

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

England & Wales · Charity number 1153663

Details

Other names HILLSIDE CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2013-09-04

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

Contact

Address All Saints Vicarage
Rowanwood Gardens
Lobley Hill
Gateshead
NE11 0DP

Phone 0191 4220445

Email hillsidechurchoffice@gmail.com

Website <http://www.hillsidechurch.co.uk/>

Activities

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

Activities: We are an Anglican Church in the North East of England. Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, All Saints Preschool, Messy Church, Cafe Church, Sunday school and a Youth group who meet during the week. We support Traidcraft and Gateshead Foodbank. Each year we give a % of our income to Charities. There a number of community groups which take place within our buildings.

Classification

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

Geography

- Gateshead

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£97,642	£89,668	-	-
2024-12-31	£88,530	£90,774	-	-
2023-12-31	£123,574	£133,491	-	-
2022-12-31	£92,086	£80,253	-	-
2021-12-31	£81,651	£71,155	-	-
2020-12-31	£75,570	£78,870	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GLEN MACKNIGHT	Chair	2017-04-30
Anna Katharine Mace		2021-04-24
Dorothy McKenzie		2023-04-23
Dr CATHARINE HOWE		2013-08-27
Ellen Miller		2023-04-23
GLORIA ANDERSON		2013-08-27
Gillian Corner		2020-10-25
JANICE MACKNIGHT		2021-04-24
MISS ABI SANDERS		2013-08-27
MRS LINA BECK		2013-08-27
Matthew Brotherston		2016-04-27
Rev Amanda Jane Boyd		2015-04-22
Rita Muse		2018-04-15
Robert Brotherston		2019-04-07
SARAH MORDEN		2018-04-15

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Accounts



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

ANNUAL REPORT INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

The Parochial Church Council of Hillside (PCC) presents its annual report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025. The financial statements have been prepared based on the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

AIM AND PURPOSES

Hillside PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Glen MacKnight, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at Hillside. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

When planning activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Offering people, the opportunity to gather for worship, prayer and teaching at a range of services and meetings throughout the week;
- providing pastoral care in a variety of ways e.g. visiting the sick, supporting those with special needs, providing help and advice at times of birth, marriage, and bereavement;
- offering programmes of teaching to young people in conjunction with relevant events and activities;
- promoting and supporting partnerships with churches, organisations and people involved in the faith, love and hope of Christ in action at home and abroad;
- providing facilities for the use of voluntary organisations within the locality;
- active participation in local events and voluntary work within our community.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Vicar's Letter

"So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow."

(1 Corinthians 3:7)

There is a mole in the front garden of the vicarage. Adrian flattens the mounds with the lawnmower, but by the next morning the Pyrenees are once again reaching heavenward. I doubt the mole has any concept of being irritated or hard done to. Its underground building programme suffers a setback, but with hard hat, head torch, and shovel, it simply gets on with the job of excavating.

The mole, being underground, doesn't get to see what is rising above ground.

You may have spotted that this is something of a parable of the Kingdom of God. Perhaps I should leave it there for the mercy of us all, or encourage you instead to notice the mounds, and the work that goes on beneath the surface to support their rising.

This report reflects many of the great things in the life of Hillside Church over the past year: the dedicated, faithful service, both seen and unseen. The radiance of a clean toilet, the harmony of a vacuum cleaner, these quiet acts all contribute to our hospitality and welcome. The determination to keep a roof over our heads through persistent grant applications and generous giving is no small thing either.

I remember saying to the church that we needed to shift our course more towards younger people, while also holding up my hands and saying, “but I don’t know how we do that.” As it turns out, you start with prayer, and with listening.

Dorothy responded to God’s leading by gathering women to pray. Prayer was offered for young people, especially for Lobley Hill Primary School. Meanwhile, the youth team persisted in hosting Hillside Youth when others might have given up.

And this is where it gets more interesting.

At The Joshua Tree Café, our main community work of building trust, friendship, and hospitality, a grandmother asked a simple question: “Do you have a youth group?” The outcome can be read in Matthew’s report. Through consistent digging, we now have a molehill.

And who has noticed the increase in Young Stars? I was even given my very own t-shirt, and whenever the opportunity arises, I go along to see what they are doing and what support I can offer. It is about valuing the leaders, and showing the children that they are valued, that they belong, and are part of the church.

We also recognise that things change or come to close such as our involvement with Two’s Company. We are grateful for Linda’s leadership over the past five years. Joe is due to step down from leading the Joshua Tree Café. We are seeking an appropriate way forward which is sustainable, honourable to those who serve and continues to bless the community. We give thanks for all that has been offered in service, dedication, and love. Nothing given to God is ever wasted.

At the same time, we sense God leading us forward. Our vision day in January led by Archdeacon Katherine Bagnal gave us a view of how Hillside can move forward and from that we found common themes with the Diocesan Growing in Fruitfulness: To be a church growing in faith, growing younger, and growing in mission rooted in Christ and reaching out to our community with hope and compassion. We are called not simply to maintain, but to step into what God is doing next and to give the invitation ‘Come and see’ (John 1 :39).

As we look ahead, may we be open, courageous, and prayerful, ready to embrace new opportunities, to welcome new people, and to deepen our life together in Christ.

God Bless
Rev Glen MacKnight

Associate Priest Report

Reflecting on the past year, I again feel truly thankful for the opportunities I've been given for formation; to grow professionally and spiritually. My ministry continues to extend beyond Hillside allowing me to take part in various special services throughout the Deanery. These experiences continue to enhance my perspective on the diversity of the worship services enriching my faith and strengthening my confidence. I remain actively engaged with Watergate Court, participating in the 'Watergate Worship' and 'Prayer & Praise' sessions twice a month. Additionally, in January I commenced similar activities with the residents of Armstrong House.

The regular Hillside Sunday services have remained a solid foundation for me in the shared worship. The enduring spirit of Hillside and the other churches I've served within the Deanery has always been clear. The sermons delivered by others have also been uplifting, inspiring us to practise our faith actively and reminding us of our responsibilities to each other and to the wider world.

A really special moment for me was being licenced, by Archdeacon Katherine Bagnall, in my home church as an Associate Priest. I feel it had come full circle as it was with Katherine whom I had my 1st interview with when I was called to ministry. I am also really chuffed about receiving my degree in Theology in Mission and Ministry.

I've really felt the support of my church family every step of the way, whether it has been with few encouraging words, a prayer shared together, or just a friendly gesture, these simple things have meant the world to me. It's shown me how much community matters, and how much we help each other along the way. Caring for the community led me to initiate and become involved with Lobley Hill Community Action Group. We meet monthly, and we are already seeing changes within the community. In early March, we collaborated with the council's initiative, 'The Big Spring Clean-up.' Council workers, councillors, and twelve volunteers collected litter from the neighbourhood, while local children from LHPS and volunteers planted flower beds to enhance the area's appearance.

The Community Festival is on June 27th, A joint venture by the Church, Local schools, Community, and Council. Volunteers are needed—all are welcome. Save the date!

Looking to the future, I remain excited and eager to continue my ministry, welcoming fresh challenges, and opportunities. I look forward to serving both the community and my church family with renewed enthusiasm and commitment.

Blessings
Rev Amanda Boyd

Thank you to: -

Defibrillator installed June 2025



Thank you to: Gateshead Council in regards to a funding of £1,000 towards the purchase of the Defibrillator fitted June 2025 which is on the outside of our church

Thank you to: The Red Sky Foundation Charity who fitted and provided the Defibrillator

And also, a BIG thank you to: Paul Ryan who communicated and sorted the fitting of the Defibrillator and the training.

Thank you to: -



Thank you to: Ryan Deponio who sorted and fitted the Christmas lights in All Saints which made the inside of **the Church look atmospheric over the Christmas Period**



Every month Nichola visits our local school and will share a bible story, sometimes sing a song with the children and invite (should they wish to) the children to pray. The sessions are always well received and help the children make a connection to faith and Hillside, All Saints.

That connection is further enhanced by the school attending the church on three occasions during the year Christmas, Easter and end of year school leavers.

This demonstrates our openness to the community and a willingness to share our facilities.

Deanery Report Gateshead West Deanery

Our deanery has 10 parishes and stretches as far as Chopwell. We now have all six clergy places filled.

There has not been much activity in the last year, but at the most recent synod in February we heard from Graham Clelland (Durham Diocese's Growing Younger Strategic Lead). The synod reconfirmed interest in children and young people's work. It is possible we may have a focus on young people east of the Derwent (covering Whickham, Swalwell, Dunston and Hillside parishes) with perhaps some wider collaboration. Please keep praying!

The deanery has not yet set contributions from parishes for 2026. The decision is deferred until the May deanery when our plans for activities with young people and needs for money may be clearer.

Catharine Howe (Deanery Synod rep)

Update of the High-Level Repairs at Hillside All Saints Church phase 2

By 2023 Hillside were able to achieve funding to complete priority areas of the high-level maintenance that had been recommended by the Quinquennial Reports over a period of many years. The main concern being water ingress, which had previously led to a lintel replacement being required in the Bede room. In September 2024 the PCC agreed to accept Corinthia builders' quote to complete further recommended high level maintenance. At that point the figure required was £49,843. Since then, work has been ongoing to attract funding. By March 2026, with inflation the amount was £51,837.55. With a combination of grants from Charitable Trusts and a donation the funding has been achieved. Commencement of the project is planned for May 2026 with Corinthia as the builders, and Michael Atkinson acting as Principal/Accredited Conservation Architect. **Report updates from Gill Corner**



Messy Church continues to run each month and numbers can fluctuate month on month with a loyal group who come month on month. We regularly have craft activities, often quite messy as paint, glue and glitter frequently appear..... which are bible focussed to the theme. Our 'Foodie' activity led by Katrina still continues to be very popular and the story session before Messy Tea now has taken on a livelier dimension as Nicola, Amanda and Alex encourage the children (and parents) participate fully in assisting Glen. Many thanks to young Connor who keeps our sound desk fully operational.

For the regular group who come along each month I think Messy is still an important part of worship at St Cuthbert's but would love to hear from anyone who has ideas of how to increase the size of the group, advertising other than Fb posting and mail chimp reminder or even a change of time. Growth does not happen without change and we are open to all suggestions. Messy church takes time and regular commitment and I'm thankful to all those who help make Messy Church an exciting place to meet and minister to our young children.

In the near future I will be stepping back from Messy church. I'm happy to support anyone who feels God is calling them to this rewarding ministry but know I need to step back and wait for God's direction for my next area of ministry. Please pray and listen for God's call. This could be for you

Lina

SC Toddler Group



As usual Summer and early Autumn 2025 Toddler Group at St Cuthbert's continued to be well attended. However later Autumn and early months of 2026 we saw a concerning fall in numbers but have a regular group of 7 children who come with mother's and grandparents. Much of this is due to children moving on to preschools taking up funded places which is inevitable.

I have introduced more craft type activities this past year and the children are enjoying using glue, paint, mark making tools and developing early cutting skills. Our adults are very hands on here and once the tussle over having to wear an apron to glue or paint (children that is) it's hard to see who enjoys the activities more adult or child !

Many of our small group have come from being tiny babies and it is very rewarding to see them growing independent and helping each other with tasks such as setting the table for snack time and putting the toys away at 'Tidy Tidy' time.

A consideration for the future are the plans to develop the chapel building in Sunnyside by a Christian group and, being more centrally placed, they may decide to develop a Toddler Group there. This may further diminish our attendance and consideration will need to be given to the economic viability of continuing with the group at Marley Hill.

Lina

Young Stars

Our young members of the congregation have continued to meet for their own time together during our Sunday services. We always begin these times with prayer, and have been blessed by our young people often participating in praying for the adults in our church family and the wider community before we head over to the Hub.

We have a core group of regular attendees, some of whom have been new additions to our group over the last year and we continue to enjoy getting to know them better.

We continue to use Scripture Union resources to direct our themes and topics for Bible study, and follow a weekly format of prayer, worship, introductory activity, Bible study and response time. On the weeks when all our regular members are present, we often split into 2 groups for our Bible study time allowing our older children to have more time to consider and reflect upon God's word and what it means to them in their lives, whilst the younger children move on to more craft-based activities.

We are grateful to the congregation for your ongoing prayers for us, the Young Stars leaders, as we seek to teach and nurture the growing faith of our young people, and for the children, that the Holy Spirit will fill them with your strength and deepen their love for you.

Louise, Lisa & Nicola

Hillside Youth

The Hillside Youth Group continues to meet every second Friday in the Hub and remains a valued and important part of the life of the church. These gatherings provide a regular opportunity for young people to come together in a safe, welcoming and enjoyable environment where they can build friendships, have fun and grow in confidence and faith.

Each session is filled with plenty of fun, food and meaningful talks. As well as enjoying time together socially, the young people are encouraged to engage with themes that are relevant to their lives and faith, helping to create space for conversation, reflection and support. It is a real joy to see the friendships that continue to develop.

To date, we have 26 young people on the books, with an average of 14 attending each session. This is an encouraging level of engagement, and we are thankful for the continued commitment and enthusiasm shown by those who attend regularly. We hope to continue building on this in the coming year.

We could not do this without the support, commitment and generosity of our wonderful leaders, who give their time, energy and care so faithfully. Their contribution is greatly appreciated, and the Youth Group would not be able to continue in the way it does without them.

If anyone is interested in being part of the Hillside Youth Leadership team, please contact Matthew Brotherston.

Matthew Brotherston



As Joe steps down from overseeing the Joshua Tree Cafe in July we can give thanks for the last five years, for the many good things we have experienced and for the many connections made. At the same time, we need to reflect and pray for the way forward and what the cafe might look like in the future.

After five years as the co-ordinator for Two's Company Befriending at Hillside, and giving things some thought and prayer over the last few months, I have made the decision to step down from this role.



Over the last 18 months or so, especially last year due to family illness and other commitments which affected me emotionally, I felt as though I didn't have the time to fulfil my role fully, with seeking new referrals and volunteers and everything that goes with it. I have however been maintaining the current matches and getting feedback, which has been positive, and over all very worthwhile for both present and past matches. We are currently down to four befrienders and so it has been winding down naturally with two of them only needing a monthly call.

I have however learnt a lot through this role and it's been a valuable experience and feel my IT and communication skills have improved!

My thanks go out to Susan, Debbie and Christine for their befriending and care, also to Glen, Alan and Gloria for their help and support over the last few years (pestering Gloria the most for print-outs etc!) I will also be carrying on as a befriender.

I am still keeping in touch with Angela the operations Manager from Linking Lives Charitable Trust who has been very supportive and will continue to check out their website for any useful online courses they offer which could be passed on.

I am glad to say that the four current matches are still able to continue as both parties are happy to do so. They will of course no longer be under the Two's Company umbrella, but operating Inhouse at Hillside instead. They will remain under our Safeguarding policy and also Lone Working for any home visits, as agreed with Glen and Alan, with the befrienders contacting either of them should any problems arise. We will more than likely change our name to 'Hillside Befrienders'.

Linda Cranney
Two's Company Co-ordinator



Running since September 2022 the group is welcoming new members every few weeks.

The current weekly bereaved attendees 12. With 5 new people expecting to join us around 15th January 2026. Being a 'drop in' not all attend each week. At the end of January there has been approximately 85 people supported in group or by phone Debra Ryan having completed interview, training and safeguarding procedure, joined in addition to Amanda and Sheila as a listener helper.

In December 2025, 6 members felt they no longer needed group support and have formed a social group which continues to meet in the Joshua Tree Cafe at 11am on Fridays and enjoy other outings together, which is fantastic!

A couple of these have since approached me asking if they could return to group should they feel the need for support again. I said of course the door will always be open. We received thank you cards and gifts when they left.

The group decided, that the money it was donating to buy pigs having stopped, it would still carry on and gift the money to Hillside towards the heating and lights we use in the Bede Room. We continue to use resources purchased from Our Daily Bread.

Glen Amanda and I attended and manned a Hillside Church information table at a Compassionate Gateshead Event which was very informative. Lots of organisations dealing with end of life and bereavement gathered together and shared. We were the only church in attendance. Another event Compassion Festival begins on the 12th February 2026 at The Caedmon Gateshead 10am until 2pm, with other festival events throughout the borough. We are planning to attend. It is I believe open to the public.

Allowing people time and the space to talk about their loss and how they are feeling, has become more evident as a healing experience.

Talking about how they had been the previous week, have they had any problems or triggers? How were they coping? Sharing and receiving information from other group members who have been through similar situations, has been so beneficial to others. During gaps in chat, I read sourced information I have researched on grief and bereavement, including poems and verses, we begin and end group sessions with prayers. The Blue Service held on the 10th December was well attended and we received many grateful thanks and encouragement. Glen and Amanda took the tranquil, reflective service and Maureen and Kevin prepared and served refreshments.

Feedback received

*"Thanks again for the help I received from you and the group
I think it was such a great help meeting people in the same situation
There's always someone worse than you.*

*I had no one close that understood how I felt and you and the group did and I have all these wonderful friends
really friends and we support each other and that's all down to you I can't thank you enough
Love and hugs Ann"*

"Hi Jaqui. Just wanted you to know that I won't come to the group meetings but will pop into the Joshua Tree to meet everyone. I want to really thank you for helping me so much with my grief journey. I know that it has many phases & we're all different. I feel that I can now deal with, thanks to you, on my own & with the support

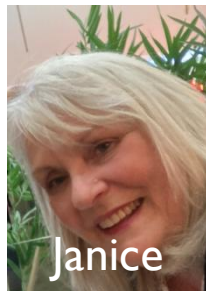
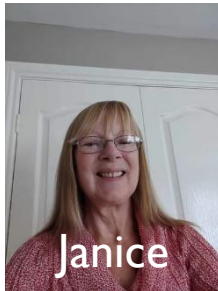
of the new friends I've made at the group. I wish you all the best for the New Year & for the continuation of your amazing, caring work. Love Eileen"

"Interesting conversation with a member of the bereavement group who has moved on to meeting socially in the cafe. She went to see her GP who practices at Rawling Road surgery. She hasn't seen him since her husband died. He commented on how much better she looked and seemed, she told him it was due to our group and how we had supported her and how she had made friends with others grieving. A few days later the doctor contacted her asking for details of where we were based and day time we were open, as he would like to recommend the group to his patients".

Jacqui Thompson
Bereavement Group Facilitator

Pastoral Report

This is an informal arrangement and is supported by: -



Context

The purpose of the group is to ensure the pastoral oversight of the congregation. It should complement home groups and other pastoral support mechanisms.

The Past Year

During the past year the pastoral group and other members of the congregation have continued to respond

to a number of needs, providing comfort, spiritual and practical support. This is complimented by a number of other systems in the church for example, the bereavement group. Pastoral care in any church is not a perfect system and people have different expectations on what should be provided. Please speak with Glen or any member of the team if you have any suggestions.

To the best of our ability the team work to ensure that people are cared for at times of vulnerability. This often comes at cost to the team as people have busy lives and their own commitments and once again, I would like to thank all involved.

As mentioned last year Jesus cared for people, he worked practically and in an unassuming manner. Always with compassion and respect for the person. The value base of the group is to do likewise and reflects the value base of Safeguarding and church culture. That as the church continues to grow, we care for people with respect, compassion, kindness, sensitivity and confidentiality working within the appropriate policies. But ultimately in love - Love keeps no record of wrong, it is not self-seeking, it prefers one another...

1 Samuel 26: verse 12

David finds King Saul sleeping but does not expose or touch him at a point of vulnerability. He exercises Godly wisdom ... may we ask God for such wisdom as we work alongside people who are vulnerable.

Safeguarding

As with all aspects of church life, we foster safeguarding culture and the group liaise with Alan Corner (Safeguarding Lead) and he meets with us annually as opportunity for the team to raise concerns. In accordance with Durham Diocese National Safeguarding Policy all members of the team are trained to level C0, Janice MacKnight has recently updated C2 Leadership training. In line with C of E requirement all members of the team have a current DBS.

Prayer Phone

This is for urgent prayer needs and is held by Maureen Shreeve who forwards prayer requests to a team of people who are committed to praying. This is well-used and Maureen is excellent at sharing requests with the team and reminding us to thank God for answered prayer. If you would like the number please speak with Maureen. Please note that when making a prayer request please make sure you have permission to do so.

