lach, Kwan Ng and Rebecca Willis, and ex-officio member (Deanery Synod Representative) Liz Hammond were welcomed on to the Committee.
- Tracey Warren, though not a PCC member, was welcomed as Treasurer (the post does not require to be held by a PCC member).
- The following posts were confirmed:
 - Secretary: Stephanie Post.
 - PCC Chair: Julia Bowden
 - PCC Vice-Chair: Caroline Mullins
 - Standing Committee: Caroline Mullins, Jane Barnett, Julia Bowden, Stephanie Post, Rebecca Willis.
 - Finance Committee: Tracey Warren, Julia Bowden, Kwan Ng.
 - Events Representative: Billie Lach.
 - Maintenance Representative: Jane Barnett.
 - Deanery Synod Representatives: Jean Hoseason, Liz Hammond.

Ministry

- A programme of Sunday Services and some events from April 2024 to January 2025 was circulated. Coverage by clergy for most services had been planned-for. Caroline or visiting clergy would preside or a Churchwarden would take Morning Prayer if no clergy were available. It was noted that the service format of Together@Ten would continue until October when it would be reviewed, in order to decide whether it could continue as such or be replaced by some other format. With regard to Remembrance Sunday, Caroline had agreed to lead the service in the morning from the Memorial Gardens. It was agreed that there should be no Eucharist service on Remembrance Sunday this year.

Safeguarding

- Julia confirmed that she was willing to continue as Safeguarding Officer, and Jane would continue as the Safeguarding Lead and DBS Validator. The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard Hub was currently up to date with no concerns raised. There was a discussion on the importance of reporting safeguarding issues. The PCC agreed to adopt the safeguarding policy as per the Diocesan recommendation

Treasurer's report

- Tracey Warren arrived shortly after Archdeacon Martin had left the meeting. She had previously circulated to the PCC a thorough breakdown of the proposed budget, based on last year's expenditure, projected expenditure and the results of the first quarter of this year. Expenditure was likely to exceed this by £8,000, £5,000 of which was needed to be met for uncompleted Quinquennial tasks. Other projections were for gas, electricity, insurance, the cleaner, garden maintenance and office equipment. It was

possible that at least £800 would be needed to finance an advertisement for a new vicar. Tracey noted that St Christopher's funds currently totalled some £51,000. Tracey left the meeting after this report was given.

Churchwardens' Report

- A detailed report had been circulated detailing the handover meeting with Father Peter on his leaving the Parish after Easter Sunday. Jane had also negotiated with Tracey Warren, the level of increase in hire charges from 1 September 2024 and had put details on the website. She had also informed the Nursery School and the After School Club and sent them their updated license agreements and Safeguarding Addendums valid from September 2024. Jane had also submitted signed copies of the Annual Reports and Finances to the Charity Commission and copied them to the website. In answer to a question, Jane said that she was currently unaware of any plans for the Vicarage during the vacancy.
- It was mentioned that Faye, who runs the After-School Club, put forward the idea of a Breakfast Club for one hour each day of the working week. This was not considered viable as it would not be worthwhile heating the church, which would take six hours for one hour's use in the morning, five days a week. Jane would instead suggest that Faye use the Vestry, as it is much smaller, all breakfast items would need to be brought in and cleared away as there is no storage-space within the church.

Maintenance:

- John O'Neill had removed the redundant toilets and basins from the Hall and had fitted shelves in the cubicles so that they could be used by the church for storage. Jane had moved equipment and craft materials belonging to the church to these shelves, allowing the Nursery School and After School Club to use the newly vacated space for storage. As mentioned in item 8, outstanding Quinquennial tasks needed to be done for outside repair and maintenance, but this depended on decent weather.

24 June 2024

Vacancy arrangements:

- The PCC reviewed plans for services as the vacancy continued, with gratitude expressed for Caroline's work with the congregation on what qualities they wished for in a new incumbent.

Safeguarding:

- The PCC received confirmation that safeguarding training and DBS requirements for PCC members were all in place.

Financial Update:

- A financial update had been provided by the Treasurer and the PCC acknowledged Tracey's hard work in ensuring the parish financial situation remains positive. Support

from our regular hirers had brought in revenue of £24,847 to date this year. There are plans for Kwan to raise some of the invoices, Julia to submit the gift aid returns and Jane to return the security deposits after a hiring.

Church Wardens' Report:

- Confirmation was given that both church wardens had completed relevant diocesan training.

Maintenance:

- Comprehensive maintenance reports/logs had been received from Simon; the key issue related to the need to replace guttering to stop rain damage, and the PCC agreed that quotes for the necessary work should be obtained.
- The PCC approved the decommissioning of Fire Alarms which were not working properly; this decision is compatible with insurance requirements.