Prayer Ministry

Dorothy and I felt this area required review and she led on this. It was noted that prayer was happening and people were seeking out people they trusted. Therefore, the rota was disbanded although the team are still ready to step in as and when needed. To ensure opportunities for prayer are available to the congregation. Currently the team are Dorothy McKenzie, Ellen Miller, Janice MacKnight, Damian Parry, Lina Beck and Joe Osman.

Can I please ask you that if you feel someone needs pastoral care that you make a member of the team aware? We are human and work with imperfect processes, therefore if you have any suggestions for improvement, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the team.

Janice MacKnight and the Team

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those regular members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Hillside comprises two places of worship, All Saints, Lobley Hill and St Cuthbert's, Marley Hill.

Both are part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, All Saints, Rowanwood Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 0DP.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:	Incumbent:	The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)
	Associate Minister:	The Reverend Amanda Boyd
	Warden:	Gill Corner (Warden until April 2025)
		Abi Sanders
Elected Members:	Deanery Synod:	Catharine Howe
	Licensed Reader	Lina Beck
	PCC Secretary:	Gloria Anderson (Jan to April 2025)
	PCC Secretary:	Sarah Morden (PCC Secretary from April 2025 - Elected PCC Trustee from Jan to Dec 2025)
	PCC Minutes Secretary:	Janice MacKnight (elected PCC Trustee Jan to April 2025 appointed PCC Secretary from April 2025 to Dec 2025)
		Matthew Brotherston (elected PCC Trustee Jan to Dec 2025)
		Anna Mace (elected PCC Trustee Jan to Dec 2025)
		Rita Muse (elected PCC Trustee Jan to Dec 2025)
		Ellen Miller (Elected member April 2025 resigned Nov 2025)
		Dorothy McKenzie (Elected Member April 2025 to Dec 2025)
Co-opted Members:	PCC Treasurer:	Paul Ryan (Elected Member April to Dec 2025)
		Sue Whitehead (Elected Member from April to Dec 2025)
		Robert Brotherston (Jan to Dec 2025)
		Dorothy McKenzie (from Jan to April 2025)
		Ellen Miller (from Jan to April 2025)

The PCC met **9** times in 2025. Minutes are taken at all PCC meetings and approved copies are displayed on Church notice boards and made available on individual request.

Hillside Church Electoral Roll 2025 - 66 members on the Hillside Church Electoral roll. At the time of submitting this report an updated Electoral Roll shows 70 members.

Risk Review

The PCC continually reviews the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the Churches and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its annual Parish Share.

The work of the Church is governed by safeguarding policies of the Church of England and in particular with due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity's financial year that we should have brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners.

Hillside Safeguarding Report

I am happy to report that there have been very few safeguarding issues to deal with, and those that have arisen have been dealt with and resolved.

Last year I reported that we needed to reach the 5 Standards described by the National Safeguarding Team. I am happy to report that we have now reached all of those standards. Our meeting of these standards will be regularly reviewed, so that each standard is reviewed at least once in a 3-year cycle. I am grateful for the PCC's cooperation in embracing this matter.

We had an issue with a 3rd party data breach of the company that carries out our DBS checks. This affected 8 members of our congregation, all of whom have taken precautionary measures to mitigate against any loss of critical information.

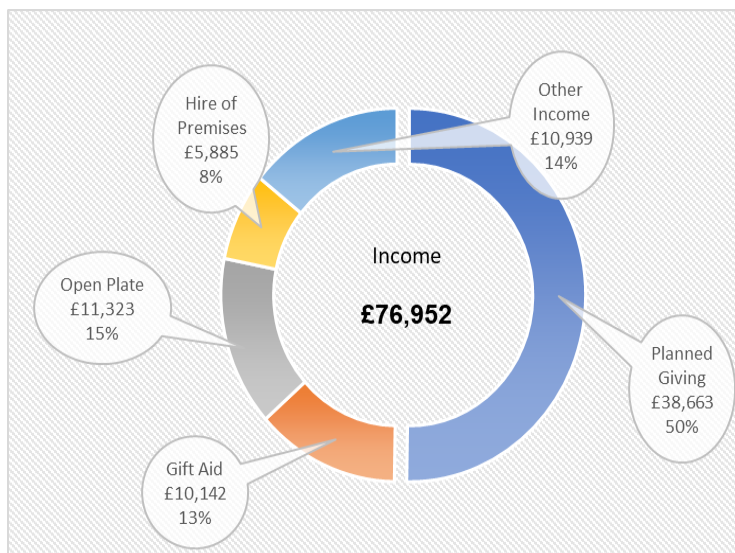
During the course of the year I have attended the 4 Diocesan PSO gatherings, along with meetings, all of which help me to do all I can to keep everyone safe at Hillside.

I am very grateful for the support I get from the PCC and Gloria. the congregation. I am especially grateful to the 42 members of our congregation who have completed Safeguarding training, and don't complain (much!) when asked to renew their training, DBS clearance etc.

Alan Corner
Parish Safeguarding Officer

FINANCIAL REVIEW

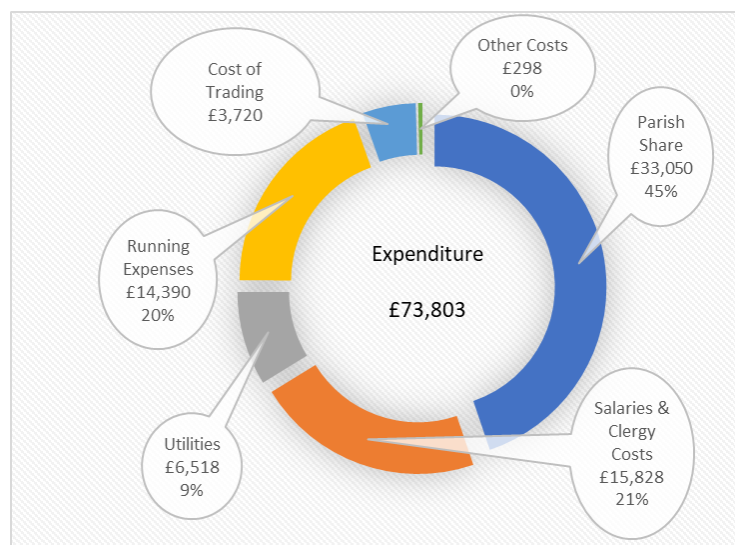
WHERE OUR INCOME COMES FROM-GENERAL FUND



We continue to be reliant on the generosity of our congregation although this year we benefitted from a one off donation of £10,142 .

This income stream has remained fairly stable for a number of years despite inflationary pressures on our cost base.

WHERE WE SPEND OUR INCOME-GENERAL FUND



Our biggest expenditure is our Parish Share which is a contribution to Durham Diocese to fund, amongst others, stipends.

FINANCIAL performance

The unrestricted fund ended the year with a £3,149 surplus, which included a one-off £10,142 donation. Excluding this donation, the underlying position shows a £6,993 deficit. This pattern of deficits on the unrestricted fund has been ongoing. In response, the PCC has made the difficult but prudent decision to limit next year's Parish Share to £23,000. This measure aims to restore the unrestricted fund to a break-even point and safeguard reserves according to the reserves policy, ensuring financial stability and sustainability for the future.

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC recognises the need to hold reserves to ensure funding is available to provide continuing mission but also to ensure the PCC can meet its legal commitments should they be unable to continue due to lack of a sustainable income stream.

The PCC reviewed and reassessed reserves during the year such that the level of reserves at December 2025 are deemed adequate to support current activities and cover known risks.

Rob Brotherston
Treasurer

Our Easter Journey

Good Friday to Easter Sunday in pictures



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

Hillside, All Saints Lobley Hill and St Cuthberts Marley Hill**Independent Examiner's Report to member's/trustees of Hillside, All Saints Lobley Hill and St Cuthbert's Marley Hill, Parochial Church council.****Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Direction given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertake do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examinations, no matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

William Pine
Treasurer to Gateshead Deanery, PCC Christ Church Felling.
13th April 2026.

Hillside Church
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior year
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	£70,270	£8,284	-	£78,554	£68,934
Income from charitable activities	£797	-	-	£797	£931
Other trading activities	£5,885	£11,021	-	£16,906	£17,462
Investments	-	£1,385	-	£1,385	£1,204
Total income (Note 2)	£76,952	£20,690	-	£97,642	£88,531
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	£73,803	£15,865	-	£89,668	£88,324
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	£2,450
Total expenditure (Note 3)	£73,803	£15,865	-	£89,668	£90,774
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	£3,149	£4,825	-	£7,974	(£2,244)
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	£2,349	-	£2,349	£2,382
Gross transfers between funds - out	-	(£2,349)	-	(£2,349)	(£2,382)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	£3,149	£4,825	-	£7,974	(£2,244)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	£16,156	£19,645	£29,819	£65,620	£67,863
Total funds carried forward	£19,305	£24,470	£29,819	£73,594	£65,620
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	£11,451	-	-	£11,451	£7,692
Designated					
Community Fund	£31	-	-	£31	£31
Renes' Fund	£3,983	-	-	£3,983	£4,366
St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund	£813	-	-	£813	£1,513
ST Cuthberts Toddler Group	£3,027	-	-	£3,027	£2,554
Restricted					
All Saints Gas Boiler Replacement	-	£726	-	£726	£2,243
All Saints Hall Gas Boiler	-	£3,088	-	£3,088	£1,311
Buildings Maintenance Fund	-	£3,250	-	£3,250	-
Chapel Carpet	-	£100	-	£100	£100
Community Hub	-	£500	-	£500	£500
Joshua Tree	-	£7,336	-	£7,336	£6,967
Overseas Friends	-	£250	-	£250	£711
Public Places' Defibrillator	-	£1,000	-	£1,000	-
Rita's Fund	-	£256	-	£256	£67
Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	-	£1,874	-	£1,874	£1,039
ST Cuthberts Boiler Fund	-	£5,867	-	£5,867	£6,557
Sunday School	-	£149	-	£149	£149
Velux Rooflight System	-	£73	-	£73	-
Endowment					
Trust Fund - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	-	-	£29,819	£29,819	£29,819
Total funds	£19,305	£24,470	£29,819	£73,594	£65,620

Hillside Church - 1153663

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	9,766	12,605
Total Fixed Assets		9,766	12,605
Current assets			
Debtors	5	10,679	11,753
Investments	5	29,819	30,608
Cash at bank and in hand		25,577	16,498
		66,075	58,859
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	2,248	5,844
Net current assets less current liabilities		63,828	53,015
Total assets less current liabilities		73,594	65,620
Total net assets less liabilities		73,594	65,620
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted Funds		19,305	16,156
Restricted Funds		24,470	19,645
Endowment Funds		29,819	29,819
Funds of the church		73,594	65,620

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

Basis of Accounting

Trustees' duties are set out in the Charities Act 2011 and Charity Trustee Act 1993. These Acts impose a duty on the trustees to direct the affairs of the charity, ensure that it is solvent, ensure that proper accurate accounting records are kept, and that statements of account which adhere to the charity law and accounting regulations are prepared in respect of each financial year.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the applicable SORP (FRS102). Under the provisions of FRS102, the PCC is not classified as a larger charity and therefore is not required to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Funds:

Unrestricted funds represent those funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are those which have been nominally allocated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but which can be applied to other general purposes if required and are therefore also classified as unrestricted.

Restricted funds are funds given to the PCC to be spent for a specific purpose.

Endowment Funds relate entirely to a charitable trust whose objective is the provision of clergy residential accommodation.

INCOME

Voluntary Income and collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Tax recoverable is recognised in the same year in which the donations are made. Any recoverable tax not received is shown as a debtor in the balance sheet.

Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Funds raised by church events are accounted for when received and are shown gross.

Rental income from the letting of PCC premises is recognised when the rental is due.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share that is unpaid at 31 December would be provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and would be shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements in accordance with s.10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful economic life of each asset.

CURRENT ASSETS

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December 2025 in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provisions for amounts that are considered uncollectable.

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

CURRENT LIABILITIES

All known liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law up to 31 December 2025 are included in these financial statements.

Note 2 - Analysis of Income

			Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year Last year
Donations and Legacies				
Tax Efficient Planned Giving	32,645	-	-	32,645 32,433
Other Planned Giving	11,695	-	-	11,695 10,416
Collections at Services	2,244	-	-	2,244 2,606
All Other Giving	2,221	1,334	-	3,555 4,177
Gift Aid Recovered	11,323	115	-	11,438 11,401
Will Bequest	10,142	-	-	10,142 -
Grant Income	-	6,835	-	6,835 7,901
Total	70,270	8,284	-	78,554 68,934
Income from Charitable Activities				
PCC Fees	797	-	-	797 931
Total	797	-	-	797 931
Other Trading Activities				
Joshua Tree Café	-	11,021	-	11,021 10,692
Income from Fundraising Activities	126	-	-	126 226
Hire of Premises	5,759	-	-	5,759 6,544
Total	5,885	11,021	-	16,906 17,462
Investments				
Interest Received	-	1,385	-	1,385 1,204
Total	-	1,385	-	1,385 1,204
INCOME TOTAL	76,952	20,690		97,642 88,531

Note 3 – Analysis of Expenditure

				Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
	-	-	-	-	-
Mission Giving and Donations	24	-	-	24	1,700
Diocesan Parish Share contribution	33,050	-	-	33,050	33,193
Salaries	15,241	-	-	15,241	14,169
Clergy Expenses: Mission Costs	587	551	-	1,138	3,192
Church Expenses	197	1,186	-	1,384	600
Church Running Expenses	14,390	6,516	-	20,905	18,346
Church Utilities	6,518	-	-	6,518	5,562
Costs of Trading	3,720	2,788	-	6,508	5,707
Joshua Tree Café	-	4,823	-	4,823	5,212
Governance: DBS	77	-	-	77	43
Major Repairs Church Building	-	-	-	-	-
Major Repairs Church Hall	-	-	-	-	3,050
Total	73,803	15,865	-	89,668	90,774
Total Expenditure	73,803	15,865	-	89,668	90,774

Note 4 – Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment & Software	Plant & Machinery (3yrs)	Plant & Machinery (5-10yrs)	TOTAL
Cost				
At 1st Jan 2024	5,455	3,179	21,539	30,173
Additions	699			699
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2025	6,154	3,179	21,539	30,872
Depreciation				
At 1st Jan 2025	5,455	3,179	8,933	17,567
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	58		3,480	3,538
At 31st December 2025	5,513	3,179	12,413	21,106
Net Book Value				
At 1st Jan 2025	-	-	12,605	12,605
At 31st December 2025	641	-	9,125	9,766

Note 5 – Debtors

	This year	Last year
Gift Aid Recoverable	5,532	6,822
Prepayments	5,088	4,931
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	29,819	30,608
Accounts Receivable	60	-
	40,498	42,361

Note 6 – Creditors

	This year	Last year
Accruals	1,241	1,174
HMRC	185	117
Agency Collections	386	525
Accounts Payable	436	4,028
	2,248	5,844

Note 7 – Personnel Costs

	This year	Last year
Salaries and other emoluments	14,629	13,630
Employers National Insurance	-	-
NEST Pension Costs	612	539
	15,241	14,169

Number of employees in post 31 December.	1	1
Average number of employees over the year.	1.00	1.00

There were no employees who met the definition of "key management personnel" during the year. [0]

No salary or employee benefits have been paid to Trustees in respect of their membership of the PCC. [0]

Incumbent clergy salaries are paid directly by the Durham Diocese and not by the PCC.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

England & Wales - Charity number 1153663

Accounts



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

ANNUAL REPORT
INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

The Parochial Church Council of Hillside (PCC) presents its annual report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared based on the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

AIM AND PURPOSES

Hillside PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Glen MacKnight, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at Hillside. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

When planning activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Offering people, the opportunity to gather for worship, prayer and teaching at a range of services and meetings throughout the week;
- providing pastoral care in a variety of ways e.g. visiting the sick, supporting those with special needs, providing help and advice at times of birth, marriage, and bereavement;
- offering programmes of teaching to young people in conjunction with relevant events and activities;
- promoting and supporting partnerships with churches, organisations and people involved in the faith, love and hope of Christ in action at home and abroad;
- providing facilities for the use of voluntary organisations within the locality;
- active participation in local events and voluntary work within our community.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Recently I was in a shop I won't say what kind of shop but I was hungry. As I closed in on the counter and all it had to offer in the form of sweet and savoury I noticed a leather bound black book. *"Is that a Bible?"* I asked. *"It is"* came an upbeat reply.

We began to talk as others came in the shop, were served and left. Our discussion roamed across the foibles of the church and what did I make of Romans chapter 7? I thought of making an origami swan but resisted saying so. This person was in earnest and needed to give me a 'good telling' with regards to holiness and righteousness. I wasn't averse to what they had to say, somethings we all need to hear again and again to grasp afresh what God has done through Christ Jesus our Lord. The part that troubled me was that they didn't belong to any group of believers at least not in the flesh. The church was a disappointment so they followed a range of predominately American pastors online, who were able to speak truth without being troubled by 'church.' Theirs was a spirituality that existed in a rarefied atmosphere of self-inflicted purity. It's difficult to challenge someone who has jumped out of the world and ask them to jump back into the mess of people's lives and say. *"Let's walk this path together."* But isn't that what we are called to do – to walk together, Get Involved Together and follow Him as disciples.

Stanley Hauerwas an American Theologian writes:

"The church is where the stories of Israel and Jesus are told, enacted, and heard, and as a Christian people there is literally nothing more important we can do. But the telling of that story requires that we be a particular kind of people, if we and the world are to hear the story truthfully." (Jesus Changes Everything). Hauerwas continues by saying ".....the world needs the church because without the church the world does not know what it is nor who God is."

Hillside Church is such an expression of the body of Christ in the world. Of course we are not alone as the Friends from Overseas Drop-in demonstrates. Three Churches working together to promote peace and justice. We have given support in respect of the Home Office, offered practical support and over the year seen further baptisms in the warm summer air of our All Age Services.

We have sought to proclaim Christ in all aspects of Church life as this report shows. We do that through buildings that are fit for purpose as Gill and Alan work with grant awarding bodies, through welcoming the Primary school as well as working into the school where Nicola is taking a lead. Also the ongoing work of Lisa and Louise with our Young Stars to deepen faith and relationship with Our Lord. The dedication of the Youth Leaders through thick and thin.



Then there is the work of caring for those who have experienced loss. This has now extended to a second session over the summer period. A group where so much work is done through supportive texts as well as meeting in a group, where Jacqui, Sheila and Amanda give a careful listening ear. Once the Friday bereavement session is over there is the seamless synergy of moving into the Joshua Tree Cafe, where again mission is at the heart of the volunteers who serve without the prospect of a cheese scone left over.

Our activities do come with a cost primarily bourn by Hillside members through regular giving. Rob as Treasurer advises the PCC as to the monthly situation in our finances. If we wish to *communicate the news of Jesus as Saviour* to people who have yet accept him then two things are prerequisite prayer and finance, both of which involve Generous Giving. *'Lord help us to be cheerful givers.'*

Hot Chocolate on the Street



Christingle with the Community



Someone from another church informed me that the Church of England wasn't very good at giving literature away. I was able to point out that this was not the case for Hillside. Our literature stands, often have be replenished with New Testaments (more latterly some in Persian). As ever more could be done to spread the Good news and we are grateful for all that we are able to do. *'And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,' Hebrews 10:24*

Gill Corner steps down as Church Warden having done so much to ensure that Hillside's activities are undergirded with appropriate levels of Health and Safety amongst many other aspects of her role. Abi as our remaining Church Warden is getting to grips with various aspects of the role while balancing these against her need to earn a living. Alan will remain our designated Safeguarding Lead guiding us through a demanding period as the CofE wrestles with some significant safeguarding failures in the past. The band works hard to help us use songs and hymns to worship God and more latterly through Dorothy, the women have had opportunity to meet together, to go deeper in faith and build one another up in God.

Amanda will shortly be at the end of her curacy and a small group of people recently reflected on the unexpected departure of former curate Dawn Hudson. Time was taken to pray for her.

Please read through the report of a small but vibrant church “.....*the world needs (us) because without the church the world does not know what it is nor who God is.*” This isn’t always face to face but at times a telephone call to someone who can easily feel invisible. The work of Two’s Company offers the comfort of conversation and a reminder that people are not forgotten.

How might you participate in making Christ known? Not everyone is an evangelist or feels comfortable talking about faith, but you can pray and you can give (your offering of yourself and money).

Finally, as brothers and sisters in Christ we join with King Charles III at the Maundy Service, recognising Catharine Howes contribution to seeking the welfare of others.

‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, love your neighbour as yourself.’ **Luke 10:27**

**God bless
Rev Glen MacKnight**



Curate Report



As I look back and reflect on the past year, I am grateful for the opportunities I've had to grow both professionally and spiritually. Beyond Hillside and Watergate Court, I've also had the privilege of contributing to various special services across the Deanery. These experiences have not only broadened my horizons but have also deepened my understanding of pastoral care and community building. In addition to these significant events, the regular Sunday services have been a cornerstone of

communal worship. Each service, with their unique themes and messages, have provided an opportunity for soul-searching and growth, whether it was a solemn remembrance service, or funeral; or the joyous celebrations of Eucharist, Baptism and Weddings, the collective spirit of Hillside and Churches I have served in the Deanery was always evident. Others sermons have been a source of inspiration, encouraging us to live out our faith in practical ways and to be mindful of our responsibilities towards one another and the wider world.

The support of my church family has been a constant source of strength. Their unwavering faith, coupled with their genuine care and concern, has helped me navigate the complexities of curacy life. Whether it was a word of encouragement, a shared prayer, or a simple act of kindness, these gestures have been invaluable. They have reminded me of the importance of community and the impact that collective support can have on an individual's journey.

Looking ahead, I am filled with excitement and anticipation, to continue serving, embracing new challenges, and more opportunities for growth.

In particular, I am eager to deepen my understanding of pastoral care. The experiences of the past year have provided valuable insights, but there is still much to learn. By continuing to engage with the needs of our community and by seeking guidance from more experienced colleagues, I hope to enhance my ability to provide compassionate and effective support.

In conclusion, the past year has been a journey of growth and discovery. The opportunities to serve and the support of my church family have been instrumental in shaping my curacy experience. As we look to the future, I am excited to continue this journey, embracing new challenges and opportunities with faith and enthusiasm. Curacy life is busy, but it is a blessing to serve in such meaningful ways, and I am grateful for every moment.

Blessings
Reverend Amanda Boyd

Churchwarden report

Another busy year has passed at Hillside. Thank you to everyone who has served in our many and varied Church and Community activities and with the upkeep of our property. We thank God that Hillside is such a busy, evolving Christian community.

Regular maintenance has been carried out in all three buildings including the boilers, gutters and downpipes, light bulbs, emergency exit lights, fire extinguishers and leaf removal.



At All Saints, following the blockage of the kitchen drain, much somewhat smelly, drain clearing around the site was carried out with the help of good, old fashioned divining rods which enabled a plan to be drawn up of the drains around the site. Following the disposal of its contents a surprisingly emotional farewell was said to the Hillside trailer early one summer morning when it set off bound for Cedarwood Christian Festival. The Bee Garden has been kept in good shape, lawns kept neat and tidy and trees and hedges pruned back.



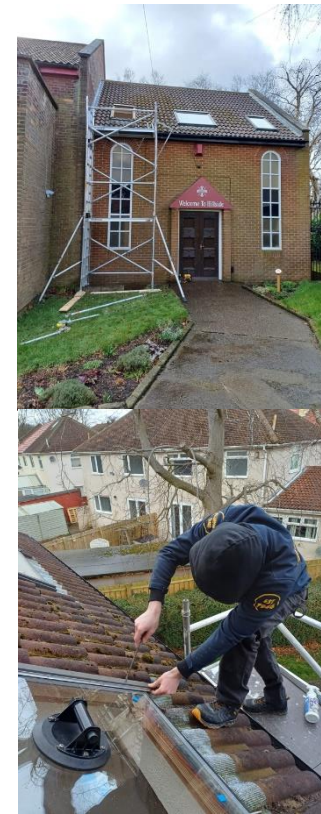
The addition of smart caps to the top of the gateposts and the repair of the main entry thresholds has improved the appearance as you enter Church. It has been a year of electrical lighting with replacement of interior bulbs, the spot fittings in the chancel and the security light at the main entrance. Inside, All Saints' appearance is enhanced with seasonal flower arrangements and meaningful decoration from our All Age Services and young people. It has been kept clean and tidy by volunteer s; more help is required with this so please shout out if you feel that God is prompting you to serve in this way.

In these tight financial times, it is a blessing that fundraising through grants has achieved the necessary finance to repair some windows. This being the misted velux panels in the north facing side of the extension and cracked leaded glass in the Bede room where internal polycarbonate sheets will also be installed. This will help to make heating the rooms more efficient. Efforts to raise grants to complete the high level brick and pointing repairs are ongoing.

Hub maintenance included to name but a few, re-felting a section of the roof to prevent water ingress, a fresh coat of paint for the main hall, fixing faulty door handles and making the toy store secure but accessible to those who need to access it with a key safe. The Hub boiler had to be replaced at the end of November, once again God was faithful. Moody's heating company were able to replace it within a week and the Church family responded generously to a call for financial giving.

At St Cuthbert's the new boilers have been more reliable and far less time consuming than the old ones and the new controls make it easier to change the settings. We have been thrilled to open the doors to a Group of Rainbows on a Wednesday evening. This necessitated added child safety requirements but these are also beneficial to the Toddler group and Messy Church. Permanent signs have been installed regarding the unstable gravestones which has saved having to replace the temporary ones which struggled to withstand the strength of Marley Hill winds! Those same winds damaged the roof and guttering last spring and that was eventually fixed under the insurance cover. There is still a leak at a gutter join which the contractor has failed to fix despite repeated requests. This will be attempted by us when there is a dry spell.

It has been an honour to share our buildings with various groups in the last 12 months and it is our prayer that God will enable us to welcome others in the coming year.



Abi Sanders and Gill Corner
Churchwardens

Deanery Report

Gateshead West Deanery

Our deanery has 10 parishes and stretches as far as Chopwell. One of its roles is to support parishes in vacancy. We still have Dunston, Whickham and Swalwell without vicars/rectors. So our clergy continue to help as needed. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to guide any new

appointments. This could be a great chance for new co-operation between our four parishes.

Children and youth work was the focus of a deanery away day in June. This event was also a chance for deanery reps to get to know each other better. Please pray for ways to work together in the deanery, especially in children and youth work. Nicola Rayson from Dunston finished her training and has been a great blessing with her involvement in our children and youth activities. She is also now involved for us at Lobley Hill Primary School.

After many years of service Susan Marshall has resigned as Lay Chair and is being succeeded by Paul Hobbs. He is an energetic man with a strong focus on mission, so please pray for him as he gets into the new role. Following a successful Deanery Lent Course, we have followed this up with "Faith Habits" for Lent 2025.

Our contribution to running the deanery for 2025 has been paid - the requested £50.

Catharine Howe (Deanery Synod rep)

Drop in for overseas friends

"I love coming to church". This was what one six year old Moslem child said to me at the drop in. Out of the mouths of babes... Of course he was right - he really was seeing the church in action.

We have been pleased to welcome a great many people from the Embassy Hotel to the Hub in the last year. Our facilities have given them space to relax, socialise, get help and support - very valuable when you are new, living and eating in one room, not sure what will happen next or what you should do. It has been a privilege to partner with City Church (who lead the City Refugee Welcome Project) and Hope Community Church. The drop in closed for a period last year due to low numbers in the hotel. But it was revived when numbers went up and continues to be important for people's mental and physical wellbeing. We will see how things go, as numbers of hotel residents have dipped again recently. Please keep praying for the drop in and for the "overseas friends" who have become part of our worshipping community. It is a privilege to have them among us.

Catharine Howe

Messy Church

Messy Church continues to run each month and numbers can fluctuate month on month. In addition to our regular type of activity (Messy crafts) we try to include a prayer focus activity which Dawn had developed previously and was well received.



Nicola Rayson ... children's ministry worker has become a very welcome addition to the leadership of this group and is very keen on hands on experiential learning planning 'wild and whacky,' fun activities ranging from a huge Wall of Jericho.....which was knocked down with great delight allowing the boxes to be reused.....to an even bigger Palm Tree the removal of which is still under head scratching consideration. It's amazing how many biblical teaching opportunities we have found for said tree! Sue Whitehead has also joined the team and her experiences as a teacher are very welcome. One of our regular mums, Vanessa led a session about DNA as we explored all being different yet all made in God's image. It was amazing to explore extracting DNA from strawberries and getting a better understanding of the science behind it. Katrina's "foody" craft continues to be very popular.....children love to eat! Bible account time led by Glen continue to be quite dramatic with the children adding their own brand of laughter and joy.

For the regular group who come along each month I think Messy is still an important part of worship at St Cuthbert's but would love to hear from anyone who has ideas of how to increase the size of the group, advertising other than Fb posting and mail chimp reminder or



even a change of time. Growth does not happen without change and we are open to all suggestions. Messy church takes time and regular commitment and I'm thankful to all those who help make Messy Church an exciting place to meet and minister to our young children.

SC Toddler Group



Summer and early Autumn 2024 Toddler Group at St Cuthbert's continued to be well attended. However November to December we saw a concerning fall in numbers. As I am in regular contact with several mums who had come for about eighteen months I was able to ascertain that some children had begun preschool/nursery groups taking advantage of government funded places or were attending a parenting course which coincided with our Toddler Group. After the turn of the year we are seeing numbers creeping up with a regular group of five between twelve to eighteen months old. These will be, I pray, our regular parents whose children will move off together to preschool / nursery having formed friendships through our toddler group. Some of these actually live in Marley Hill and one family came to the carol service and February Messy Church.

It was encouraging to see a lady who came with her first child return with her new baby....travelling from Dipton. I post group reminders on several local Fb community sites and have added a poster to the Sunnyside and Marley Hill Community board in the local Co-op, and Courtyard Café. Any ideas for getting the word out will be more than welcome!

Snack time is still the highlight of the session and the children are being encouraged to help tidy the toys away and help putting plates and cups out and their eagerness to be involved is heart-warming. We all enjoy birthdays with cards, cake and candles and a rather unmusical version of Happy Birthday. We have not introduced story time yet due to the age of the group but they all enjoy playing with our set of glove puppets.....Storytime with a puppet seems to be the way to go when the time is right! Personally I cannot wait as no matter I feel I never fail to be uplifted and encouraged as the children learn to play and get along together.....something we could all do with revisiting at times. Jesus called us to become like little children (Matthew 18: 3) and watching all the children involved in Hillside Church is a great blessing.

Lina Beck

Young Stars

(Formerly known as Sunday school!)



Our young members of the congregation have continued to meet for their own time together during our Sunday services. You may have noticed that we are now leaving slightly sooner than we previously did; this is for a number of reasons, which we'd be happy to explain if you want to ask us about it; we are enjoying our own active time of worship before we begin our usual structured session of Bible study and related activities.

Our numbers have fluctuated over the course of the last year as we have welcomed and then said 'goodbye' to new friends whom we've been delighted to have with us whilst they were residents of The Embassy hotel. With this in mind, hopefully by the time of reading, you will have noticed the Young Stars leaders (yes, it is a play on words from 'youngsters'!) wearing T-shirts in the Hillside blue with stick-figure children on the back. We are keen to ensure that all of our visitors, both children and their parents, are aware of who leads the children's work on a Sunday morning, we wanted to be easily identifiable and for that identification to not be reliant upon the ability to read spoken English. We hope that our shirts will help overcome any language barriers, as well as supporting our safeguarding practice and procedures.

We have welcomed Nicola onto our team during recent months, and this has enabled us to split into 2 age groups when we go over to The Hub, allowing us to plan activities which suit differing learning styles.

We look forward to Caitlin joining us on a more regular basis as she completes her Young Leaders training and goes through the safe recruitment process.

We continue to use the Scripture Union materials as the basis of our Bible study, supplemented by some additional seasonal material. We have graduated from the Splash books and have now moved onto using X-Stream and Grid as our main resources books. If you would like to know more about the Scripture Union resources have a look on their website, or chat to one of the team.

Finally, I said this last year, but would like to say again how much we value your prayers for wisdom as we teach and guide these young minds, and for the deepening of the children's faith and their relationship with Our Lord.

Louise, Lisa & Nicola

Hillside Youth

The Hillside Youth Group is still in full swing! The Youth Group is now meeting every second Friday night 19:00 – 20:30, and we have a steady stream of Young People in attendance. In December 2024 on the last meeting of 2024, we had a total of 16 young people in attendance! This was a real boost and highlighted the amazing work being carried out by the amazing team of Youth Leaders, which I am very grateful for, so thank you. We continue to see around 4-8 young people each Friday when we meet, and we hope this continues. The format is the same games, snacks, talks, more games, and at the start of 2025 we decided to use Youth Alpha material during our talks. This continues and has been very successful and wonderful to see the young people engage with it. We hope the youth group will continue to grow and develop over the coming year.

Matthew Brotherston



Another busy year for the Joshua Tree café which is now into its fourth year. One key change in the year was the integration of what was the separately run toddler group into what we call an unsupervised pre-school play area operating as part of the café and with child friendly food as part of the menu. This seems to have worked well.

We continue to have our regular customers who are attracted by the welcome, the hospitality and the friendly atmosphere and we also see new faces on a regular basis, and we continue to believe that what we do each Friday is an important part of 'being church'.

Joe Osman



To raise more awareness about this ministry, along with me, our befriender volunteers enjoyed sharing their experiences in Church recently. They talked about how they felt privileged to contact their befriender and also how in turn their 'Link Friends' appreciated the calls and felt valued with feeling lonely much of the time, sharing experiences

they could resonate with each other about. So thank you to Debbie, Susan, Pat and Christine for their input, which I received some good feedback on afterwards.

We currently have six people receiving phone calls. We have of course have had more in the past, some have ran their course naturally, and two having sadly passed away in the last year. We have received one referral in January, who originally contacted the Bereavement Group but couldn't attend with her being housebound.

Due to changes in their circumstances, two of our volunteers have had to drop out. Thanks go out to Debbie and Susan for taking on an extra Link Friend each, with their original one needing only monthly calls now. Christine also visits hers occasionally in Watergate Lodge as well as the weekly calls.

As with most activities, there is always room for additional volunteers so we can make more impact and reach out further into the community. Once the safe recruitment stage is over, a one off Twos Company training session (3 hours) and Diocesan Safeguarding course (2 hours if that) is required, both online (Support is available if you are worried about online stuff!) Afterwards all that is needed is a weekly/fortnightly phone call which is flexible to suit both parties, and letting me know if there are any concerns about your link friend. Please speak to Me Debbie or Susan Osman if you wish to learn more.

Linda Cranney
Two's Company Co-ordinator



"Thank you so much I feel better being able to talk about it and being part of a group of people going through what I thought was a period in my life that would not affect me so much but to see other people in the same situation talking and listening really helped me and hopefully it continues in the following meetings I cannot thank everyone enough and look forward to next week and will try to take another step by joining you all in the café Thank you so much Phil"

"I found yesterday so helpful. You are doing something very special. Thank you again. Margaret"

"..... the group helped me a huge amount and always enjoyed the company of such special lovely people and especially to yourself a very special lady love to all and best wishes for future days Deb"

The current weekly attendees on register in group is 18. Actual weekly attendance in group is between 12-15, held in the Bede Room. With myself leading, Sheila and Amanda as helpers. Sheila has initiated a registration form and keeps a weekly register.

- Past attenders 32 those who have attended and felt they could move forward after several sessions.

- Past phone support 3. One I still support.
- Total number 54 supported.

As people return to work following bereavement leave, they are unable to attend Friday morning groups. In response I began a Tuesday evening group 7-8 pm in the autumn of 2024 which was initially well supported, however as the weather worsened and nights grew dark, attendance dropped. Those grieving do not like leaving or returning to a dark empty home so I made the decision to suspend Tuesdays until Spring 2025. One I still currently support by phone until Tuesday resumes

The Friday group are really lovely and two ladies have become a great help serving the refreshments and washing up afterwards. One sourced a China pig for the fund we are supporting to buy "Pigs for Pastors". The members have been bringing in coffee and biscuits for refreshments. We put some in the kitchen for Sundays as we had too many! Myself Sheila and Amanda were given Christmas gifts from the group!

I changed the format in group: In Spring 2024 changing resource material from buying from "At a Loss" Holy Trinity Brompton to resourcing free resources currently from Our Daily Bread, I made a donation and request resources as and when needed. Allowing people to talk longer individually, this became more evident as a healing experience. Sharing how they had been the previous week, have they had any problems or triggers? How were they coping? Sharing and receiving information from other group members who have been through situations previously, has been so beneficial to others joining sessions. During gaps in chat, I read sourced information I have researched on grief and bereavement, including poems and verses, we end group session with prayer. The losses currently are suicides, car crashes, sudden deaths and long-term illnesses.

People have been referred from Whickham Health Centre, Q.E.Hospital Pastoral services, Gateshead Social Services, Creative Support Services. Multi media - Area Groups and Facebook advertising. A representative from the Coop Funeral Company is planning to come to the group to see how we operate.

Following the visit from Paul and Louise Vincent from St Mary's Chester le Street in January 2024, when they were planning a Bereavement Support Group. On the 13th of November, Sheila and I did a return visit to their group and were made very welcome in the beautiful venue, held in the Parish Centre, it's so big, airy and modern. They are following

the same format we use and have around 6 members and 4 helpers. Paul attended our Blue Service on 14th December as they thought it a good idea and will follow with one of their own in December 2025 in Chester le Street.

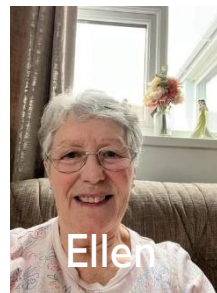
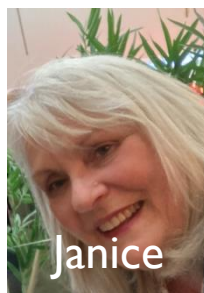
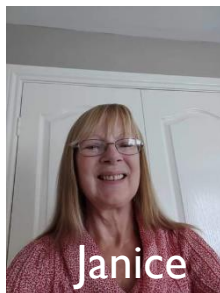
The Blue Service we held in the All Saints Lady Chapel on Saturday 14th of December was a great success and we received good reviews from all who attended. 15 attended and the

service was tenderly put together, with gentle carols music readings and script by Glen. Pat played piano. Maureen and Sue Whitehead served refreshments. Thanks to Gill and Alan for setting up the chapel. This service will definitely be held again in 2025. So nice for those wanting a quiet gentle Christmas service to remember people they have loved and lost.

Jacqui Thompson
Bereavement Group Facilitator

Pastoral Report

This is an informal arrangement and is supported by :-



Context

The purpose of the group is to ensure the pastoral oversight of the congregation. We continue to meet as a group approximately three times a year. It should complement home groups and other pastoral support mechanisms.

The Past Year

During the past year the pastoral group and other members of the congregation have continued to respond to a number of needs, providing comfort, spiritual and practical support. This is not a perfect system and to the best of our ability the team work to ensure that people are cared for at times of vulnerability. This often comes at cost to the team as people have busy lives and their own commitments and once again I would like to thank all involved.

Jesus cared for people he worked practically and in an unassuming manner. Always with compassion and respect for the person. The value base of the group is to do likewise. That

as the church grows we care for people with respect, compassion, sensitivity and confidentiality working within the appropriate policies. But ultimately in love - Love keeps no record of wrong, it is not self-seeking, it prefers one another...

I quoted this in last year's report and it continues to be relevant as we value and respect one another.

1 Samuel 26: verse 12

David finds King Saul sleeping but does not expose or touch him at a point of vulnerability. He exercises Godly wisdom ... may we ask God for such wisdom as we work alongside people.

Safeguarding

As with all aspects of church life we foster safeguarding culture and the group continue to liaise with Alan Corner (Safeguarding Lead). In accordance with Durham Diocese Safeguarding Policy all members of the team are trained to level C0. Gill Corner and Janice MacKnight are trained to C2 level. All members of the team have a current DBS.

Prayer Phone

This is for urgent prayer needs and is held by Maureen Shreeve who forwards prayer requests to a team of people who are committed to praying. This is well-used and Maureen is excellent at sharing requests with the team and reminding us to thank God for answered prayer. If you would like the number please speak with Maureen. Also when making a prayer request please make sure you have permission to do so.

Prayer Ministry

Myself and Dorothy are working together to ensure opportunities for prayer are available to the congregation. Two team members are available for prayer on a Sunday morning. They wear a blue lanyard so that they are easily identifiable. Dorothy will be exploring areas of development. Currently the team are Dorothy McKenzie, Ellen Miller, Janice MacKnight, Damian Parry, Lina Beck and Joe Osman.

Can I please ask you that if you feel someone needs pastoral care that you make a member of the team aware? We are human and work with imperfect processes, therefore if you have any suggestions for improvement please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the team.

Janice MacKnight and the Team

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those regular members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Hillside comprises two places of worship, All Saints, Lobley Hill and St Cuthbert's, Marley Hill.

Both are part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, All Saints, Rowanwood Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 0DP.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:	Incumbent:	The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)
	Curate:	The Reverend Dawn Hudson (resigned Dec 2024)
	Curate:	The Reverend Amanda Boyd
	Warden:	Gill Corner Abi Sanders
	Deanery Synod:	Catharine Howe
	Licensed Reader	Lina Beck
Elected Members:	PCC Secretary:	Gloria Anderson
		Matthew Brotherston
		Sarah Morden
		Anna Mace
		Janice MacKnight
		Rita Muse
		Ellen Miller (Elected member Jan to April 2024)
		Dorothy McKenzie (Elected member Jan to April 2024)
Co-opted Members:	PCC Treasurer:	Robert Brotherston
		Ellen Miller (from April 2024)
		Dorothy McKenzie (from April 2024)

The PCC met **10** times in 2024. Minutes are taken at all PCC meetings and approved copies are displayed on Church notice boards and made available on individual request.

Hillside Church Electoral Roll 2024

70 members on the Hillside Church Electoral roll

At the time of submitting this report a new Electoral Roll 2025 has been prepared which was completed 30 March 2025 – Total **66** members

Risk Review

The PCC continually reviews the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the

Churches and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its annual Parish Share.

The work of the Church is governed by safeguarding policies of the Church of England and in particular with due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity's financial year that we should have brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners.

Hillside Safeguarding Report

I am happy to report that there have been very few safeguarding issues to deal with, and those that have arisen have been dealt with and resolved.

Administratively this has been a very busy year, with the promise of another busy year ahead. The Church of England National Safeguarding Team has introduced a new set of 5 standards to cover:

1. **Culture, Leadership and Capacity:** Church bodies have safe and healthy cultures, effective leadership, resourcing and scrutiny arrangements necessary to deliver high-quality safeguarding practices and outcomes.
2. **Prevention:** Church bodies have in place a planned range of measures which together are effective in preventing abuse in their context.
3. **Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk:** Risk assessments, safety plans and associated processes are of a high quality and result in positive outcomes. The
4. assessment and management of risk is underpinned by effective partnership working.

5. **Victims and Survivors:** Victims and survivors experience the timeliness and quality of Church bodies' responses to disclosures, and their subsequent support, as positively meeting their needs, including their search for justice and helping their healing process.
6. **Learning, Supervision and Support:** All those engaged in safeguarding-related activity in Church bodies receive the type and level of learning, professional development, support and supervision necessary to respond to safeguarding situations, victims and survivors, and respondents, effectively.

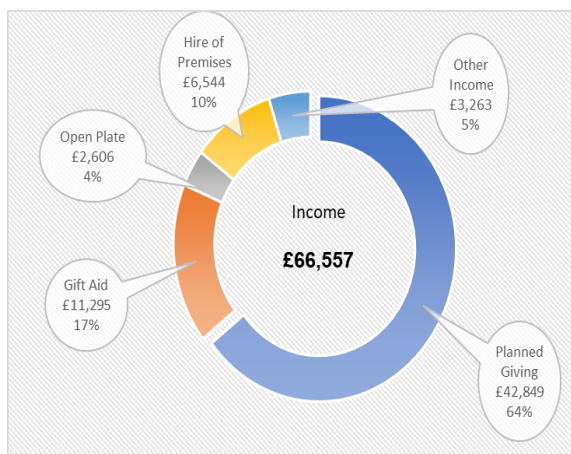
We are expected to ensure that we reach all these standards, and there is an 18 month programme of guidance to ensure that we do. Part of the aim of this process is to ensure that PCCs are aware that Safeguarding is their responsibility, with the help of the Parish Safeguarding Office and Incumbent, not the other way round. This will mean me preparing various documents for discussion and approval at PCC minutes, and maintaining updated records on the Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard and Hub.

During the course of the year I have attended the 4 Diocesan PSO gatherings, along with meetings, all of which help me to do all I can to keep everyone safe at Hillside. I am very grateful for the support I get from the congregation, the PCC, and from Gloria.

Alan Corner
Parish Safeguarding Officer

FINANCIAL REVIEW

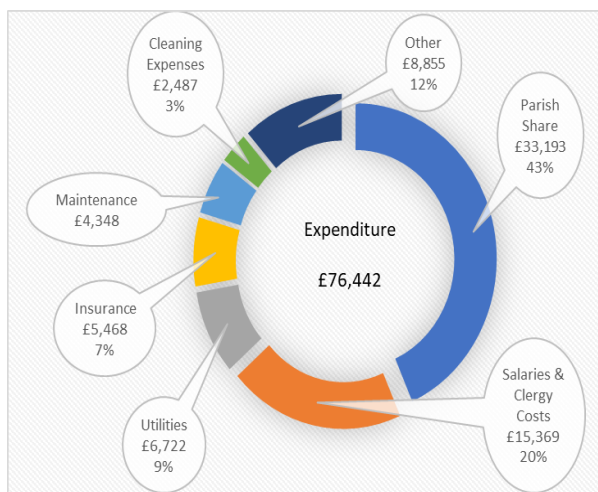
WHERE OUR INCOME COMES FROM-GENERAL FUND



We are reliant upon the generosity of our congregation to fund our activities. These donations and the resulting Gift Aid account for over 80% of our unrestricted income.

This income stream has remained fairly stable for a number of years despite inflationary pressures on our cost base.

WHERE WE SPEND OUR INCOME-GENERAL FUND



Our biggest expenditure is our Parish Share which is a contribution to Durham Diocese to fund, amongst others, stipends.

FINANCIAL performance

A challenging year which saw us run a £10k deficit on the general fund.

Income was £8k lower than last year due in principle to lower hire income from the church hall (£3k) and we did not benefit from any one-off donations (2023 £4.5K)

Every year we are guided by the Diocese as to what our Parish Share should be, and the PCC are asked to consider pledging to that amount. This year the PCC agreed to commit to the guided amount of £33,113. Our ability to keep pledging at guided amounts will be severely restricted at current income levels. The financial situation is closely monitored by the PCC.

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC recognises the need to hold reserves to ensure funding is available to provide continuing mission but also to ensure that the PCC can meet its legal commitments should the Charity be unable to continue due to a lack of sustainable income stream.

The PCC reviewed and reassessed the level of reserves during the year such that the level of reserves at December 2024 is deemed adequate to support current activities and cover known risks.

Rob Brotherston
Hillside Church Treasurer

Signed on behalf of the PCC



23 April 2025



Our Easter Journey





THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024


**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**
**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**
Section A
Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of** Hillside Church Gateshead

**On accounts for the year
ended** 31/12/24 **Charity no
(If any)** 1153663

Set out on pages (Number of pages to be placed within the report)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/24.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report** As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

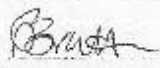
**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:  **Date:** 20/03/25

Name: Denise Bratton

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):** CIMA ID 3372C9

Address: 4 Ryall Crescent
Medburn
Northumberland NE20 0BX

Section B
Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Hillside Church - 1153663

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	59,081	13,062	(1,779)	70,363	100,485
Income from charitable activities	931	—	—	931	1,165
Other trading activities	6,544	10,691	—	17,235	21,924
Total income	66,556	23,753	(1,779)	88,530	123,574
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	73,951	12,172	—	86,124	80,328
Other expenditure	2,450	2,200	—	4,650	53,162
Total expenditure	76,401	14,372	—	90,774	133,491
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	15	(15)	—	—
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(9,845)	9,397	(1,795)	(2,243)	(9,916)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	2,381	—	—	2,381	10,173
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,550)	(831)	—	(2,381)	(10,173)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Net movement in funds	(9,014)	8,565	(1,795)	(2,243)	(9,916)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	25,170	11,078	31,614	67,863	77,779
Total funds carried forward	16,156	19,644	29,818	65,619	67,863
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	7,692	—	—	7,692	15,402
Designated					
All Saints Toddler Group	—	—	—	—	1,329
Community Fund	31	—	—	31	—
Renes' Fund	4,365	—	—	4,365	4,748
ST Cuthberts Toddler Group	2,553	—	—	2,553	2,176
St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund	1,513	—	—	1,513	1,513
Restricted					
All Saints Gas Boiler Replacement	—	2,243	—	2,243	3,898
All Saints Hall Gas Boiler	—	1,311	—	1,311	—
Chapel Carpet	—	100	—	100	100
Community Hub	—	500	—	500	—
Joshua Tree	—	6,966	—	6,966	7,056
Overseas Friends	—	711	—	711	—
Rita's Fund	—	66	—	66	24
ST Cuthberts Boiler Fund	—	6,557	—	6,557	—
Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	1,039	—	1,039	—
Sunday School	—	149	—	149	—
Endowment					
Trust Fund - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	29,818	29,818	31,614

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Hillside Church - 1153663

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	12,605	4,033
<i>Total Fixed Assets</i>		<u>12,605</u>	<u>4,033</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	5	11,753	11,554
Investments		30,608	31,614
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>16,498</u>	<u>23,014</u>
		<u>58,859</u>	<u>66,181</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	5,844	2,351
Net current assets less current liabilities		<u>53,015</u>	<u>63,830</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>65,620</u>	<u>67,863</u>
Total net assets less liabilities		<u>65,620</u>	<u>67,863</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted Funds		16,156	25,170
Restricted Funds		19,645	11,079
Endowment Funds		29,819	31,614
Funds of the church		<u>65,620</u>	<u>67,863</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

Basis of Accounting

Trustees' duties are set out in the Charities Act 2011 and Charity Trustee Act 1993. These Acts impose a duty on the trustees to direct the affairs of the charity, ensure that it is solvent, ensure that proper accurate accounting records are kept, and that statements of account which adhere to the charity law and accounting regulations are prepared in respect of each financial year.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the applicable SORP (FRS102). Under the provisions of FRS102, the PCC is not classified as a larger charity and therefore is not required to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Funds:

Unrestricted funds represent those funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are those which have been nominally allocated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but which can be applied to other general purposes if required and are therefore also classified as unrestricted.

Restricted funds are funds given to the PCC to be spent for a specific purpose.

Endowment Funds relate entirely to a charitable trust whose objective is the provision of clergy residential accommodation.

INCOME

Voluntary Income and collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Tax recoverable is recognised in the same year in which the donations are made. Any recoverable tax not received is shown as a debtor in the balance sheet.

Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Funds raised by church events are accounted for when received and are shown gross.

Rental income from the letting of PCC premises is recognised when the rental is due.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share that is unpaid at 31 December would be provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and would be shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements in accordance with s.10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful economic life of each asset.

CURRENT ASSETS

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December 2024 in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provisions for amounts that are considered uncollectable.

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

CURRENT LIABILITIES

All known liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law up to 31 December 2024 are included in these financial statements.

Note 2 - Analysis of Income

	Total				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Donations					
Parish Giving Scheme	11,035	-		11,035	11,816
Planned Giving	29,084	-		29,084	26,981
Covenant Envelopes	1,715	-		1,715	2,024
Uncovenanted Envelopes	1,015	-		1,015	1,105
Open Plate	2,606	-		2,606	3,157
Gift Aid	11,295	106		11,401	10,748
Grant Income	-	7,901		7,901	34,000
Misc Income	1,435	2,071		3,506	7,365
Total	58,184	10,079	-	68,263	97,196
Income from Charitable Activities					
PCC Fees	931	-		931	1,165
Total	931	-	-	931	1,165
Other Trading Activities					
Toddler Groups	897	-		897	1,903
Traidcraft	-	-		-	-
Hire of Premises	6,544	-		6,544	9,335
Joshua Tree Community Café	-	10,692		10,692	12,590
Interest Received		2,983	(1,780)	1,204	1,387
Total	7,441	13,675	(1,780)	19,337	25,214
INCOME TOTAL	66,556	23,754	(1,780)	88,531	123,575

Note 3 – Analysis of Expenditure

	Total			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year Last year
Expenditure on Charitable Activities				
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	33,193	-		33,193 30,000
Salaries, wages and honoraria	14,169	-		14,169 12,892
Clergy and staff expenses	1,201	-		1,201 887
Church Event Costs (inc Toddler Groups)	563	-		563 1,993
Cleaners Wages & Cleaning Expenses	2,487	54		2,541 2,118
Joshua Tree Community Café	-	5,249		5,249 6,683
Maintenance	4,348	4,359		8,707 55,577
Telephony	589	-		589 628
Administration	1,929	-		1,929 1,458
Depreciation	491	2,287		2,778 2,038
Insurance	5,468	-		5,468 5,114
Church Service Costs	1,614	120		1,734 1,812
Gas	3,171	-		3,171 2,791
Electricity	2,999	-		2,999 3,959
Water	552	-		552 511
Governance	43	-		43 154
Miscellaneous	1,884	2,303		4,187 4,106
Total	74,702	14,372	-	89,074 132,721
Other Expenditure				
Charitable Donations	1,700	-		1,700 771
Total	1,700	-	-	1,700 771
Total Expenditure	76,402	14,372	0	90,774 133,492

Note 4 – Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment & Software	Plant & Machinery (3yrs)	Plant & Machinery (5yrs)	TOTAL
Cost				
At 1st Jan 2024	5,455	3,179	10,189	18,823
Additions			11,350	11,350
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2024	5,455	3,179	21,539	30,173
Depreciation				
At 1st Jan 2024	5,455	3,179	6,155	14,789
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation			2,778	2,778
At 31st December 2024	5,455	3,179	8,933	17,567
Net Book Value				
At 1st Jan 2024	-	-	4,033	4,033
At 31st December 2024	-	-	12,605	12,605

Note 5 – Debtors

	This year	Last year
Gift Aid Recoverable	6,822	6,407
Prepayments	4,931	5,147
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	30,608	31,614
Accounts Receivable	0	0
	42,361	43,168

Note 6 – Creditors

	This year	Last year
Accruals	1,174	1,659
HMRC	117	95
NEST Pension Costs	-	-
Agency Collections	525	15
Accounts Payable	4,028	582
	5,844	2,351

Note 7 – Personnel Costs

	This year	Last year
Salaries and other emoluments	13,937	12,698
Employers National Insurance	-	-
NEST Pension Costs	231	194
	14,168	12,892

Number of employees in post 31 December.	1	1
Average number of employees over the year.	1.00	1.00

There were no employees who met the definition of "key management personnel" during the year. [0]
 No salary or employee benefits have been paid to Trustees in respect of their membership of the PCC. [0]
 Incumbent clergy salaries are paid directly by the Durham Diocese and not by the PCC.

Accounts



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

ANNUAL REPORT

INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

The Parochial Church Council of Hillside (PCC) presents its annual report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared based on the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

AIM AND PURPOSES

Hillside PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Glen MacKnight, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at Hillside. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

When planning activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Offering people, the opportunity to gather for worship, prayer and teaching at a range of services and meetings throughout the week;
- providing pastoral care in a variety of ways e.g. visiting the sick, supporting those with special needs, providing help and advice at times of birth, marriage, and bereavement;
- offering programmes of teaching to young people in conjunction with relevant events and activities;
- promoting and supporting partnerships with churches, organisations and people involved in the faith, love and hope of Christ in action at home and abroad;
- providing facilities for the use of voluntary organisations within the locality;
- active participation in local events and voluntary work within our community.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Dear Hillside

I've occasionally said that as a Church we are "punching above our weight". What do I mean by this? The Cambridge Dictionary states that punching above your weight means we "...become involved in, or succeed in, an activity that needs more power, money, etc. than [we] seem to have." In other words it's called having a disproportionate impact. As I look over the report's contributions and think on those things that are not recorded, I'm very grateful. It becomes clear that Hillside Church is demonstrating a heart for others and a love for God as we 'Get Involved Together'.

Partnership in Missional Church (PMC) helped us to take a look at ourselves, our communities and our calling; to step out in faith to discover what God is up to and how we can be part of it. In essence to become a missional church, not just for a season but working with the Holy Spirit to keep us alert to opportunities to tell others about God's saving grace, through Jesus his son.



Serving Hot Chocolate on the "Streets"

If you were to close your eyes and think back across the year at Hillside, what would be a highlight? You can name it here.....

How about if I asked you for an area of improvement, would it need a longer line for you fill in?

And if you think about award ceremonies such as the Oscars or The Booker Prize, who would stand out for you, whom could you make blush with embarrassment? The reality is it's not about the individual but rather as a Church, we want to work and engage with others.

The Wednesday drop-in is a great example of working with other churches to realise a place of welcome for refugees. Then there is our outside cooperation with Linking Lives to host the telephone service that is Two's Company. The Bereavement Group, giving a listening ear for as long as is needed, as well as helping another church to establish its own group.

The Joshua Tree Cafe is respected as a Warm Space with a clear sense of welcome and good food. This creates a synergy with the Toddler Group that leads to a raising of the profile of Hillside Church in the community. This is borne out in being named by a local Councillor in their promotional material and awarding us £500 for further development.



Then there is Messy Church and St Cuthbert's Toddler group (see all the high chairs in a row). What comes of these contacts? A growing reputation of welcome and hospitality - in the name of Jesus. We do not hide our light. We give space to allow others to flourish such as hosting the Messianic Community for their conference and who can forget 'Wor Nativity' which saw All Saints filled on two successive nights with parents watching their kids, laugh and dance.

There is Sunday School where Lisa and Louise have worked diligently to support our youngsters.



The Youth Group with a determination to invest in young lives. Caitlin has just completed her Growing Young Leaders course, through the diocese, where Matthew is one of leadership team.

When Caitlin was baptised along with Mehrsam and his parents, one of the things she said was that she had attended a Messy Church. Will you just hold that thought for a moment and what it means.

What we are doing is working out our call to worship God and make God known through his Son. This all takes effort – up a ladder, down a ladder, changing batteries in a microphone, opening your home to Home Group, writing Risk Assessment, applying for grants, keeping accounts and good stewardship, cutting grass, weeding, filling a padding pool, playing an instrument and singing. This gives a complex picture of a small organisation housed in three buildings, where due diligence to their maintenance is given. Are you able to offer your time and skills and money (with inflation accounted for) to promote your church in its role.



The letter to the Hebrews it says ‘...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...’ Heb 12: 1-3

This might sound a little ‘like running up that hill’, all that thought of endurance can be off putting. How about if we invert the passage to read ‘Jesus is the originator of your faith, he brings it to perfection, the flag has dropped – now run with endurance.

In Jesus we run faith filled and with endurance but only so far as our communion with Christ allows. This is why talking with God is so important, and why we meet together for prayer that we might race, endure and lift up those who are tired.

The report is a testament to Hillside’s desire and commitment to making God known. We have shortfalls in a number of areas and no shortage of ideas but we want to run as God leads.

I’ve recently had barista training in the JTC overseen by Christine and Maureen. All was well until I forgot to sprinkle Kevin’s Cappuccino with chocolate powder. I hung my head in shame remembering, that you can’t please all the people all the time.

Letting God lead the church means fully surrendering control to him, seeking his will through scripture and prayer, and being obedient to his guidance, even when it differs from human expectations. This requires humility, patience and trust that God’s leadership will result in the best outcomes for the church.

God Bless Glen

Good Friday Walk of Witness — Stations of the Cross, St Cuthbert’s Marley Hill to All Saints Lobley Hill



Curate Report

My curacy here at Hillside has been a wonderful time of learning many different skills; preparing and leading worship services, preparing sermons, preparing and delivering our Holy Communion services, and most recently our Lent and Easter services.

I have gained a lot of experience and have made a few mistakes along the way, but these have been part of my formation. I have been very fortunate to have Glen as my training incumbent to guide and nurture me through my curacy, to reflect on my experiences, and to give me insight and encouragement on how, when things don't go quite right, not to be fearful about doing things differently. Glen gives me lots of encouragement too when things go well, reminding me that God has called me and will equip me, which helps raise my confidence in my ability of my calling. I am blessed to have the support of my home church during this period of growth surrounded by the love of my church family which is also a great source of encouragement.



There have been many, many highlights throughout my curacy, not only here in Hillside but being of service within the deanery at other churches with baptisms, funerals, weddings and Holy Communion services.