10 July 2024

- Extraordinary PCC meeting in which the Archdeacon explained in detail the process and timeline for filling our vacancy.

23 September 2024

Mission and ministry:

- The PCC reviewed various elements of the ministry and mission of the church, including Eco Church, Together@Ten, Thursday morning open church, and children being prepared for Holy Communion.

Safeguarding:

- An update on safeguarding was presented, Caroline talked about her most recent safeguarding training, and the PCC confirmed that:
 - personnel and procedures were in place, in accordance with the Church of England's Promoting a Safer Church Statement and Code of Safer Working Practice
 - procedures were in place to address any Safeguarding concerns
 - both Church activities and non-Church activities would be authorised by the PCC.

Policies:

- The PCC reviewed and agreed updates to the following policies and procedures:
 - Health and Safety
 - Legacy
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Risk Assessments

Financial Update:

- Parish finances remained healthy, but the church wardens had received notification that the Parish Share was likely to increase by £200 per month next year.

Planning Application by the diocese

- The PCC were informed of the discovering of a planning application put forward by the diocese to develop the land adjacent to the vicarage. Further clarification and information on this matter is being sought by the church wardens.

Maintenance:

- Comprehensive maintenance reports/logs had been received from Simon; the PCC agreed that priority should be given to replacing the rusting white iron guttering with black plastic at a cost of around £5K in terms of materials. Jane was asked to obtain the relevant Faculty and Simon asked to obtain full quotes for the work. It was also agreed that the fencing at the back of the hall required replacement, and Simon would liaise with our neighbours and obtain some quotes for the work.

Vacancy update:

- The Archdeacon's visit of 10 July and the vacancy workshop of 10 September were reviewed, and it was agreed that Jane, Julia, Caroline and Rebecca would form the Drafting Committee for the Parish Profile. The deadline for the completion of this was noted as 3 November 2024.
- Caroline had circulated a helpful programme of services and events covering the rest of 2024 and the first half of 2025, which the PCC reviewed.

Photocopier:

- It was agreed not to renew the contract for the parish photocopier at this stage.

03 November 2024

- Section 11 Meeting to agree the Parish Profile and Advertisement for a Priest in Charge. The Parish reps for the interview process were confirmed as Julia and Jane, the church wardens.

18 November 2024

Proposed Budget 2025:

- The treasurer presented the proposed budget for 2025. Tracey reported that St. Christopher's was in a good stable financial position and the Treasurer did not think it necessary to touch the reserve savings. The proposed budget was agreed by the PCC.
- Regular missional giving to Elmbridge Food Bank was agreed.
- Ongoing issues with reclaiming Gift Aid were reported by the church wardens

Ministry and Mission:

- The PCC discussed the key elements of ministry and mission, including Together@Ten, Thursday open church, Tea & Hymns, and Christmas Services.

Safeguarding:

- A Safeguarding update was given to make the PCC aware of requirements in the C of E document "Safer Environment and Activities" with regard to lone working with children or vulnerable adults. It was also noted that Safeguarding Sunday would be kept on 24 November.

Health and Safety:

- A Health & Safety update highlighted that the contents of the First Aid kit had been updated and that the battery in the defibrillator was not working; it was agreed to ask parishioners to contribute to the cost of a new battery and pads for the defibrillator.

Planning Application by the diocese

- The PCC were updated on the planning application made by the Diocese for land adjacent to the Vicarage. This had been turned down by Elmbridge Borough Council. Andrew Johnson had told Julia he was going to sound out the developer but agreed to keep the PCC in the loop this time.

Fundraising events

- It was reported that £1,231 had been raised from the Quiz organised by Jane and Derek.
- The PCC agreed to accept the generous offer from Stephen Bryant, of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, to give a concert in the on Saturday 7 December, with proceeds from the £10 ticket sales going to St Christopher's.

Maintenance

- Comprehensive maintenance reports/logs had been received from Simon and the PCC recorded their ongoing gratitude for his leadership in this area, and for the work of John O'Neil. Quotes had been received for replacing the fence at the back of the hall and Simon would arrange for this to be done during the 2025 February half-term to minimise disruption for the nursery. Photos from the drone flight over the church confirmed that there were no issues detected on the Bell Tower.

Vacancy update

- The PCC were informed of the dates of the advertisements for the Priest-in-Charge would be live, and of the date of the shortlisting meeting via Zoom in December.

Ministry and Mission

Baptisms

There were no baptisms in 2024, although towards the end of the year Caroline began preparing a family for their child's baptism in January 2025. She has also continued to send out anniversary cards from the St Christopher's Church family on the anniversary of each child's baptism, which we do for 4 years.

Together@Ten

This initiative began in October 2023 and has consolidated and grown over the course of 2024. The idea is to worship together as single people, families, children, and older people in a different format from the usual 10am service and in a relaxed way. The services to date have all been Eucharistic, but the congregation sits at tables forming a wide circle around the altar, and there are plenty of activities to join in with. We all receive either communion or a blessing in the circle. There are also opportunities for children and adults to join in with the reading, prayers, bringing up the communion. We conducted a review after T@T had been running for a year, and it was agreed that it would be good to continue with it. Caroline is grateful for everyone who has been involved helping with this.

Tea & Hymns

Tea & Hymns continues to be popular, not only with St Christopher's regulars but with others who have heard about it and those who aren't able to get to the 10 am service. Tea & Hymns is on the 4th Sunday of each month, 4-5pm. We sing familiar, well-loved hymns (with a bit of explanation about some of the hymns' themes); we drink tea and eat homemade cake; and we finish with the Lord's Prayer, in the traditional version, and a blessing. The service is intentionally dementia-friendly, but open to everyone. The hymns are usually a mix of those chosen by me and those requested by people who come, and we follow the Church year's seasons to some extent. We were also blessed in 2024 by having a second teenager from Hinchley Wood School who came to volunteer as part of her Silver Duke of Edinburgh award and who was a great help.

Hearing Clinics

The Hearing Clinics are a partnership between Guildford Diocese and Kingston Hospital NHS Trust. This is a FREE service for people with NHS hearing aids and includes basic maintenance, battery supply, cleaning and re-tubing, troubleshooting, and advice. Caroline holds these clinics on the first Sunday of each month, in the church, from 2.30-3.30pm and they seem to be much appreciated. Liz Hammond comes along and offers tea and biscuits. Sometimes people come as much because we have time to chat and listen to them as they do for hearing aid maintenance.

Rev. Caroline Mullins, Associate Minister

Safeguarding

Safeguarding training and practices continue to be regularly updated at St Christopher's. The PCC has complied with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding. All members of our PCC are aware of our safeguarding policy/guidance and are offered – and have completed - appropriate training for their roles. The House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church' safeguarding policy statement continues to be adopted as the Parish Safeguarding Policy.

Details about how to contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and the Parish Safeguarding Officer are on display in the church and easily accessible on our parish website. To help keep St Christopher's a safe space for all, risk assessments, including consideration of safeguarding risks, are completed and agreed for all church activities. DBS checks are also applied for, or renewed, using an online platform.

St Christopher's marked the national Safeguarding Sunday event on 24th November 2024 when Rev. Caroline preached on the theme, people were reminded of the identity of the parish PSO, and support and help was signposted.

Guildford Diocese continues to use a safeguarding dashboard, an online tool to assist each parish to maintain a record of all safeguarding issues and it automatically keeps us up to date with local and national changes in safeguarding requirements. The safeguarding audit is also contained in the dashboard and action plans are produced which are discussed at PCC meetings and are used to inform all safeguarding decisions. At the time of writing all elements of our parish dashboard are 'green'.

Julia Bowden, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Electoral Roll

At the beginning of 2024 the number on the Electoral Roll was 66.

Each year, in the month leading up to the APCM, a formal revision of the Electoral Roll is undertaken. This duly took place during March.

During the revision new applicants may be added to the Roll. Parishioners who have died, moved out of the area, or requested to leave the Roll are removed. Personal details may be updated.

At the end of this years' revision, it was found that we had received 3 new applications. However, sadly, we have said goodbye to 2 long-standing parishioners, who have passed away.

So, at the APCM on 7th April I was able to report that the number on the Electoral Roll of St. Christophers Church is now 67.

Looking forward, in 2025 a revision of the existing Roll will not take place. Instead, a completely new Electoral Roll has to be compiled. This is a process that occurs every 6th year and means that everyone on the current Roll, who wishes to remain on the Roll, will need to complete a new application; this process is in hand and new figures will be reported at the APCM.

Ann Ellis, Electoral Roll Officer

Church Musicians

This year St. Christopher's Church Choir has continued to lead all the regular services. We are immensely grateful to our musicians, Dave Ellis and Anthony Cairns, who continue to provide music on alternate Sundays. Their skills are very much appreciated. Both are able to get the best out of our small choir and enable us to vary the style of hymns to suit both the guitar and organ accompaniments. As an added bonus, Dave and Anthony also join us in the Choir when they are not playing. I would like to thank Caroline for choosing the hymns for the Together@Ten services and I am also very grateful to Den for her valuable assistance in choosing hymns for the other services.