Watergate Court is one positive and special highlight. Being able to continue to serve and nurture the growing worshipping community there with the monthly Holy Communion service. Sadly we lost Meda recently she was a lovely woman of God and one of our founding worshippers. I have the humbling privilege of visiting her husband Bill in his new home to read the bible to him and sharing Holy Communion.

Curacy life has been wonderfully busy, but it has been spiritually fulfilling, great, and a blessing in many ways.

Blessings
Reverend Amanda Boyd

Churchwarden report

Firstly, this year, Gill would like to express thanks to God for prompting Abi to serve Hillside as a Churchwarden and Abi for answering that call. It is such a blessing to have a second Churchwarden. Hillside has the capacity for four Churchwardens so if you feel the call don't keep it to yourself! Please discuss it with Glen, Abi or Gill.

A big THANK YOU goes to everyone who has offered to serve our Hillside and wider community in numerous different ways over the last year. You are making a difference in reflecting God's love and sharing His message. There are too many of you to mention here but please consider yourself thanked whatever your role has been, either with the buildings, within the buildings, the grounds, admin or people.

Believe it or not we have continued to dispose of unwanted or broken items, rehoming them where possible. There is more to do, so if you feel strongly about saving items from landfill your help would be greatly appreciated.

For our buildings the required electrical, gas and fire extinguisher checks have been carried out. All Saints Church building had a thorough Fire Safety Audit in May 2023 and was broadly compliant. Further recommendations were given and have been actioned where the PCC felt necessary. The Hillside Health and Safety policy has been reviewed to ensure that, as far as is reasonably practical, our activities are carried out safely. Risk Assessments are necessary for the use of all Church Buildings and all Church Activities to minimise the risk of undesirable or harmful incidents occurring. Activity leaders produce these, they are shared with participants leading the activity, the Churchwardens, reviewed at least annually and then stored by Hillside Office.

In support of the Church of England's move to become carbon Net Zero by 2030 changes are being made in our buildings and environmental impact is considered when items are replaced.



At **All Saints** the Phase One high level repairs were completed by STS at the end of July 2023, as determined by the level of funding that we could attract and Church family's generous giving.

The Trusts that supported us were the National Churches Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Joicey Trust, Sir John Priestman Charitable Trust, Northumbria Historic Churches Trust and the Durham Diocese Buildings Panel. It is reassuring to know that we have kept water ingress at bay around part of the Church building. We are now looking at meeting the rest of the Quinquennial Report's recommendations for mid-level

repairs and commencing the process again for Phase Two.

To name but a few of improvements at All Saints, the band room is being transformed into a comfortable and accessible meeting room, a new hot water boiler has been purchased for the kitchen and trees have been pruned that had reached the extension roof and windows.

Hillside Community Hub has continued to be well used by the Community, although the start of 2024 has seen a drop off in the number of regular bookings. It is certainly still well used on a Friday by the Joshua Tree Cafe and Toddler group and it is still popular for party bookings at the weekend. In April 2023 changes were made to the kitchen to make it more suitable for use by JTC and an additional dishwasher was installed. Some maintenance to the roof has come to light with a water leak and this is being worked on. The work on the rotting rear decking commenced and it is the intention of the PCC to accelerate this removal in 2024.



St Cuthbert's Church once again suffered minor roof damage in the spring storms, this is being dealt with and the insurers are meeting the cost after the excess. The old heating boilers have been replaced by Plumbwise with two reliable boilers and the effect can be positively felt particularly in the kitchen area. Praise God some more as we have



been able to meet the total cost through funding from the Northumbria Historic Churches Trust, Durham Diocese Buildings Panel and the Sir John Priestman Charitable Trust.

We now have a plan of the Garden of Remembrance Memorial Plaques on record. Several bushes, which were against the Diocese rules, were removed from the Garden and gardening equipment has been purchased. Although we are not fully compliant with the Diocese rules this area is starting to become easier to maintain and is looking tidier.

With everything required these days there is a raft of background administration that it is our duty of care to implement and that maintains a healthy, fruitful and fully functioning church. Thank you to Gloria who is forever busy with this and to all of you for graciously accepting whatever is asked of you when you are taking on a volunteering role.

Abi Sanders and Gill Corner
Churchwardens

Deanery Report **Gateshead West Deanery**

Our deanery has 10 parishes and stretches as far as Chopwell. One of its roles is to support parishes in vacancy. We now have Dunston, Whickham and Swalwell without vicars/rectors. This will mean our clergy helping at times in the coming months. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to guide the new appointments. This could be a great chance for new co-operation between our four parishes.

Nicola from Dunston is training in work with children – part of a new scheme in the CofE. She is already involved with our Messy Church. Please pray for her as she develops her skills and experience.

Children and youth work is to be the focus of a deanery away day in June. This event is also a chance for deanery reps to get to know each other better.

The deanery gave £100 for Bishop Paul's retirement gift, in recognition for all he did, including his 2015 prayer walk in our deanery. This had a transformational effect on deanery relationships.

After three years with no contributions the deanery needed to replenish its funds – we paid the requested £80.

Catharine Howe (Deanery Synod rep)

Drop in for overseas friends

We have been pleased to welcome a great many people from the Embassy Hotel to the Hub in the last year. Our facilities have given them space to relax, socialise, get help and support - very valuable when you are new, living and eating in one room, not sure what will happen next or what you should do. It has been a privilege to partner with City Church (who lead the refugee welcome project) and Hope Community Church. Since Christmas the situation has changed completely at the hotel, with fewer people living there and only for a short time. So the last drop-in was held at half term. The refugee welcome project continues in a lower key way, with an advice session once a week in Teams. Please pray for wisdom about if/how the project should support people now living in houses and flats.

Catharine Howe

Messy Church



Messy Church continues to run each month but numbers have dropped from an average of 16 children / 20 adults to 10 – 12 children and 10 adults, not including helpers. In addition to our regular type of activity (Messy crafts) Dawn has developed working with clay further and we try to have a prayer focus each time....again run by Dawn. Katrina's "foody" craft continues to be very popular.....children love to eat! Bible account time led by Glen has taken on a more dramatic role with the children eager to take part.



For the regular group who come along each month I think Messy is still an important part of worship at St Cuthbert's but would love to hear from anyone who has ideas of how to increase the size of the group, advertising other than Fb posting and mail chimp reminder or even a change of time. Growth does not happen without change and we are open to all suggestions. Messy church takes time and regular commitment and I'm thankful to all those who help make Messy Church an exciting place to meet and minister to our young children.

Lina Beck

Toddler Group at Hillside St Cuthberts Marley Hill



The Toddler Group at St Cuthbert's continues to be well attended. We have a group of regular parents / carer who attend with between 8-10 children plus babies. Given the space available this is a good number. It is encouraging to

note that as our rising 3 year olds begin to take up nursery places most avoid accepting Wednesday morning so they can still attend our small friendly group.

Some of our Toddler families have explored the possibility Messy Church sessions and two of our regular Messy family made their via Toddlers to Messy and are now 6 and 8 years old.

Toddler group is like an extended family and each visitor is welcomed and included by the adults.....Dawn and I simply facilitate and build relationships with the adults. Prayer requests have been made and great encouragement felt when feedback tells of the success of these prayers. When we introduced the prayer box Say One for Me some of the children 'scribbled' their prayers and we were able to chat with them introducing them to the idea of saying thank you at the limited level of a 2 year old. Never too young to develop the prayer habit.

Snack time is still the highlight of the session and the children now help putting plates and cups out pushed to the kitchen in the shopping trolley. Setting the table is still a struggle but their eagerness to be involved is heart-warming. We all enjoy birthdays with cars, cake and candles which one of the mum's organises. We have introduced safety cups with lids for tea and coffee so adults can drink in the main area rather than taking turns as others watch over their children.

Lina Beck

Toddler Group at Hillside All Saints Lobley Hill



Hillside All Saint's toddler group, runs alongside our Joshua Tree Café in the Hub, is singing and tumbling its way into our 8th year of fun packed Fridays. The Toddler group session is on a Friday morning from 10am to 11.30am and toys are left out in the afternoon as an extension to the Joshua Tree Cafe. There are over 20 children, who attend on a morning with a variety of family members, who also enjoy refreshments from the Café. We offer a good variety of toys, soft play, crafts and both children and adults enjoy joining in with Ellen's song time and Allen, who is one of the children's grandparents, plays the guitar for an extra treat. Sessions remain at £1.50 per session, drinks and snacks are included which the children look forward to, plus

treats on special occasions. We are open every Friday during term time and we are excited to see through another fun packed year.

Lisa and Susan

Sunday School



Sunday school has continued to meet over the last year during the service each week, with the exception of All Age Sunday, when the children participate in the morning worship along with the adult members of the congregation. In Louise's absence Lisa has led the sessions, supported by Angela and Eileen, however we were glad to welcome her back into the team towards the end of last year.

We continue to use the Scripture Union materials as the basis of our Bible study, using a selection of activities from the Splash and X-stream books as our young people grow in their understanding, and

in their reading abilities. We are still a small group, but it has been good to have some older young people regularly attending Sunday services at Hillside, which is an encouragement for the faith of our children. We value your prayers for wisdom as we teach and guide these young minds, and for the deepening of the children's faith and their relationship with Our Lord.

Louise & Lisa

Hillside Youth



The Hillside Youth Group is still running, however over the last year there has been several changes to the format. The Hillside Youth Leaders got together to discuss the format of the youth, including what was working, and what was not. As a result, the decision was made to stop the Youth Group meeting every Friday night in the Hub and move to meeting the first Sunday of every month. We also moved location to the Marley Hill Community Centre so we would be running at the same time as Messy Church and just across the road. This was done with the hopes offering an alternative to Messy Church for older individuals. This was run from March 2023 to December

2023. The leaders then got back together to review how this went, and the decision was made to move back to the Hillside Hub, still running once a month. So, we are still going with the usual games, snacks, and learning. There are also changes being made to how we are advertising the Youth Group along with other ministries within the Church, which is slowly moving forward in the background.

Matty Brotherston



The Joshua Tree Café continues to serve our community and beyond alongside the toddler group every Friday. Over the last year we have got steadily busier and we're grateful for our small team of dedicated volunteers and without them we would be unable to function. We have our regular customers who are attracted by the welcome, the hospitality and the friendly atmosphere and we also see new faces on a regular basis. We continue to believe that what we do each Friday is an important part of 'being church'. It is rewarding but tiring so over the last year we have introduced more time off, broadly in line with school holidays to give ourselves a bit more rest!

Joe Osman

For those who may not know much about this outreach, the Two's Company Befriending Project is run by a National Charity 'Linking Lives' whom Hillside Church were partnered with three years ago. It can take the form of telephone befriending or Face to Face visiting aiming at tackling loneliness for older, isolated or lonely people. Just a weekly phone call or visit can make such a difference to someone who has little contact with the outside world. To know that someone is spending time listening to them and taking an interest can make them feel uplifted and valued.



We currently have seven people receiving phone calls from our six volunteers, four belonging to Hillside (Me, Pat, Susan and Debbie) and two recruited outside (Christine and Alex). There have been two more folk referred recently who gave me the impression they didn't need regular calls as their circumstances had changed, which I felt was fair enough. However I had a couple of good conversations with them! I also have one referral on hold and have received another one this week. Our 'Link Friends' are from all over Gateshead, most having been referred through GP Linkworkers. One lovely lady who receives calls has just moved from Bensham into Watergate Court last month and I have since sent some befriending leaflets there, to reach out further into our own community. I am pleased to say that three of our befrienders are now taking steps to do face to face visiting and we are currently upgrading their training. For anyone who may be interested in becoming a volunteer, it is a worthwhile activity to do and is quite flexible with a trial period, and only request a minimum of six months contact. If you would like to know more about this ministry, please ask me, Pat, Debbie or Susan.

Linda Cranney
Two's Company Co-ordinator



There have been 25 people popping in and out of the group in the past year, some people have attended one or two sessions, others have continued for all six sessions before leaving and 4 or 5 have continued to attend weekly. The group has evolved during this time into a social group, covering lots of topics of interest following their bereavement.

We have had visitors from St Mary's & St Cuthbert's Church, Chester le Street, Paul and Louise Vincent who came on the 26th of January this year to observe at 4 of our sessions as they are planning to set up a Bereavement Group in the Parish Centre, in Chester le Street.

See below encouraging feedback from Paul and Louise Vincent:

Dear Jacqui,

Thank you so much for having Paul and I at the bereavement group yesterday. I hope it wasn't intrusive in any way. You did a great job leading. We very much appreciated being part of it and learnt a lot to help us in the process of setting up a group at our church. Thank you for agreeing to Paul coming again

next week. It was good to see how much the members of your group are getting out of attending. Your loving care is making a significant difference to their wellbeing healing and wholeness. You're doing a great job Jacqui.

Thanks again, Louise & Paul

Originally we held the group in the Lady Chapel at All Saints, but we now meet in a room next to the vestry, which is warm and private, feedback from people attending group is positive. Newly painted with blinds and a carpet have made the space more inviting, thanks to those involved for making this happen.

I continue to advertise the group on social media. Leaflet drop at Doctor Surgeries, libraries, and shops. Word of mouth to anyone who has lost a loved one.

As far as I am aware this is the only Bereavement Support in our area. The Group which was meeting at St Nicholas Church Dunston which ran for 13 years has now closed.

Jacqui Thompson
Bereavement Group Facilitator

Pastoral Report

This is an informal arrangement and is supported by :-



Context

The original purpose of the group was to ensure the pastoral oversight of the congregation, during a period of change with home groups. We continue to meet as a group approximately three times a year. The pastoral group will remain in place as we commence home groups.

The Past Year

During the past year the pastoral group and other members of the congregation have continued to respond to a number of needs, providing comfort, spiritual and practical support. Just to reiterate last year's report this is not a perfect system and to the best of our ability the team work to ensure that people are cared for at times of vulnerability. This often comes at cost to the team as people have busy lives and their own commitments and once again I would like to thank all involved.

Writing this I am reminded that when Jesus cared for people he worked practically and in an unassuming manner. Always with compassion and respect for the person. The value base of the group is to do likewise. That as the church grows we care for people with respect, compassion, sensitivity and confidentiality working within the appropriate policies. But ultimately in love - Love keeps no record of wrong, it is not self-seeking, it prefers one another...

In 1 Samuel 26 verse 12 David finds King Saul sleeping but does not expose or touch him at a point of vulnerability. He exercises Godly wisdom ... may we ask God for such wisdom as we work alongside people.

Safeguarding

There continues to be a close link between the group and Alan Corner (Safeguarding Lead). In accordance with Durham Diocese Safeguarding Policy all members of the team are trained to level C0. Gill Corner and Janice MacKnight are trained to C2 level. All members of the team have a current DBS.

Prayer Phone

This is for urgent prayer needs and is held by Maureen Shreeve who forwards prayer requests to a team of people who are committed to praying. This is well-used and Maureen is excellent at sharing requests with the team and reminding us to thank God for answered prayer. If you would like the number please speak with Maureen. Also when making a prayer request please make sure you have permission to do so.

Prayer Ministry

Rev Dawn Hudson along with Sue Osman have reinstated the prayer ministry on a Sunday morning. Two team members are available for prayer on a Sunday morning. They wear a blue lanyard so that they are easily identifiable. Dawn has ensured the team are trained and continues to address any issues raised. The team are Dawn, Su, Dorothy McKenzie, Ellen Miller, Janice MacKnight and Damian Parry.

Finally, I am reminded of the privilege of caring for the body of Christ. We are human and work with imperfect processes, therefore if you have any suggestions for improvement please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the team.

Janice MacKnight and the Team

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those regular members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Hillside comprises two places of worship, All Saints, Lobley Hill and St Cuthbert's, Marley Hill.

Both are part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, All Saints, Rowanwood Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 0DP.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:	Incumbent:	The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)
	Curate:	The Reverend Dawn Hudson
	Curate:	The Reverend Amanda Boyd
	Warden:	Gill Corner
		Abi Sanders (Churchwarden from Nov 2023)
	Deanery Synod:	Catharine Howe
	Licensed Reader	Lina Beck
Elected Members:	PCC Secretary:	Gloria Anderson
		Matthew Brotherston
		Sarah Morden
		Abi Sanders (Elected member Jan to Oct 2023)
		Anna Mace

Janice MacKnight
Rita Muse
Ellen Miller
Dorothy McKenzie
Christine Cowans (term ended 22 April 2023)
Robert Brotherston

Co-opted Members: PCC Treasurer:

The PCC met **9** times in 2023. Minutes are taken at all PCC meetings and approved copies are displayed on Church notice boards and made available on individual request.

Revision of Hillside Church Electoral Roll

At the time of submitting this report there are **70** members on the Hillside Church Electoral roll includes **30** members who reside outside the parish boundary.

Risk Review

The PCC continually reviews the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the

Churches and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its annual Parish Share.

The work of the Church is governed by safeguarding policies of the Church of England and in particular with due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity's financial year that we should have brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners.

Hillside Safeguarding Report

I am happy to report that there have been very few safeguarding issues to deal with, and those that have arisen have been dealt with and resolved.

The Diocese has introduced another administration tool to help us keep everything up to date and in good order; this one is called the Safeguarding Hub. The setting up of this tool involved a lot of administration work by me and Gloria, but it now means that we have access to all records and information in one place. The tool sends us automatic renewal reminders when things like DBS checks, Safeguarding Training, Risk Assessments etc need renewing. All volunteer details, role descriptions and person specifications have been entered, along with DBS and training dates, but with **49** people having volunteer roles, and **27** different volunteer roles to manage, the tool is extremely helpful. These numbers highlight what a busy church we are, and how blessed we are to have such a high proportion of the congregation willing and able to be actively involved in our work, and we should all be truly thankful for that.

In November we held our first 'Safeguarding Sunday' service, which I hope served as a reminder to the congregation that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; we all have a role to play in looking after each other. As well as the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, the Diocese has now put in place a Diocesan Safeguarding Support Officer, who is a great help. Her role is to support the admin side of things, as opposed to advising on actual safeguarding issues. Amongst other things, she has organised quarterly meetings for PSOs across the diocese, which gives us a chance to 'compare notes' and problems.

Alan Corner
Parish Safeguarding Officer

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Activity on the General Fund has remained stable and consistent year on year and has performed within the overall PCC objective of at least break-even. The fund still benefits from enhanced gas contracts that have another 2 years to run.

RETURN OF PARISH FINANCE	Unrestricted Funds		Last Year
Tax Efficient Planned Giving	32,440		32,724
Other Planned Giving	9,534		9,408
Collections at Services	3,109		1,974
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	5,777		2,423
Gift Aid	10,748		10,577
Grants	0		2,921
Fundraising	202		154
Statutory Fees Retained	1,165		904
Gross Income from Trading	9,335		9,591
Total Incoming Resources	72,310		70,675
Mission Giving & Donations	771		720
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	30,000		30,000
Administration and Office Expenses	14,353		13,832
Clergy & Staff Expenses	887		603
Mission & Evangelism Expenses	318		132
Service Expenses	1,442		1,071
Maintenance	1,175		4,254
Cleaning Expenses	547		1,470
Insurance	5,114		4,465
Depreciation	0		155
Telephony	628		1,142
Utility Costs	7,261		6,038
General Expenses	2,480		871
Costs of Trading	1,754		614
Governance Costs	154		132
Resources Used	66,884		65,500
Net Income / (Expenditure)	5,426		5,175

Special mention must be given to Gill and Ellen who throughout the year have diligently counted, analysed and banked over £20k of cash.

This stability gave the PCC confidence to commit reserves to help tackle some of the long overdue building repairs as highlighted by successive quinquennial reports.

Accordingly, Phase I of the High Level Maintenance at All Saints commenced on Monday 3rd July and was completed by Friday 28th July. Overall cost was £51k and was funded by way of £35k in grants, £10k transfer from reserves and £5k special donations from the congregation.

Huge thanks to Gill and Alan Corner for their sterling work in securing these grants.

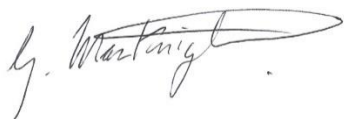
Rob Brotherston

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC recognises the need to hold reserves to ensure funding is available to provide continuing mission but also to ensure that the PCC can meet its legal commitments should the Charity be unable to continue due to a lack of sustainable income stream.

The PCC reviewed and reassessed the level of reserves during the year such that the level of reserves at December 2023 is deemed adequate to support current activities and cover known risks.