When Fr. Peter announced his departure from St. Christopher's, Caroline once again stepped into the breach and, together with our Church Wardens, ensured the smooth-running of all our usual Sunday services. Caroline is always supportive of the choir and over the last year has introduced us to some lively and enjoyable new hymns for the Together@Ten services.

The Choir took part in the usual annual events, such as the All Souls' service, when we performed 'God Be in My Head' unaccompanied during the lighting of the candles, as neither Dave nor Anthony was able to be there. It proved to be very effective. We also joined the Hinchley Wood community at the Memorial Gardens for the Remembrance Sunday service, which was very well-attended.

Major services during Advent and Christmas season were: Christingle Together@Ten; 9 Lessons and Carols; the Crib Service and the service on Christmas Day. Many thanks go to Nicola Ellis, who once again played piano for us at the Crib Service.

We also went carol singing at Gibson Court – an annual treat which we hope they enjoy as much as we do! We were treated to mince pies and mulled wine afterwards and it was lovely to catch up again with our friends there.

As a small choir, we rely heavily on the commitment of every member to turn up early on Sundays and I am indebted, once again, to the dedication shown by my fellow choristers. Sadly, Doriel has now retired from the Choir with effect from December 2024. The rest of us continue to work together with a great sense of cohesion, commitment and friendship – which hopefully will continue in 2025.

It would be lovely to have a few more members, so if anyone feels that they would like to join us, please get in touch with me.

Mandy Ali, Choir Leader

Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod met three times in the course of 2024, twice at St. Nicholas, Thames Ditton and the third time at St. Paul's Church, East Molesey.

The first Meeting of the year on 14th March was a talk by Matt Grove, who is part of the Diocesan team which leads The Foundation in Ministry. This is a new two-year course that gives a grounding in Theology in the first year before looking at particular areas of Ministry in the second year. Those who complete the course are Local Assistant Ministers or LAMS, who can then serve in that area of Ministry in their local Church.

In the second half of the evening we heard a talk from Alastair Etheridge, who is the Diocesan lead for Youth Work and in particular the *Youth Catalyst Project* which seeks to build up our Youth Work.

The second Meeting of Deanery Synod was held on 14th May when a presentation was given, with many interesting slides, by Steve Collins and Alison Moulden on the best means of making our Churches prepare to be net zero compliant. The presentation was excellent but rather daunting because the changes necessary would come at a very high price, although the speakers were positive and felt sure these things could be achieved, and that there would be a pot of money to help towards the costs to be tapped via the Church Commissioners.

The third and final Synod Meeting was held at St. Paul's at East Molesey when we all met Jackie Richardson, the new Area Dean. Jackie is the Vicar of Hersham. The meeting was held on the 8th October, 2024.

Alastair Etheridge came to speak on the difficulties faced when trying to reach out with the Good News to Generation Alpha who increasingly come from homes who have no connection with Church as past generations have done!

Jean Hoseason & Liz Hammond, Deanery Synod Reps

Fabric of the Church

A. Inspecting, testing and servicing

The routine annual tests, inspections and servicing were carried out. So far as any remedial works were identified by those tests, etc., they were addressed in the course of those tests, etc.

The fire extinguisher inspection was satisfactory, but there will be a peak in expenditure in the coming year because several extinguishers will be due for replacement.

There were no other periodic inspections due in 2024 (and none are due in the coming year).

The usual tuning and servicing was conducted on the organ and the piano in the quire was retuned for the concert in December.

B. Matters arising from inspecting, testing and servicing

In both the last Quinquennial reports we were advised to check the gutter at the top of the bell tower and also the state of the tiled roof over the nave. As it would have involved hiring a lot of scaffolding to inspect the gutter, and it was also complicated to gain a suitable vantage point to inspect the tiling of the roof without risking causing damage in the process, those tasks had been consigned to the "too difficult pile". This year, thanks to Billie Lach, the problem was solved. Her grandson Beau had a drone which was capable of high definition photography. He visited us and, in a very short time, had conducted a flight around the top of the tower and all along the roof of the nave.

This flight produced crystal clear pictures showing that the gutter was clear and the tiling of the nave roof was in good condition. A long-standing problem had been laid to rest in next to no time.

C. Matters arising in the course of 2024

The large shed, in the area at the back of the church near the hall, was collapsing and chunks of the front panelling was starting to drop off. John beavered away at it and now it is repaired, all square and sturdy, and looking rather good.

In the hall, the decayed and dangerous steps leading down from the old Youth Room external door have been removed. As the Youth Room is now just a store room, the fire escape via that door has been discontinued as superfluous and the door secured to prevent anyone leaving by it and falling to earth.

The old WCs by the stage in the hall, which had been used for storage by the nursery for several years, have been decommissioned and converted to proper storage cupboards.

As reported above, the flight of the drone disposed swiftly of long-standing queries about inaccessible parts of the church roof.

From time to time, people have gone out on to the roof to do some work, the door from the tower has swung shut behind them and they have been locked out on the roof. There is now a bolt on the door which can be pushed across to prevent it closing; a trifling item, until you are the person who might have been locked out on the roof, and it starts to rain.

D. Gardening

Once more, many thanks are due to Derek Barnett for his labours in keeping the Garden of Remembrance mown, and to him and Jane for keeping the Garden of Remembrance in a respectable state. Chris Beaney continues to be engaged to keep the general vegetation around the church in check once a month.

E. A general appreciation of the fabric of the church at the end of 2024

As reported last year, the church is wind and watertight. It is usable, but it definitely would benefit from a spa treatment to make it look its best – to make it look as though it was thriving rather than fading away. The general structure, though, is sound even though bits of it are feeling their age.

The flat roof around the church will need replacing at some point. Fortunately, we have benefited greatly from the professional skills of John O'Neill, who has managed to keep the flat roof going on a make do and mend basis. However, there has been a problem in the area of the Lady Chapel which persists. John O'Neill has sealed a number of possible points of failure on the roof, but further leaks have recurred in the same general area.

(The difficulty we have is that the flat roof is a series of concrete slabs, with a bitumen type of coating on top. Water cannot penetrate the slabs themselves, so has to run along the slab until it meets the join between one slab and the next. That means that there are only a few places inside the church where a leak can manifest itself, but another leak at the same place inside the church does not mean that it came from the same place on the surface of the roof.)

After the previous year's repair work, the boilers have been working satisfactorily apart from one occasion when the water pressure fell substantially. Our plumber and general gas appliance man, Jason Amendt, investigated but could find no obvious cause. We now actively check the water pressure in the heating system from time to time, to top it up if necessary, but so far the problem has not recurred.

Although the church is structurally in fair shape, cosmetically it is a bit tatty and in need of redecoration.

We remain very grateful to John O'Neill for all the work he does for the church, much of it without any recompense, and especially for his guidance as to what is sufficient to fix a problem. Perfection would be lovely, but money does not grow on trees. With our mature and seer congregation, though, we do have a lack of people who can take an active part in maintaining the church. With each annual report, they too grow another year older.

Thanks should also go to Jason Amendt for the kindness and attentiveness with which he deals with our plumbing and heating problems. Lately his wife has been assisting him, so our thanks should also go out to her.

For information

My term as churchwarden came to an end on 31st August 2023. Since then I have held no formal post or responsibility in the church, but I have been assisting our churchwardens with the maintenance part of their role.

Simon Crome

Eco Church

Having been awarded Silver status in 2021, Eco Church is keeping busy in the following ways:

- We are using our compost heap
- Eco tips are regularly published in the weekly briefing
- Solar panels on roof of church and hall generating electricity
- Increasing numbers of people are using the QR code linking to the website to obtain online service sheets instead of paper copies
- Intercessions include prayers for the environment
- Regular prayers are included for the Great Green Wall Project in Africa
- Eco Sunday was celebrated on 3rd September 2023
- Heating can be adjusted remotely making it much more efficient
- A recycling bin in church is provided for difficult-to-recycle items
- We operate an online community Christmas Card each year.

Liz Hammond, Eco Church representative for the Lifestyle Group

Prayer Chain

St Christopher's Prayer Chain has a confidential arrangement whereby people are prayed for by the members and no information about requests for prayer are divulged to anyone outside the membership. Members meet once every three months to review people's needs and to respond to requests for prayer.

Liz Hammond, Prayer Chain co-ordinator

Pastoral Assistants

At the moment, the parish has one Pastoral Assistant, Liz Hammond. She has taken Holy Communion to a number of people who have requested it during the year and has engaged in a range of other pastoral activities including generally being aware of people's needs and getting in touch if someone is in distress of any kind. She is also available to support the bereaved, offering a friendly word and a visit.

Liz Hammond, Pastoral Assistant

Men's Group

The Men's Group (formerly *Theology at The Angel*) has continued meeting regularly at 8pm on the first Monday of each month, at The Angel on Giggs Green, to discuss the weighty and not so weighty matters of life, the universe and everything.

With sorrow, we lost Ted Woodruffe-Peacock during the year. We miss his company and his fund of stories.

Realising that we think better on full stomachs, John O'Neil has continued to organise our subsidiary, the Pudding Club, dedicated to a search for the best steak and kidney pudding around. The aim is to lunch mid-week at a new venue every month. Our first tentative conclusion of 2024 was that although the steak and kidney puddings at Wetherspoon's in Esher were quite small, they were surprisingly good, and the second is that The Grumpy Mole has several branches, all serving steak and kidney pudding. Research continues.