Signed on behalf of the PCC



Rev Glen MacKnight

19 April 2024



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hillside Church Gateshead

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hillside Church Gateshead (the Trust) for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

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

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

Signed:



Name: Denise Bratton (CIMA ID-3372C9)

Address:

4 Ryall Crescent
Medburn Park
Medburn
Northumberland
NE20 0BX

Date: 07/04/2024

Hillside Church - 1153663
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	61,810	1,902	35,385	1,387	100,485	70,915
Income from charitable activities	1,165	—	—	—	1,165	904
Other trading activities	9,335	—	12,589	—	21,924	20,266
Total income	72,310	1,902	47,975	1,387	123,574	92,086
Expenditure on:						
Expenditure on charitable activities	66,112	1,373	12,842	—	80,328	77,133
Other expenditure	770	—	52,392	—	53,162	3,120
Total expenditure	66,883	1,373	65,234	—	133,491	80,253
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—	29,834
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	5,426	529	(17,259)	1,387	(9,916)	41,667
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	10,173	—	10,173	892
Gross transfers between funds - out	(10,173)	—	—	—	(10,173)	(892)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	(4,746)	529	(7,085)	1,387	(9,916)	41,667
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	20,149	9,239	18,164	30,227	77,779	36,112
Total funds carried forward	15,402	9,768	11,078	31,614	67,863	77,779
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	15,402	—	—	—	15,402	20,149
Designated						
All Saints Toddler Group	—	1,329	—	—	1,329	830
Renes' Fund	—	4,748	—	—	4,748	5,451
ST Cuthberts Toddler Group	—	2,176	—	—	2,176	1,443
St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund	—	1,513	—	—	1,513	1,513
Restricted						
All Saints Gas Boiler Replacement	—	—	3,898	—	3,898	5,552
Buildings Maintenance Fund	—	—	—	—	—	4,108
Chapel Carpet	—	—	100	—	100	—
Cinnamon Network Micro-Grant	—	—	—	—	—	2,000
Joshua Tree	—	—	7,056	—	7,056	6,349
Rita's Fund	—	—	24	—	24	100
Warm Spaces	—	—	—	—	—	53
Endowment						
Trust Fund - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	—	31,614	31,614	30,227

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Hillside Church - 1153663

Balance sheet (Separate funds)

As at: 31 December 2023

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2023 £	At 31/12/2022 £
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	0	861	3,171	—	4,033	6,071
Fixed assets	0	861	3,171	—	4,033	6,071
Current assets						
Debtors	11,553	—	—	—	11,553	11,019
Investments	—	—	—	31,614	31,614	30,227
Cash at bank and in hand	6,184	8,906	7,922	—	23,013	33,421
Current assets	17,738	8,906	7,922	31,614	66,181	74,667
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,336	—	15	—	2,351	2,959
Net current assets less current liabilities	15,402	8,906	7,907	31,614	63,829	71,708
Total assets less current liabilities	15,402	9,768	11,078	31,614	67,863	77,779
Total net assets less liabilities	15,402	9,768	11,078	31,614	67,863	77,779
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
Unrestricted - General fund	15,402	—	—	—	15,402	20,149
Designated						
Designated - All Saints Toddler Group	—	1,329	—	—	1,329	830
Designated - Renes' Fund	—	4,748	—	—	4,748	5,451
Designated - St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund	—	1,513	—	—	1,513	1,513
Designated - ST Cuthberts Toddler Group	—	2,176	—	—	2,176	1,443
Restricted						
Restricted - Rita's Fund	—	—	24	—	24	100
Restricted - Warm Spaces	—	—	—	—	—	53
Restricted - Buildings Maintenance Fund	—	—	—	—	—	4,108
Restricted - All Saints Gas Boiler Replacement	—	—	3,898	—	3,898	5,552
Restricted - Joshua Tree	—	—	7,056	—	7,056	6,349
Restricted - Chapel Carpet	—	—	100	—	100	—
Restricted - Cinnamon Network Micro-Grant	—	—	—	—	—	2,000
Endowment						
Endowment - Trust Fund - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	—	31,614	31,614	30,227
Funds of the church	15,402	9,768	11,078	31,614	67,863	77,779

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

Basis of Accounting

Trustees' duties are set out in the Charities Act 2011 and Charity Trustee Act 1993. These Acts impose a duty on the trustees to direct the affairs of the charity, ensure that it is solvent, ensure that proper accurate accounting records are kept, and that statements of account which adhere to the charity law and accounting regulations are prepared in respect of each financial year.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the applicable SORP (FRS102). Under the provisions of FRS102, the PCC is not classified as a larger charity and therefore is not required to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Funds:

Unrestricted funds represent those funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are those which have been nominally allocated for a particular purpose by the PCC but which can be applied to other general purposes if required and are therefore also classified as unrestricted.

Restricted funds are funds given to the PCC to be spent for a specific purpose.

Endowment Funds relate entirely to a charitable trust whose objective is the provision of clergy residential accommodation.

INCOME

Voluntary Income and collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Tax recoverable is recognised in the same year in which the donations are made. Any recoverable tax not received is shown as a debtor in the balance sheet.

Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Funds raised by church events are accounted for when received and are shown gross.

Rental income from the letting of PCC premises is recognised when the rental is due.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share that is unpaid at 31 December would be provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and would be shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements in accordance with s.10 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful economic life of each asset.

CURRENT ASSETS

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December 2023 in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provisions for amounts that are considered uncollectable.

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

CURRENT LIABILITIES

All known liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law up to 31 December 2023 are included in these financial statements.

Note 2 - Analysis of Income

				Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Donations					
Parish Giving Scheme	11,816	-		11,816	11,903
Planned Giving	26,981	-		26,981	27,711
Covenant Envelopes	2,024	-		2,024	1,526
Uncovenanted Envelopes	1,105	-		1,105	992
Open Plate	3,157	-		3,157	1,974
Gift Aid	10,748	-		10,748	11,290
Grant Income	-	34,000		34,000	7,036
Misc Income	5,980	1,386		7,365	6,357
Total	61,810	35,386	-	97,196	68,788
Income from Charitable Activities					
PCC Fees	1,165	-		1,165	904
Total	1,165	-	-	1,165	904
Other Trading Activities					
Toddler Groups	1,903	-		1,903	1,735
Traidcraft	-	-		-	-
Hire of Premises	9,335	-		9,335	9,555
Joshua Tree Community Café	-	12,590		12,590	10,712
Interest Received			1,387	1,387	392
Total	11,238	12,590	1,387	25,214	22,394
INCOME TOTAL	74,213	47,975	1,387	123,575	92,086

Note 3 – Analysis of Expenditure

				Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	30,000	-		30,000	30,000
Salaries, wages and honoraria	12,892	-		12,892	12,413
Clergy and staff expenses	887	-		887	925
Church Event Costs (inc Toddler Groups)	989	1,004		1,993	1,032
Cleaners Wages & Cleaning Expenses	2,118	-		2,118	1,470
Joshua Tree Community Café	-	6,683		6,683	4,504
Maintenance	2,478	53,099		55,577	8,928
Telephony	628	-		628	1,142
Administration	1,458	-		1,458	1,700
Depreciation	383	1,655		2,038	2,435
Insurance	5,114	-		5,114	4,465
Church Service Costs	1,702	110		1,812	1,071
Gas	2,791	-		2,791	3,127
Electricity	3,959	-		3,959	2,592
Water	511	-		511	319
Governance	154	-		154	132
Miscellaneous	1,423	2,683		4,106	3,280
Total	67,486	65,234	-	132,721	79,534
Other Expenditure					
Charitable Donations	771	-		771	720
Total	771	-	-	771	720
Total Expenditure	68,257	65,234	0	133,492	80,254

Note 4 – Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment & Software	Plant & Machinery (3yrs)	Plant & Machinery (5yrs)	TOTAL
Cost				
At 1st Jan 2023	5,455	3,179	10,189	18,823
Additions				-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2023	5,455	3,179	10,189	18,823
Depreciation				
At 1st Jan 2022	5,455	3,179	4,118	12,752
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation			2,038	2,038
At 31st December 2023	5,455	3,179	6,155	14,789
Net Book Value				
At 1st Jan 2023	-	-	6,071	6,071
At 31st December 2023	-	-	4,033	4,033

Note 5 – Debtors

	This year	Last year
Gift Aid Recoverable	6,407	6,433
Prepayments	5,147	4,587
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	31,614	30,227
Accounts Receivable	0	0
	43,168	41,246

Note 6 – Creditors

	This year	Last year
Accruals	1,659	1,144
HMRC	95	27
NEST Pension Costs	-	-
Agency Collections	15	389
Accounts Payable	582	1,399
	2,351	2,959

Note 7 – Personnel Costs

	This year	Last year
Salaries and other emoluments	12,892	12,233
Employers National Insurance	-	-
NEST Pension Costs	194	180
	13,086	12,413

Number of employees in post 31 December.	1	1
Average number of employees over the year.	1.00	1.00

There were no employees who met the definition of "key management personnel" during the year. [0]

No salary or employee benefits have been paid to Trustees in respect of their membership of the PCC. [0]

Incumbent clergy salaries are paid directly by the Durham Diocese and not by the PCC.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

England & Wales - Charity number 1153663

Accounts



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH
COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF HILLSIDE**

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

ANNUAL REPORT
INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022

The Parochial Church Council of Hillside (PCC) presents its annual report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The financial statements have been prepared based on the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

AIM AND PURPOSES

Hillside PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Glen MacKnight, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at Hillside. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

When planning activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Offering people, the opportunity to gather for worship, prayer and teaching at a range of services and meetings throughout the week;
- providing pastoral care in a variety of ways e.g. visiting the sick, supporting those with special needs, providing help and advice at times of birth, marriage, and bereavement;
- offering programmes of teaching to young people in conjunction with relevant events and activities;
- promoting and supporting partnerships with churches, organisations and people involved in the faith, love and hope of Christ in action at home and abroad;
- providing facilities for the use of voluntary organisations within the locality;
- active participation in local events and voluntary work within our community.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Vicar's report

The TV programme The Repair Shop features a place where people take an old item, which has lain broken and hidden away for many years, to then be miraculously restored to how they remembered it as a child. We see an outflow of emotion from the person to whom the item is returned, grateful for the restoration and giving thanks to the skilled people, in woodwork, leather, upholstery and all manner of ancient arts brought to bear in bringing this artefact back to life. There are real tears of joy as well as what we might call lament, in remembering a loved one and their connection to the item.

Tears and joy are to be found throughout the Bible as it doesn't hold back on all we experience as human beings. In Psalm 126 we get a flavour of these emotions; joy, laughter, tears and weeping. This Psalm would be sung by the people on their way up to the Temple in Jerusalem. A Song of Ascents, as it's known, it recalls the great work of God but also how there is still work to be done.

Using the practice of Dwelling in the Word, allow yourself the freedom to enter the Psalm, join the people as they make their way to the Temple. Listen to voices singing, perhaps an instrument is playing. Feel the warmth of the sun as you try to shake the stone out of your sandal. Above all hear the words being recited or sung.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Restore our fortunes, Lord, like streams in the Negev. Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

Notice if you will, "Then it was said among the nations..." Now, I don't pretend that Hillside is internationally renowned (at least not yet?) however we do have a couple of things to mention here:-

- One is Hillside featuring as a case study on the Church of England website (attached to this report).
- The other is the involvement of Christine with Songs of Praise. Interviewed by Rev Kate Bottley, regarding Sister Winifred of The Vine Street Mission, in this the twenty fifth anniversary of the Angel of North.



More importantly we are making connections again in the local community, increasing our visibility, such as with the children performance at Christmas, of the Grinch lead by Karen. The Joshua Tree Cafe and both our Toddler Groups. Also the welcoming of our 'friends from overseas' where we work alongside City Church and Hope Community Church to provide a welcome space. Our report gives a breadth of the things we are doing as a result

of the hard work and perseverance of many of us in all manner of ways, seeking to serve from cleaning toilets, keeping us safe, stewarding money and being willing to lead in other ways such as the valuable work of the PCC. These things are cause for celebration "The Lord has done great things for them."

Crucial to all this has been the PMC (Partnership in Missional Church). The willingness of people to Get Involved Together, has reawakened a sense of mission in the life of Hillside Church. A willingness to try things out and risk failure so it seems appropriate that the project I was leading on CAP (Christians Against Poverty) is the one that didn't materialise. The license to experiment is now being carried over to Hillside Youth with a new venue and meeting time, which Matthew is leading on, and aligns with the Diocesan priority of 'Engaging with Children and Youth'.



We were blessed with Rory and Izzi and gave them a good send off. We now have two Curates in Amanda and Dawn along with the fresh possibilities this brings. Indeed we have garnered a reputation as a Church willing to participate in training future clergy through placements at Hillside. In return we enjoy their time with us in all that they bring, such as with Ben Lacey a Cranmer Student. This could only happen with a church that shares hospitality and desire

to see each and everyone flourish.



“Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.” We have tears as we remember Pat Webster and John Gray two dear people who knew their God and we miss them. They are examples of sowing into people’s lives the love God, holding out the word of life and with John that meant standing outside Kular’s with invitations and New Testaments. With God’s grace may we reap their sowing with songs of joy.

As the people made the ascent to Jerusalem singing and reciting this psalm I’m conscious that celebration is only possible after hard work, think of a mother with her new-born or a cup winner after training for an event. We as a church are willing to work hard and we can celebrate all that’s happened over the past year but I would remind you and speak to my own heart as well. That all we are about must stand in faith on the Rock of Christ Jesus and be undergirded in prayer. Perhaps a visit to God’s repair shop for restoration and renewal is in order to reignite faith and trust and dust off those gifts for, which there is still a space as evidenced in a recent prophetic word to us;

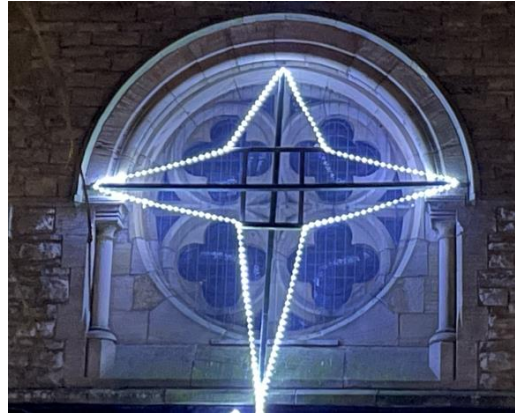
‘I have set a table before Hillside Church, draw nearer and feast with me your food is the Bible, my living Word.’



As we move forward, talking with God, may we give God a reason to continue to bless us as we bring our sacrifice of praise.

**Yours in Christ
Glen**

Churchwarden report



Recently when talking to someone who works at other churches around the country I realised how God has blessed Hillside as I told them that we haven't just recovered to our pre-Covid levels of activity and community involvement but that I think this has grown. Ask Gloria how busy the Hillside Office is!



First of all I would personally like to say a **BIG THANK** you. Over the last 12 months it has been really uplifting to see more people involved in general maintenance jobs, being prepared to help when asked and offering to serve our Hillside and wider community in numerous different ways.

What has happened? Let's get the disposals out of the way first! Hillside has continued to find alternative homes for things we no longer use, this takes more time than putting everything in a skip but we are definitely less cluttered than we were. Perhaps the most emotional wrench was the slimming down of the puppet equipment but thanks to Ellen, Sue O and the internet this was achieved yet we still have many puppets, CDs and a simple puppet theatre.

At All Saints we had our five yearly architect's inspection (Quinquennial Report) and it didn't throw up any nasty surprises other than the ones we knew about! Thanks to your generosity and success in attracting funding we are in a position to start the high level maintenance work this summer. The extension toilet facilities have been improved, the windows were replaced, Hillside Church office has an independent and stable internet connection, Easyfundraising and Rita's fund continue to bring in revenue quietly in the background. Sunday School has returned to being 'in person', we have a new refreshments team providing us with teas and coffees on a Sunday morning and once a month we now have our less formal All Age Sunday worship service.

The Hillside Community Hub is wearing its name comfortably being used for various community events in addition to our Youth group, the thriving Toddlers sessions and the Joshua Tree Café which now overflows into more of the rooms. With increased use comes the responsibility of increasing maintenance and cleaning. The PCC made the decision to appoint a cleaning agency to enable the JTC team to focus their energy on sharing God's love with the café customers. The Embassy Hotel Fun days for families in summer led to the Hub facilities being used weekly by a drop-in group run by City Church giving the refugee families a safe and welcoming space.



St Cuthbert's Church didn't exactly weather the storms last spring! There was storm damage to the roof but God blessed us because it didn't lead to water ingress because of the construction style of the roof and the repairs were carried out promptly. The heating system is still limping along and we have been told of the procedure we need to follow to replace it. As the churchyard is a 'closed churchyard' it is the responsibility of Gateshead Council. They have completed the boundary wall maintenance to a high standard and are addressing the unstable gravestones following a Safety Inspection.



With everything these days there is a raft of background administration that it is our duty of care to implement and there are good reasons for the procedures that are in place. Thank you to Gloria who is forever busy with this and to all of you for graciously accepting whatever is asked of you when you are taking on a volunteering role.

Gill Corner
Churchwarden



Two's Company Telephone Befriending and home visiting project is run by the National Christian Charity Linking Lives UK which was set up to tackle loneliness in the UK. In 2021 Hillside signed up to Linking Lives and became part of the Telephone Befriending outreach. They offer me plenty of support with their bi-monthly co-ordinators get-togethers and monthly prayer meetings on Zoom, send out regular emails and documents and I can contact them for advice and support. They also supply recordings of meetings if I cannot attend, online training and courses, including the 'Good Conversations' training.

We currently have seven people receiving regular telephone calls from our five volunteers, with another match having ended recently. By July 2022 I eventually had enough referrals to match them to all our volunteers. Three more referrals were received of which one started but shortly afterwards the Link Friend ending up in a care home, the second was no longer interested so I didn't match up, and another I had to signpost elsewhere. Most of our referrals have come from Community Linkworkers attached to GPs, and three via the Linking Lives Website, one of which was from the Salvation Army.

I have recently took on a Link Friend myself with fortnightly calls, and have just received a referral through our Bereavement group who will be linked up shortly with one of our volunteers who wishes to take on an extra person!

From keeping contact with both volunteers and 'link friends' I can report that the calls are going well and are much appreciated.

During Autumn 2022 I have had to hold back on seeking extra referrals due a shortage of volunteers. Two of our original ones have had to step down but one more has been recruited. As with all activities, you can never have too many volunteers and if you feel drawn to this ministry, or simply wish to know more, then please get in touch with Gloria or me.

Linda Cranney
Two's Company Co-ordinator

Deanery Report

Gateshead West Deanery, 2022-2023

Deanery synod meets three times a year to discuss deanery wide concerns, learn from each other and occasionally promote joint activities. It is part of the governance structure of the Church of England. The joint activities brought together our young people. There was a pizza and praise evening at Swalwell and a youth event at All Saints with food and crafts. A bigger "Unite" event in the summer did not happen due to the date being unsuitable/cancellations. We hope some youth activities will continue in 2023.

It is encouraging to learn how our local churches have been getting involved in Warm Spaces, assisting refugees, re-establishing links with schools post pandemic and building other links into their communities.

Catharine Howe (Deanery Synod rep)

Messy Church



Messy Church continues to run each month and is usually very well attended averaging 16 children and about 20 adults not including helpers. In addition to our regular type of activity (Messy crafts) Dawn has introduced working with clay which is proving to be a favourite activity only superseded by Katrina's " foody" craft. Children love to eat! Rory is a big miss as he engaged well with the boys and supported Janice with the large box junk modelling tasks. Our repertoire of songs is slowly building and the children are growing in their bible story knowledge and questions are continue to be skilfully answered by Glen.

Following COVID we began providing our food in pre packed form and have kept to this with the exception of re adding sandwiches. There is very little waste as what is not used can be recycled to Toddler Group the following Wednesday.



Specific services that coincide with Messy Sunday such as Remembrance Sunday, Harvest, Christingle well attended. This Easter we have purchased olive wood holding crosses for the children highlighting the meaning of Easter as opposed to the chocolate egg focus.....but the children will still have a sweet treat courtesy of the “foodie” activity.

Many thanks to all those who help make Messy Church an exciting place to meet and minister to our young children.