In June we visited the De Havilland Museum in London Colney and afterwards adjourned to a most remarkable pub that Brian knew behind St. Albans. In December we prepared for Christmas by directing our minds and stomachs eastwards with dinner at Panshi in the village.

As with any group, our membership will always need replenishing. We are not an exclusive organisation; we are delighted to welcome new members so, if you would like to join, do get in touch with John O'Neill or Simon Crome.

Simon Crome

Mothers' Union

On 21st January 2024 we held our AGM in the church for the year of 2023 during which we summarised our activities for 2023 and agreed the finances. As in past years these consisted of considerable generosity from members and from the congregation of St. Christopher's towards the Christmas bags for the ladies in the local/diocesan area refuges. There was an additional £31.05 raised at St. Christopher's Church Platinum Fair which was donated to MU Literacy Fund.

During 2024 we have met for pancakes, went to Lady Day Eucharist service and met to discuss Connected Magazine and to pray. Several of our members joined MU members and guests from across the diocese for tea at Willow Grange in June, at the invitation of the Bishop Andrew. Bishop Paul attended too. Our new Diocesan Chaplain, Rev. Betty Hayes was commissioned, and various ex-Diocesan Presidents and our ex-Worldwide President Trish Brown gave short reminiscences of their time in office. It was a wonderful afternoon of fellowship and food, with the opportunity to enjoy the gardens.

A couple of weeks later nearly 300 members from across Canterbury Province gathered in Oxford. Guildford diocese was well represented. There were presentations from the four clusters encompassing all 30 dioceses within the province.

The meeting members from so many areas gives rise to great conversations and sharing of ideas, with wonderful fellowship whilst worshipping together. We all came back refreshed and renewed (and looking forward to the 2025 gathering).

In July we had lunch together and watched some of the tennis from Wimbledon, encouraging all the players from our sofa!

In September Emly and Runnymede Deaneries led the Pilgrimage of Prayer service in the Lady Chapel – this was very well attended by members.

For October we met to plan our Christmas Bags for the ladies in the refuges and to pray for them and others. November was the big packing of the bags – a magnificent 50 bags for which we had contributions of both goods and money from our MU members and the generous members of St. Christopher's congregation, without whom we would not be able to complete the task. Once again, we received kind and grateful thanks from the ladies which we have passed on to St. Christopher's Church.

In December we met for our annual Christmas Lunch. A wonderfully festive occasion, sharing food and fellowship – and joined by Alfred aged 8 months!

Jean Hoseason (Branch Leader)

Treasurer's Report

St. Christopher's Church – 2024 Financial Report

Key figures:

Unrestricted Funds **£23,169** (as at 31/12/2024)

Restricted Funds **£5,192** (From HWF, Vicars Community Projects Fund) Designated Funds **£34,593** (Legacy Projects Fund)

Jan to Dec 2024 – Budgeted Income & Expenditure: deficit of **£3,328** Jan to Dec 2024.

Report

With the transfer of treasurers early in 2024 the proposed budget was delayed in being prepared and discussed with the PCC. Being new to the accounts, 2024 budgets were based on 2023 and then adjusted for expected price increases and known item, resulting a projected £8,000 deficit for the year. There had been 3 months of actuals and still some unknowns when preparing the Budget so comparisons might not truly reflect how the PCC expected the year to phase.

The final Income and Expenditure report for **2024** indicates we were slightly in deficit for the year of £3,328. Overall, our income was down on 2023 by 18% but costs were reduced by 22% resulting in the small deficit.

Parish Giving remains steady for the church and is the second highest revenue generator behind the hiring costs for the builds, which are driven from the Hall and Nursery. The continued support of both the Nursery and After School club generated over £35,000 for the year and we are highly reliant on their support to meet our Parish Share commitments. The Church is being regularly used by The Rock Project but remains an underutilised space with revenues down 30% from 2024.

New ventures the PCC undertook for 2024 have yielded more than expected, with the coffee van generating nearly £500 over the year.

Costs on the upkeep of the buildings were tightly controlled by the PCC while in the interregnum which helped the overall finances. Not needing to work on the boilers had a positive effect in the costing with Church maintenance -85% (£14,730) to 2023 and Hall at -52.7% (£7,174)

Milder winter helped keep the Gas costs lower by £6,000 but that is expected to rise again in the next budget.

There were 2 legacies left to the church that had not been planned for, and we thank the families of Hilda Highly and Candida Gill for their kind generosity towards the church they both served for many years.