Lina Beck

Toddler Group at Hillside St Cuthberts Marley Hill

The Toddler Group at St Cuthbert’s continues to be well attended. We have a group of regular parents / carer who attend with about 12 to 14 children. Given the space available this is a good number as on the occasions when we have had up to 20 it becomes crowded for crawling babies.

Some of our Toddler families have explored the possibility of having their children baptised into Hillside family and two have gone forward with this. Others join us for Messy Church sessions.

The group is very welcoming and friendly and it has been good to see friendship and support grow between our young mothers. We have “hosted” several birthdays with the children as cake, bubbles and singing help the children celebrate. After Toddlers some go together to the Winnies Garden for their children to continue playing and cement friendships. Several have also begun to attend the Toddler Group on Friday at Joshua Tree Café.

Running the Toddler Group is one of the many blessings God has bestowed on me and I thank Him for the opportunity.

Lina Beck

Toddler Group at Hillside All Saints Lobley Hill



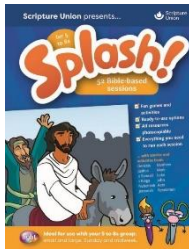
All Saint's toddler group is singing and dancing with delight as we tumble into the beginning of our 7th year full of fun packed Friday morning and afternoon sessions.

Morning sessions from 10 to 11.30 are our busiest time of day with over 20 children along with parents, carers, grandparents, great grandparents and childminders enjoying a variety of toys, soft play, crafts, music, singing and dancing.

The afternoon sessions from 1 till 2.30 are a bit more unpredictable and usually not as busy. As we run alongside the Joshua tree cafe, we are lucky to be able to continue to offer these sessions at a charge of £1.50. This covers the cost of a variety of fruit, snacks and drinks that the children look forward to. We are open every Friday term time and look forward to another busy, fun packed year ahead. Lisa and Susan

Lisa and Susan

Sunday School



Firstly I'd like to thank Glen and the PCC for letting Angela and myself continue the Sunday School, while Louise is recovering. We've been back in church since week after Easter. We have moved from the hub to the old crèche room upstairs and following Splash for children. The kids love doing wordsearchs, reading bible verses, building walls, jigsaws, Simon says and crafts. The group is starting to grow, which is really good as they are making new friends.

Lisa Shotton

Hillside Youth



The Hillside Youth Group has continued to meet every Friday night for the usual games, snacks, and learning. Over recent years many of the young people have either left the Youth Group due to turning 18 and moving up into Higher Education (University), or other commitments such as school sport teams, and apprenticeships. As a result the number of youth has slowly been decreasing. The decision has now been made to stop the Friday night Youth Group sessions, however this is NOT the end of the Hillside Youth Group. The Youth Group Leaders are currently working on setting up a new model for the Hillside Youth with the hopes to bring new young people into the Hillside Church Youth, with a brand new time and location! Watch out for the posters and social media announcements for this!

Matty Brotherston

WARM SPACES

Together with churches, local communities and sports clubs, the Council has supported over 100 Warm Spaces throughout the borough during the Cost of Living Crisis. Warm Spaces are a place where people can enjoy a cup of tea, some refreshments and some company. They will, importantly, receive a warm welcome.

In Lobley Hill, as local councillors, we supported an application to become a Warm Space from All Saints Church which has a pay as you can afford community café – The Joshua Tree. The café has been established for 16 months now and is becoming very popular. It is staffed by volunteers and is open on Fridays 10 am until 3pm.

Councillor Eileen McMaster said: "The welcome at the Joshua Tree café is amazing and the homemade cakes and scones are delicious. I would recommend a visit."



Cllr Eileen McMaster with Christine Cowans, a volunteer at the Joshua Tree Cafe in Lobley Hill

Hillside Singled Out in National Study

CASE STUDY CREATING A WARM REFUGE FOR THE COMMUNITY		
N.B. This case study considers only one possible approach, which will not be suitable for every church. Always seek professional advice.		
Key Points - Lobley Hill All Saints (Hillside) Church, Gateshead adapted their Joshua Tree café into a warm space that could serve their community, receiving support from the local council. - They were able to utilise existing volunteer teams and set up to provide food, spiritual and emotional comfort to people who needed the shelter. - Through this small change, and advertising through the local council, the number of people using the café and interacting with the church has increased.		
		
1 The 'warm space' is hosted by the Joshua Tree café, located in the church hall.	2 The set-up for the Joshua Tree Café's toddler morning as part of the 'warm space'.	3 The church itself has been able to develop as a result of the scheme.
The context Leading into the winter of 2022 as a result of high energy prices and particularly cold weather forecasts, a number of local authorities and community organisations began to explore the idea of offering 'warm spaces' for those without access to heating, or the financial capacity to afford it. Hillside Church responded to the call from Gateshead Council to offer their already running Joshua Tree Café, which runs in the church hall, as one such location throughout the difficult winter period. For more information, visit the church's website or its entry on the Church Heritage Record.		
Background of the Cafe - Prior to the need to offer it as a warm space, the Joshua Tree cafe at Hillside Church had run for the previous 18 months offering food, drinks and space to the local community alongside a toddler group weekly on Friday mornings. - The café is run by a fixed team of volunteers who committed to running the café every week, including some members who are not part of the congregation but want to serve their community. - The building used for the café still uses a gas boiler, however, it has been equipped in recent years with a timing system and now a smart (mobile phone controlled) heating system that maximises the efficiency of the system and keeps wasted energy to a minimum.		

How did the church provide a place of refuge from the cold?

The 'hub' building in which the Joshua Tree Café is located was opened throughout the winter from 10am for as long as people needed (or wanted) to stay, usually closing at approximately 3pm. During that time a toddler session is run specifically for parents with young children alongside the other café activities.

Food and drink is provided by the team as well as offering conversation and companionship. Magazines, books, games, ipads and other hobby materials were provided to be available for anyone who needed them. This allowed those who used the Café to be able to mingle and talk with volunteers and other people or to spend time on themselves. This approach made the space both welcoming and inclusive to all members of the community including those with additional needs.

The beginning of the warm space programme was widely advertised within the community, Hillside Church being one of many offering the service. As well as the dissemination through local news of information on the opening times, details of the café were shared on the council website and social media.

How is the church helping its community to become more resilient in the future?

Throughout the winter at the Joshua Tree Café, Hillside church provided a space that anyone could use, but with a particular focus on targeting different groups from their community who may have been particularly at risk from extreme cold weather:

- Families with young children through an extension of the toddler group into the wider café.
- Refugees who were reached through existing outreach programmes.
- Older community members who may be more isolated through the churches existing networks.

Their participation in the warm spaces programme, and the advertising of that space by the local council, significantly increased the reach of, and attendance at, not only the Joshua Tree Café but other activities and services provided by and in the church. The Joshua Tree Café is now regularly attended by approximately 50 people weekly.

How was the transition to a warm space financially supported?

Hillside Church received initial grant funding from Gateshead Council of £500 for their participation in the wider warm spaces programme, which was used to make the host building of Joshua Tree café more energy efficient, through transitioning to LED lighting. In the long term this will save the church money and lower its carbon footprint. They also have access to another £500 grant from the council, for which plans remain undecided.

Additionally money for food, drink and other items has been provided variously through donations of both the items themselves and in a monetary form. The additional opening hours of the café represented a relatively small additional cost for heating.

What could others learn from this case study?

1. Churches might like to be aware of potential climate risks to their local community across all seasons of the year and the potential role their church building(s) could play in alleviating those risks.
2. Be proactive in responding to calls and grant funding that may be available from local authorities or other community groups to fund projects and aid other climate mitigation work.
3. Think about using the church building as a space of refuge from cold temperatures particularly at times when they are already going to be in use.

"We're providing spaces with respect, dignity and warmth... those are values we want our church to be known for"

Clergy, Hillside Church

Joshua Tree Café

It's almost unbelievable that the Joshua Tree Café has been open for more than 18 months! In that time it has established itself as a place of hospitality, welcome and safety for a whole cross section of folk, whether church family or the wider community. The synergy with the toddler group works well and both activities have flourished.

It's hard to gauge the level of busyness in the café but one measure is the amount of donations received which has shown that the first quarter of this year has yielded consistently the highest levels. Consequently we have been able to invest in some improvements in the kitchen layout and an additional dishwasher and hopefully this will improve the way we operate.



A big thanks to all of the hard working volunteers who make this happen and we would always welcome additional help

Joe

Bereavement Support Group



The group began early September 2022. With myself Jacqui Thompson as Facilitator, Rev Amanda Boyd and Marian Ruddy as listener supporters. The groups aim is to bring together bereaved people, an important factor in healing from bereavement is having the support of other bereaved people. Sharing experiences and talking about feelings help guide us into a place of hope and recovery,

The group session on Friday mornings, is usually an hour and a half long. We begin with refreshments. I ask how everyone's week has gone whether there has been any challenging or upsetting times in their week they would like to talk about. We mostly all share, however no one is under obligation to do so. We loosely follow the six-week course from The Bereavement Journey booklet - A place to talk. There is no time restriction on grief, therefore no time limit on how long people may attend the group. To date there has been twelve people visit the group. Some are now regulars, others pop in now and then due to bad weather or health reasons. One lady did not feel the group situation was helping, I meet up with her for a coffee and a chat once every two or three weeks on Thursdays at The Gibside Hotel

Whickham. Another bereaved lady has joined and she is on fire for God. What an asset she is in the group. We do say though that the group is for those with a faith or no faith. Referrals have come from Whickham Doctors Surgery, several found us by searching the internet under Bereavement Support. Leaflet drop referrals. Church family recommending people. Usually at the end and we all go into the Joshua Tree Cafe for lunch.

Jacqui Thompson
Bereavement Group Facilitator

Pastoral Report

This is an **informal arrangement** and is supported by :-

Gill Brotherston, Deborah Caisley, Gill Corner, Janice Garfoot, Pat Gray, Janice MacKnight, Ellen Miller, Sue Osman, Damian Parry, Maureen Shreeve, Jacqui Thompson,

Context

The original purpose of the group was to ensure the pastoral oversight of the congregation, during a period of change with the life groups/home groups. We continue to meet as a group approximately every three months.

The past year

Writing this report I was reminded of a quote by Mahatma Ghandi

"The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members."

Its fair to say that during the last year a number of the congregation have met some significant emotional and health challenges. During that time the pastoral group and other members of the congregation have responded to a number of needs, providing comfort, spiritual and practical support. While it is not a perfect system to the best of our ability the team have worked to ensure that people are cared for and loved at times of vulnerability. This often comes at cost as people have busy lives and their own families commitments and I would like to thank all involved. Once again I am reminded of the privilege of caring for the body of Christ. But we are human and work with imperfect process, therefore if you have any suggestions for improvement please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the team.

Safeguarding

There continues to be a close link between the group and Alan Corner (Safeguarding Lead). In accordance with Durham Diocese Safeguarding Policy all members of the team are trained to level C0. Gill Corner and Janice MacKnight are trained to C2 level. All members of the team have a current DBS.

Prayer Phone

This is for the urgent prayer needs and is held by Maureen Shreeve, who forwards prayer requests to a team of people who are committed to praying. This is a well-used and Maureen is excellent sharing them with the team and reminding us of answered prayer.

Prayer Ministry

Pre-Covid prayer support was offered often in the chapel for those who wanted to avail themselves. He hope is to reinstate this over the coming weeks. Sue Osman and Rev Dawn Hudson are seeking to take this forward.

Janice MacKnight and the Team

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those regular members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Hillside comprises two places of worship, All Saints, Lobley Hill and St Cuthbert's, Marley Hill.

Both are part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, All Saints, Rowanwood Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 0DP.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:	Incumbent:	The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)
	Curate:	The Reverend Rory Balfour (Left Dec 2022)
	Curate:	The Reverend Dawn Hudson
	Curate:	The Reverend Amanda Boyd
	Warden:	Gill Corner
	Deanery Synod:	Catharine Howe
	Licensed Reader	Lina Beck

Elected Members:	PCC Secretary	Gloria Anderson
		Matthew Brotherston
		Sarah Morden
		Abi Sanders
		Anna Mace
		Janice MacKnight
		Rita Muse
		Christine Cowans
		John Gray (Resigned Nov 2022)

Co-opted Members:	PCC Treasurer	Robert Brotherston
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The PCC met 10 times in 2022. Minutes are taken at all PCC meetings and approved copies are displayed on Church notice boards and made available on individual request.

Revision of Hillside Church Electoral Roll

At the time of submitting this report there are **67** members on the Hillside Church Electoral roll includes **26** members who reside outside the parish boundary.

Risk Review

The PCC continually reviews the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the Churches and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its annual Parish Share.

The work of the Church is governed by safeguarding policies of the Church of England and in particular with due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity's financial year that we should have brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners.

Hillside Safeguarding Report for 2022/23

With the validity of DBS checks being reduced from 5 years to 3, it has been a busy year in that respect, with 9 applications, and I am grateful for Gloria's hard work in making the applications - and chasing up the applicants for the relevant documentation! The introduction of our new Bereavement Support Group, involved more Safer Recruitment, as has the need for Sunday School helpers with Louise not being available. All processes have run smoothly. Thankfully the criteria for those needing to go through the Safer Recruitment process has now 'softened' a little and is more proportionate, with only those who have *substantial* contact with vulnerable adults, young people and children needing to go through the process now, rather than *all* volunteers.

The Diocese has recently introduced a new administration tool called the Parish Dashboard which enables PSOs and The Diocese to constantly monitor how up to date our Safeguarding procedures are. This allows us to demonstrate to the National Safeguarding Team our compliance with the various safeguarding requirements placed upon us. The Dashboard, along with assisting us with our record keeping, will also enable the Diocesan safeguarding team to gather data on compliance, without them having to trouble us with requests to complete and send returns about this. It will ensure we are up to date with our safeguarding administration. This was quite a complex process to set up, but will ultimately lead to greater safety across our parish and the diocese.

The Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance as produced by the diocese says that we should ensure that all volunteers have at least an annual 1:1 meeting with the PSO to discuss Safeguarding. As we have over 20 volunteers who are working with vulnerable adults, young people or children, this would be a very time consuming and cumbersome process, so I am grateful that the Diocese and our PCC have agreed that I can just hold an annual review meeting with each group, rather than each individual, and this has been done.

Alan Corner
Parish Safeguarding Officer
11/3/2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The lifting of all Covid restrictions has seen the Church return to a normal level of activity and with that a normal level of financial activity.

Regular planned giving has remained stable and is the bedrock of our incoming resources accounting for almost 78% of our income. These are difficult financial times, and all support is gratefully received.

Our Joshua Tree Café has gone from strength-to-strength and is a firm favourite with the local community. The decision to operate on a pay as you feel basis has proved popular and successful. All excess funds are classed as restricted and are to be ploughed back into the café to purchase new and improved equipment.

Our cost base is reasonably stable, and despite the current energy crisis, has remained broadly in line with previous years due to Hillside benefitting from a fixed gas contract at pre crisis rates. This contract expires in June 2025.

RETURN OF PARISH FINANCE	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year
Tax Efficient Planned Giving	32,724			32,724	30,374
Other Planned Giving	9,408			9,408	9,880
Collections at Services	1,974			1,974	1,149
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	2,423	1,735	14,457	18,615	9,634
Gift Aid	10,577		713	11,290	10,113
Grants	2,921		4,115	7,036	14,316
Fundraising	154			154	
Statutory Fees Retained	904			904	394
Gross Income from Trading	9,591			9,591	5,791
Total Incoming Resources	70,675	1,735	19,284	91,694	81,651
Mission Giving & Donations	720			720	320
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	30,000			30,000	31,057
Administration and Office Expenses	13,832		240	14,072	11,638
Clergy & Staff Expenses	603		322	925	1,336
Mission & Evangelism Expenses	132	900	6,904	7,936	4,340
Service Expenses	1,071			1,071	1,064
Maintenance	4,254	2,150	1,918	8,323	6,140
Cleaning Expenses	1,470			1,470	287
Insurance	4,465			4,465	5,584
Depreciation	155	625	1,655	2,435	2,731
Telephony	1,142			1,142	1,217
Utility Costs	6,038			6,038	4,010
General Expenses	871		41	912	703
Costs of Trading	614			614	685
Governance Costs	132			132	43
Resources Used	65,500	3,675	11,079	80,254	71,155
Net Income / (Expenditure)	5,175	(1,940)	8,205	11,440	10,495

INCOMING RESOURCES:

- **Tax Efficient Planned Giving:**
Money given regularly under Gift Aid.
- **Other Planned Giving**
Money given regularly without Gift Aid
- **Collections at Services:**
Open plate donations
- **All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts**
Designated Funds are fees received from Toddler Groups.
Restricted Funds include:
 1. Receipts from the Joshua Tree Café. The Joshua Tree does not charge but accepts donations on a 'pay as you feel basis'. (£10.7K)
 2. Donations to "Bless our Buildings" Fund (£3.8k)
- **Gift Aid:**
Apart from gift aid paid as part of the Parish Giving Scheme this is accrued income and is receivable early April upon successful completion of claim to HMRC.
- **Grants:**
 1. Parish Energy Support Grant Support Grant (£2,921)
 2. Northumbria Historic Churches Trust - Grant towards Extension Windows (£1,412)
 3. Diocese of Durham Church Building Panel – Grant towards Access Toilet (£203)
 4. Cinnamon Network Micro Grant – Grant for the setting up and running CAP Lifeskills project (£2,000)
 5. Gateshead Council – Granted in accordance with the Warm Spaces for Gateshead Charter (£500)
- **Gross Income from Trading:**
Primarily proceeds from the hire of the Church Hall.

RESOURCES USED:

- **Mission Giving & Donations:**
Donation to Christians Against Poverty
- **Diocesan Parish Share Contribution:**
The PCC has again approved the decision to restrict its share to £2,500pm.
- **Administration & Office Expenses:**
Includes salary of administrator.
- **Mission & Evangelism Expenses:**
Includes the cost of provisions for the Joshua Tree Café
- **Maintenance:**
Includes repairs to the Hall Conservatory Roof and the replacement of Fluorescent Lighting with LED.

Rob Brotherston

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC recognises the need to hold reserves to ensure funding is available to provide continuing mission but also to ensure that the PCC can meet its legal commitments should the Charity be unable to continue due to a lack of sustainable income stream.

The PCC have agreed that it would be prudent to maintain a cash and cash equivalent reserve at least equivalent to 3 months average monthly expenditure including any pledged Parish Share.

Signed on behalf of the PCC



21 April 2023

The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hillside Church Gateshead

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hillside Church Gateshead (the Trust) for the year ended 31/12/2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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.

Independent examiner's statement

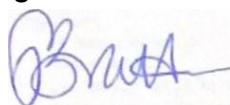
I have completed my examination.