Summing up

As we entered 2024 the finances had been impacted by events outside of the PCC control. The due diligence of the wardens and the PCC have helped steady the financial position, maintaining our commitment to pay Parish Share in full. This is in spite of the fact the church spent most of the year in Interregnum. The PCC have not needed to authorise any transfers from the savings account meaning the income and expenditure balanced itself for the year.

We continue to be reliant on hirings and increasing prices again in 2025 will be key to covering other rising costs but must be done sensitively as costs continue to rise for all.

Parish Share increase for 2025 is lower than the anticipated 5% which is a benefit for us as we enter the new year.

Reserves Policy


Our Reserves Policy is to hold in free reserves an amount sufficient to cover 3 months' activity without revenue.

Tracey Warren Treasurer

Approved by the PCC on 03 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Jane Barnett
Churchwarden



Julia Bowden
PCC Chair/ Churchwarden

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

I report to the Parochial Church Council on my examination of the financial statements of St Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Parochial Church Council of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

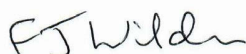
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do 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 financial statements to be reached.



Frances Wilde FCCA DChA

Warner Wilde
Chartered Certified Accountants
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley
Surrey
GU24 9SF

Dated: 20th March 2025

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes					
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	47,723	-	-	47,723	65,960
Charitable activities	4	693	-	-	693	4,957
Other trading activities	5	3,401	-	-	3,401	3,244
Investments	6	51,877	-	-	51,877	52,219
Other income	7	346	-	-	346	-
Total income		<u>104,040</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,040</u>	<u>126,380</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	8	1,120	-	-	1,120	3,519
Charitable activities	9	106,248	-	-	106,248	133,968
Total expenditure		<u>107,368</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107,368</u>	<u>137,487</u>
Net expenditure		(3,328)	-	-	(3,328)	(11,107)
Net movement in funds	12	(3,328)	-	-	(3,328)	(11,107)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		<u>26,497</u>	<u>34,593</u>	<u>5,192</u>	<u>66,282</u>	<u>77,389</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		<u>23,169</u>	<u>34,593</u>	<u>5,192</u>	<u>62,954</u>	<u>66,282</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	65,960	-	-	65,960
Charitable activities	4	4,957	-	-	4,957
Other trading activities	5	3,244	-	-	3,244
Investments	6	52,219	-	-	52,219
Total income		126,380	-	-	126,380
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	3,519	-	-	3,519
Charitable activities	9	133,701	-	267	133,968
Total expenditure		137,220	-	267	137,487
Net income		(10,840)	-	(267)	(11,107)
Transfers between funds		(15,000)	15,000	-	-
Net movement in funds	12	(25,840)	15,000	(267)	(11,107)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		52,337	19,593	5,459	77,389
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		26,497	34,593	5,192	66,282

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		2,307		2,716
Current assets					
Debtors	17	5,750		998	
Cash at bank and in hand		66,330		72,727	
		72,080		73,725	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(11,433)		(10,159)	
Net current assets			60,647		63,566
Total assets less current liabilities			62,954		66,282
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	20		5,192		5,192
Unrestricted funds - general	22		23,169		26,497
Unrestricted funds - designated	21		34,593		34,593
			62,954		66,282

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 03 March 2025



Jane Barnett
Church Warden



Julia Bowden
PCC Chair/Church Warden

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

St Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, constituted under the PCC Powers Measure Act 1956, Church Representation rules 2006.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Parochial Church Council have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Parochial Church Council continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Parochial Church Council in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised when the PCC becomes entitled to them, this is usually on receipt of notification from the executor.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Irrecoverable VAT is allocated in the same manner as the expenditure to which it relates.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96(2) Charities Act 1993. Moveable church furnishings held by the vicar and church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed on the church inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £100 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	15% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Parochial Church Council are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	45,223	54,960
Legacies	2,500	10,000
Grants	-	1,000
	<u>47,723</u>	<u>65,960</u>
Grants		
Guildford Diocesan Board of Finance Energy Grant	-	1,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Charitable activities		
Other income	733	3,143
Charitable activities		
Sale of goods	(40)	1,814
	<u>693</u>	<u>4,957</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising events	<u>3,401</u>	<u>3,244</u>

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Rental income	50,959	51,521
Interest receivable	918	698
	<u>51,877</u>	<u>52,219</u>

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Solar energy credits	346	-
	<u>346</u>	<u>-</u>

8 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Staging fundraising events	1,120	3,519
	<u>1,120</u>	<u>3,519</u>

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Ministry 2024 £	Church 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Ministry 2023 £	Church 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs						
Staff costs	-	911	911	-	-	-
Depreciation and impairment	408	-	408	480	-	480
Diocesan Parish Share	77,204	158	77,362	74,196	940	75,136
Clergy and Vicarage expenses	1,561	-	1,561	2,268	-	2,268
Church running expenses	-	9,997	9,997	-	15,953	15,953
Church maintenance	-	3,823	3,823	-	18,904	18,904
Church services	250	949	1,199	-	2,359	2,359
Hall running expenses	-	6,448	6,448	-	13,624	13,624
	<u>79,423</u>	<u>22,286</u>	<u>101,709</u>	<u>76,944</u>	<u>51,780</u>	<u>128,724</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 10)	18	-	18	882	-	882
Share of support and governance costs (see note 11)						
Support	3,147	-	3,147	3,012	-	3,012
Governance	1,374	-	1,374	1,350	-	1,350
	<u>83,962</u>	<u>22,286</u>	<u>106,248</u>	<u>82,188</u>	<u>51,780</u>	<u>133,968</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds - general	83,962	22,286	106,248	82,188	51,513	133,701
Restricted funds	-	-	-	-	267	267
	<u>83,962</u>	<u>22,286</u>	<u>106,248</u>	<u>82,188</u>	<u>51,780</u>	<u>133,968</u>

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Grants payable

	Ministry 2024 £	Ministry 2024 £
Grants to institutions:		
East Elmbridge Foodbank	-	540
The Children's Society	-	36
	-	6
Zumbathon	-	74
MacMillan Cancer Support	-	226
Other	18	-
	<u>18</u>	<u>882</u>

11 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
General expenses including copier lease and ICT	2,151	2,763
Printing and stationery	996	249
Governance costs	1,374	1,350
	<u>4,521</u>	<u>4,362</u>

Analysed between:

Ministry	<u>4,521</u>	<u>4,362</u>
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Governance costs comprise:	2024 £	2023 £
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Independent Examination fees	1,374	1,350
	<u>1,374</u>	<u>1,350</u>

12 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>408</u>	<u>480</u>

13 Parochial Church Council

None of the Parochial Church Council (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration. In 2023, one was reimbursed travel, subsistence, telephone, books and journals and attending events expenditure of £1,631.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Caretaking	1	-

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	911	-

There were caretaking staff during the year who equated to less than one full time member of staff.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	13,034	1,500	14,534
At 31 December 2024	13,034	1,500	14,534
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2024	10,329	1,490	11,819
Depreciation charged in the year	405	3	408
At 31 December 2024	10,734	1,493	12,227
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	2,300	7	2,307
At 31 December 2023	2,705	11	2,716

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	5,750	998
	<u>5,750</u>	<u>998</u>

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income	19	4,641	-
Trade creditors		2,530	8,559
Other creditors		2,870	250
Accruals		1,392	1,350
		<u>11,433</u>	<u>10,159</u>

19 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Other deferred income	4,641	-
	<u>4,641</u>	<u>-</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	4,641	-
	<u>4,641</u>	<u>-</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 January 2024	-	-
Resources deferred in the year	4,641	-
	<u>4,641</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 December 2024	<u>4,641</u>	<u>-</u>

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes, funds in deficit only exist where spending is in advance of restricted grant income received:

	At 1 January 2024	Resources expended	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£
Eco Fund	4,207	-	4,207
Vicar's Community Fund	100	-	100
Hinchley Wood Fellowship	885	-	885
	<u>5,192</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,192</u>
	<u><u>5,192</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,192</u></u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Resources expended	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Eco Fund	4,207	-	4,207
Vicar's Community Fund	100	-	100
Hinchley Wood Fellowship	1,152	(267)	885
	<u>5,459</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>5,192</u>
	<u><u>5,459</u></u>	<u><u>267</u></u>	<u><u>5,192</u></u>

The Ecofund provides for fabric improvements to increase the efficiency of the church buildings.

Agency Collections are donations for specific charities.

Hinchley Wood Fellowship is a sub group of the church which provides social interaction and fellowship for its members.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

21 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 January 2024	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£
Legacy projects fund	34,593	-	34,593
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Legacy projects fund	19,593	15,000	34,593
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The Legacy Projects fund ring fences legacy gifts to be used in specific projects rather than absorbed into the day to day running costs of the Church.

22 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	26,497	104,040	(107,368)	-	23,169
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	52,337	126,380	(137,220)	(15,000)	26,497
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH, HINCHLEY WOOD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 December 2024:				
Tangible assets	2,307	-	-	2,307
Current assets/(liabilities)	20,862	34,593	5,192	60,647
	<u>23,169</u>	<u>34,593</u>	<u>5,192</u>	<u>62,954</u>
	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:				
Tangible assets	2,716	-	-	2,716
Current assets/(liabilities)	23,781	34,593	5,192	63,566
	<u>26,497</u>	<u>34,593</u>	<u>5,192</u>	<u>66,282</u>