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

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

Signed:



Name: Denise Bratton (CIMA ID-3372C9)

Address:
22 The Meadows
Burnopfield
Newcastle
Tyne & Wear
NE16 6QW

Date: 12/03/2023

Hillside Church - 1153663
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	57,141	—	4,457	392	61,991	56,516
Income from charitable activities	904	—	—	—	904	394
Other trading activities	9,708	1,734	10,711	—	22,153	9,095
Other income	2,921	—	4,115	—	7,036	16,645
Total income	70,674	1,734	19,284	392	92,086	81,650
Expenditure on:						
Expenditure on charitable activities	64,780	3,674	8,679	—	77,133	70,835
Other expenditure	720	—	2,400	—	3,120	320
Total expenditure	65,500	3,674	11,079	—	80,253	71,155
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	29,834	29,834	—
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	5,174	(1,939)	8,204	30,227	41,667	10,495
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	892	—	—	—	892	1661
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	(892)	—	(892)	(1661)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	6,067	(1,939)	7,312	30,227	41,667	10,495
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	14,081	11,178	10,852	—	36,112	25,617
Total funds carried forward	20,149	9,239	18,164	30,227	77,779	36,112
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	20,149	—	—	—	20,149	14,081
Designated						
All Saints Toddler Group	—	830	—	—	830	536
Renes' Fund	—	5,451	—	—	5,451	8,226
ST Cuthberts Toddler Group	—	1,443	—	—	1,443	903
St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund	—	1,513	—	—	1,513	1,513
Restricted						
All Saints Gas Boiler Replacement	—	—	5,552	—	5,552	7,207
Buildings Maintenance Fund	—	—	4,108	—	4,108	—
Cinnamon Network Micro-Grant	—	—	2,000	—	2,000	—
Joshua Tree	—	—	6,349	—	6,349	2,633
Pre School Funds	—	—	—	—	—	658
Pulpit Bible	—	—	—	—	—	28
Rita's Fund	—	—	100	—	100	—
Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	—	—	—	321
Sponsor A Light Bulb	—	—	—	—	—	2
Warm Spaces	—	—	53	—	53	—
Endowment						
Trust Fund - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	—	30,227	30,227	—

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Hillside Church - 1153663
Balance sheet (Separate funds)
As at: 31 December 2022

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2022 £	At 31/12/2021 £
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	0	1,244	4,826	—	6,071	8,505
Fixed assets	0	1,244	4,826	—	6,071	8,505
Current assets						
Debtors	10,306	—	712	—	11019	10,092
Investments	—	—	—	30,227	30,227	—
Cash at bank and in hand	12,352	7,994	13,074	—	33,421	19,541
Current assets	22,659	7,994	13,787	30,227	74,667	29,633
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,509	—	449	—	2,959	2,026
Net current assets less current liabilities	20,149	7,994	13,338	30,227	71,708	27,607
Total assets less current liabilities	20,149	9,239	18,164	30,227	77,779	36,112
Total net assets less liabilities	20,149	9,239	18,164	30,227	77,779	36,112
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
Unrestricted - General fund	20,149	—	—	—	20,149	14,081
Designated						
Designated - All Saints Toddler Group	—	830	—	—	830	536
Designated - Rene's Fund	—	5,451	—	—	5,451	8,226
Designated - St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund	—	1513	—	—	1513	1513
Designated - St Cuthberts Toddler Group	—	1443	—	—	1,443	903
Restricted						
Restricted - Sound Equipment	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted - Two's Company Befriending	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted - Choir Vestry	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted - Warm Spaces	—	—	53	—	53	—
Restricted - Pre School Funds	—	—	—	—	—	658
Restricted - Agency collection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	—	—	—	321
Restricted - Buildings Maintenance Fund	—	—	4,108	—	4,108	—
Restricted - All Saints Gas Boiler Replacement	—	—	5,552	—	5,552	7,207
Restricted - Sponsor A Light Bulb	—	—	—	—	—	2
Restricted - Pulpit Bible	—	—	—	—	—	28
Restricted - Joshua Tree	—	—	6,349	—	6,349	2,633
Restricted - Cinnamon Network Micro-Grant	—	—	2,000	—	2,000	—
Restricted - Northumbria Historic Churches Trust	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted - Rita's Fund	—	—	100	—	100	—
Endowment						
Endowment - Trust Fund - Sarah Jane Vickery Dale	—	—	—	30,227	30,227	—
Funds of the church	20,149	9,239	18,164	30,227	77,779	36,112

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

Basis of Accounting

Trustees' duties are set out in the Charities Act 2011 and Charity Trustee Act 1993. These Acts impose a duty on the trustees to direct the affairs of the charity, ensure that it is solvent, ensure that proper accurate accounting records are kept, and that statements of account which adhere to the charity law and accounting regulations are prepared in respect of each financial year.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the applicable SORP (FRS102). Under the provisions of FRS102, the PCC is not classified as a larger charity and therefore is not required to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Funds:

Unrestricted funds represent those funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are those which have been nominally allocated for a particular purpose by the PCC but which can be applied to other general purposes if required and are therefore also classified as unrestricted.

Restricted funds are funds given to the PCC to be spent for a specific purpose.

Endowment Funds relate entirely to a charitable trust whose objective is the provision of clergy residential accommodation.

INCOME

Voluntary Income and collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Tax recoverable is recognised in the same year in which the donations are made. Any recoverable tax not received is shown as a debtor in the balance sheet.

Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Funds raised by church events are accounted for when received and are shown gross.

Rental income from the letting of PCC premises is recognised when the rental is due.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share that is unpaid at 31 December would be provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and would be shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements in accordance with s.10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful economic life of each asset.

CURRENT ASSETS

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December 2022 in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provisions for amounts that are considered uncollectable.

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

CURRENT LIABILITIES

All known liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law up to 31 December 2022 are included in these financial statements.

PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

Following amended advice from the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance the charitable trust known as "The Sarah Jane Vickery Dale Charitable Trust (3961008)" has been included in these Financial Statements for the first time.

The trust is in the form of a CBF Deposit Fund and is held by the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodian Trustee.

The trust is wholly owned by the PCC, and its objective is the provision of clergy residential accommodation anywhere within the parish of Hillside.

The result of this adjustment was to increase the Funds of the Church by £29,834.63. All comparative figures have been reinstated.

Note 2 - Analysis of Income

				Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Donations					
Parish Giving Scheme	11,903	-		11,903	11,414
Planned Giving	27,711	-		27,711	26,475
Covenant Envelopes	1,526	-		1,526	1,310
Uncovenanted Envelopes	992	-		992	1,055
Open Plate	1,974	-		1,974	1,149
Gift Aid	10,577	713		11,290	10,113
Grant Income	2,921	4,115		7,036	14,316
Misc Income	2,612	3,745		6,357	6,330
Total	60,216	8,573	-	68,788	72,161
Income from Charitable Activities					
PCC Fees	904	-		904	394
Total	904	-	-	904	394
Other Trading Activities					
Toddler Groups	1,735	-		1,735	430
Traidcraft	-	-		-	10
Hire of Premises	9,555	-		9,555	5,780
Joshua Tree Community Café	-	10,712		10,712	2,875
Interest Received			392	392	-
Total	11,290	10,712	392	22,394	9,095
INCOME TOTAL	72,410	19,284	392	92,086	81,651

Note 3 – Analysis of Expenditure

				Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	30,000	-		30,000	31,057
Salaries, wages and honoraria	12,413	-		12,413	10,352
Clergy and staff expenses	603	322		925	1,336
Church Event Costs	1,032	-		1,032	4,340
Cleaners Wages & Cleaning Expenses	1,470	-		1,470	287
Joshua Tree Community Café		4,504		4,504	-
Maintenance	7,009	1,918		8,928	6,151
Telephony	1,142	-		1,142	1,217
Administration	1,419	281		1,700	1,273
Depreciation	780	1,655		2,435	2,731
Insurance	4,465	-		4,465	5,584
Church Service Costs	1,071	-		1,071	1,064
Traidcraft		-		-	675
Gas	3,127	-		3,127	2,586
Electricity	2,592	-		2,592	1,256
Water	319	-		319	168
Governance	132	-		132	43
Miscellaneous	880	2,400		3,280	716
Total	68,455	11,079	-	79,534	70,835
Other Expenditure					
Charitable Donations	720	-		720	320
Total	720	-	-	720	320
Total Expenditure	69,175	11,079	0	80,254	71,155

Note 4 – Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment & Software	Plant & Machinery (3yrs)	Plant & Machinery (5yrs)	TOTAL
Cost				
At 1st Jan 2022	5,455	3,179	10,189	18,823
Additions				-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2022	5,455	3,179	10,189	18,823
Depreciation				
At 1st Jan 2022	5,300	2,938	2,080	10,317
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	155	242	2,038	2,435
At 31st December 2022	5,455	3,179	4,118	12,752
Net Book Value				
At 1st Jan 2022	155	242	8,109	8,506
At 31st December 2022	-	-	6,071	6,071

Note 5 – Debtors

	This year	Last year
Gift Aid Recoverable	6,433	5,996
Prepayments	4,587	4,097
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	30,227	29,835
Accounts Receivable	0	0
	41,246	39,927

Note 6 – Creditors

	This year	Last year
Accruals	1,144	1,002
HMRC	27	20
NEST Pension Costs	-	-
Agency Collections	389	695
Accounts Payable	1,399	309
	2,959	2,027

Note 7 – Personnel Costs

	This year	Last year
Salaries and other emoluments	12,233	10,232
Employers National Insurance	-	-
NEST Pension Costs	180	120
	12,413	10,352

Number of employees in post 31 December.	1	1
Average number of employees over the year.	1.00	1.00

There were no employees who met the definition of "key management personnel" during the year. [0]

No salary or employee benefits have been paid to Trustees in respect of their membership of the PCC. [0]

Incumbent clergy salaries are paid directly by the Durham Diocese and not by the PCC.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

England & Wales - Charity number 1153663

Accounts

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

ANNUAL REPORT

INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

The Parochial Church Council of Hillside (PCC) presents its annual report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021. The financial statements have been prepared based on the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

AIM AND PURPOSES

Hillside PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Glen MacKnight, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at Hillside. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

When planning activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Offering people, the opportunity to gather for worship, prayer and teaching at a range of services and meetings throughout the week;
- providing pastoral care in a variety of ways e.g. visiting the sick, supporting those with special needs, providing help and advice at times of birth, marriage, and bereavement;
- offering programmes of teaching to young people in conjunction with relevant events and activities;
- promoting and supporting partnerships with churches, organisations and people involved in the faith, love and hope of Christ in action at home and abroad;
- providing facilities for the use of voluntary organisations within the locality;
- active participation in local events and voluntary work within our community.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Vicar's report

During summer last year I took an interest in the Rowan tree beside the drive leading to the Community Hub. Its leaves had a dry look about them but not yet crinkled and round the base fungi had begun to colonise.



I remember thinking, "You don't look healthy". Then in the November wind it was uprooted. More was to come with the next big blast that snapped the climbing frame and brought down a large cherry tree, breaking through the vicarage fence and settling comfortably in an apple tree. Most of us will have stories from this time of slates off roofs, lorries overturned or even being knocked off our feet. This we are told is the tangible effects of climate change and action is needed to mitigate its affects.

These events can take away our peace. And then there is Covid, blowing hard against so many lives and again taking away our peace. These things and war in the Ukraine, reminds me of what Isaiah wrote.

¹⁰ *Though the mountains be shaken, and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,' says the LORD, who has compassion on you.* **Isaiah 54: 10**

We could easily remain here and rehearse those words again and again using the Dwelling in the Word skills we are familiar with from PMC. To be shaken and yet be at peace. How does this work? I turned to John 14:27 to hear the words Jesus spoke to his friends and it helped me think about this further.

²⁷ *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.* **John 14: 27**

There is a maturity required and perseverance needed to allow these verses to work in our hearts. I find that I'm more mature and have greater perseverance when we as church, share the peace of the Lord – together.

Together we give thanks that we have not sat twiddling our thumbs during a difficult year but have been actively employing our faith in the tasks set before us. Not only on behalf of Hillside Church but active in the community supporting other groups through your volunteer work. Read the Messy Church account of Lina delivering 45 activity bags per month. The Churchwarden's report of working with the challenge of some major repairs. The Joshua Tree Cafe and All Saints Toddlers, creating a synergy of food and of play. It has even emerged that for some people it is the only time they're able to get out of the house during the week, and they choose to come to us. Humbling!

The PMC process has come to an end, but PMC continues. It's important that it does so if we are to be confident of keeping a focus on being an outward looking church to the Glory of God and the Extension of his Kingdom. Alan leads the Steering Group reporting back to the PCC.

It's a joy to see people wanting to be part of all we do, and I hope you feel inspired to join in too because we are all needed. Our strap line is Get Involved Together because it is only in our togetherness that we can be an expression of Christ, his hands and feet. His body ministering with the love of God into many lives that have little or no peace.

Hillside has been a driver in the Deanery for both the Climate Change service at Gibside chapel and the deanery youth event. Rory worked to bring the youth together in exploring their faith, playing games, and of course eating.



As Rory comes to the end of his curacy, he and Izzi will be seeking to move on and take up new responsibilities. We can be proud that Hillside Church is respected as a place of training. We provide placement opportunities for Cranmer Hall students, such as Lorna who was with us until just recently. In July Amanda will take up her Curacy and together we can flourish and be that encouragement to one another.

There is still much to be done. Many areas that require attention and you'll have your own sense of priorities and ideas. By Getting Involved Together we can realise more of what God wants to do through us.

The noticeable group, who have largely and understandably, been absent from Zoom services have been the younger families. We will be endeavouring to reach out to them. As part of this process All Age Sunday is to be moved. This will enable us to offer two points of contact in the month between Messy Church and All Age

Sunday. Joel with the support of Louise did much to keep Sunday school on zoom but this now needs to come back into church. We need to be ready to move into action when children come to us and not be on the back in having to react to their presence.

I continue to be grateful to all in the church family who have prayed and worked to see God's blessing realised. As we look forward I pray that we would be inspired by Jesus' lesser known commission to his disciples,

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." **Matthew 9:36-38**



The harvest remains plentiful but the workers seem few. Ask the Lord therefore to send out workers into his harvest field. All begins with prayer. Our perseverance, our peace, our ability to stay the course, our grateful thanks for all he has done, begins with prayer.

Ask God to open hearts and minds, as we scatter the seed of the gospel message.

Yours in Christ
Reverend Glen MacKnight

Churchwarden report



What a wonderfully busy year since we re-opened for in person worship on Easter Sunday last year! Both the St Cuthbert's and All Saints sites have come back to life and are being regularly used by our Church family and local communities.

As we emerge from Covid restrictions St Cuthbert's has been able to open its doors again for Messy Church, the Toddler group and Baptisms. The Hub is once again in regular use, not least on a Friday with the success of the Joshua Tree Cafe and Toddler group. Grants have been successfully applied for enabling some structural repairs to be completed without Hillside having to pay the total costs. Numerous lighting and other issues have been resolved and there are more to come which will impact our stretched financial resources.

With much attention, the heating in the Hub and St Cuthberts limped through from November to February but the systems have been fixed and are operating well now. In cooperation with us, Gateshead Council are continuing to improve the St Cuthbert's churchyard walls. Many unwanted goods from the Hub, St Cuthbert's and the All Saints Band room have been cleared, a time consuming job when undertaken with an eye to sustainability where possible.

The Hillside internet has been frustratingly unreliable, as many of you will be aware, throughout the last twelve months and a church needs a reliable connection to operate efficiently in 2022. Due to many demands this has not been moved on as quickly as it might have been, but recent work has brought some improvement and a consultant is now helping.



All Saints repair to ceiling (Choir Vestry)Before and After

With more use come more maintenance requirements. In addition to the practical maintenance jobs there are many unseen tasks in today's church. With such a heart at Hillside to become more involved in our community there is a real need for the full quota of four Churchwardens to move us on as we feel God is asking us to.

It has been a blessing that so many of you have volunteered to undertake practical tasks; this year there are too many of you to mention by name! Thank you. Without your help Hillside wouldn't be where we are in moving forward with our mission to spread God's love and word in our community.



St Cuthberts repair to gate Before and After

Gill Corner
Churchwarden

Hillside PMC Report

Despite all the restrictions of Covid, it has been a busy and ultimately very positive year for our PMC programme. As a church, we have made many links, through HCA, Twos Company, Messy Church and, of course, the Joshua Tree Café which brings many people on site on a Friday and links very well with the presence of the Toddlers' group.

Our congregational 'Balloon Ride' event in October was very well supported, and was a big help in guiding the Steering Group on where church members would like to see our church in 3 – 5 years' time – all we need to do now is determine HOW to get there! The vision of the congregation is to see both churches and the hub used regularly, with families flocking to church and lots of happy noisy people. We want to work with the community, regardless of whether or not they are Christians.

Although we still may not know what the community wants, we know that God is bringing people to Hillside Church, particularly through use of The Hub, but we also have new members of our congregation, as well as visitors using the Lady Chapel for prayer. Therefore, although PMC encourages us to go out and join in with whatever is already going on in the community, we believe that God wants us to offer opportunities for community members to come to us, rather than vice versa, initially at least.

The congregational vision threw up 3 main areas to consider as we move forwards:

- We want to have increased contact with young people
- We want to see increased use of St. Cuthbert's
- Food events work well for Hillside

We are still to firm up a plan to take us through the next 3 – 5 years. We have decided that we need to have a proper communications team to help us get the word about Hillside and about God out into the community, so first we need to build this team and find a leader for it.

Alan Corner
21/03/22

Twos Company

The Two's Company telephone befriending and home visiting service is run by the National Christian Charity Linking Lives UK which was set up to tackle loneliness in the UK. In January 2021 Hillside signed up to Linking Lives and became a partner for the Telephone Befriending outreach.

We received our first referral from the Sunnyside practice in February 2021 whom I matched up the following March as soon as the volunteers were recruited and trained. I understood that telephone befriending isn't for everyone but I always knew there would be some folk out there somewhere who would appreciate a friendly phone call. This was prayed about in their monthly prayer meeting, and I appreciate anyone else who has prayed for this outreach. We also decided to 'cast our nets' out further afield beyond our own parish to include Whickham, Dunston and parts of Gateshead.

Since September last year I have received a befriending request every other month and so we now have five out of six volunteers matched up and I thank God for these. One of the 'Link Friends' manages to attend the Joshua Tree cafe now and again and another one sometimes meets up at her local cafe with our volunteer (at the Link Friend's request).

Please pray for these calls and meetings that Jesus love will shine through. Thanks to Glen, Alan and Gloria for your help and support in this outreach.

Linda Cranney Two's Company Co-ordinator

Deanery Report

Gateshead West Deanery, 2021- APR 2022

The Deanery Development Plan accepted in 2019 restructured our deanery, re incumbent paid clergy numbers (reduced to six). Due to retirements/resignations we have been able to put this structure into place. In the process we have gained two women incumbents - a change from all male! Some clergy are now

responsible for two parishes. As part of this restructure Blaydon and Swalwell have split, back into separate parishes. Swalwell is now under the wing of Whickham. Lay ministry is being encouraged as part of the plan.

Hillside hosted a successful deanery youth event (“Unite”) last summer, headed up by Rory with involvement from Swalwell and other parishes. We hope there will be a similar event this summer. To keep the young people in touch with each other, we plan to have a termly get together – the first being “pizza and praise” at Swalwell on 26 March 2022.

As a response to COP26/the climate crisis the deanery had a service at Gibside chapel on 31 October 2021. We hope to build on this with another service in October this year and get a higher profile, including from passing visitors at Gibside.

I have been your only Deanery synod rep. Please consider if this is something you might do in future. Glen and I continue to be on the Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee, which does most of the synod’s work.
Catharine Howe (Deanery Synod rep)

Messy Church



Following a good response to our Messy Bags each month which averaged in the 40’s we relaunched Messy Church again in September 2021 with a Messy barbeque. This was reasonably well attended but many of the families we had linked with during lockdown did not come so that was a little disappointing. October was much more encouraging after more posts on FB, word of mouth via Toddler Group which had also restarted and some personal invitations from Sheila Wood around St Cuthbert’s estate. 47 adults and children took part with only 7 of these being regular church helpers. In November Messy concentrated on preparing for the Community Service of Remembrance and we created a Messy Church Remembers memorial area and the children enjoyed exploring our photo booth area.

December was our Christingle so there was no specific Messy Church but as the Messy Bags proved to be so popular we used Children’s Society Christingle carrier bags to get the Christmas message out to our families. 45 bags were made containing a story book by Hartman, a colouring book and crayons, cut and create Christmas decoration to hang on the Christmas Tree and some chocolate. Children who attended the service picked up their Christingle and their bags at the service and the rest were either given to families to give to neighbouring families or hand delivered by myself, including their Christingles. We had about 5 Christingles left over which I gave to Toddler families, along with spare story books.



As we began 2022 we had a break in January as Messy fell on 2nd January restarting in February. Numbers are steady and we are seeing some new families joining us. Messy Church is very much a blessing for St Cuthbert's end of the parish but how to meet and provide for our families during the rest of the month still remains a concern. **Lina Beck**

Toddler Group at Hillside St Cuthberts Marley Hill



The Toddler Group at St Cuthbert's restarted again in September as schools reopened. I was concerned that we may not have much uptake as most of our Pre Covid children have now moved on to full time Nursery or Reception. There are 18 children on the new register but we average between 5 and 7 regular toddlers. We have had weeks where only 1 or 2 children have attended but we did peak one week with 14 children which was very exciting.

The group, although often small is very welcoming and friendly sharing experiences with other parents of the group at Whickham on Tuesday, Vineyard Café and play area on Thursday, and the group that runs alongside Joshua Tree Café on Friday. This friendly sharing has resulted in some new children coming to Cuthbert's so it is mutually beneficial. The feedback about Cuthbert's is that it is small and reasonably unstructured and children have freedom to play. Following children's interests we now have a simple craft table, mostly folding and stickers and play dough. As the summer approaches I hope to introduce some sand and water play outside which would need a small monetary input to buy water aprons. Fees continue to be £2 which covers electricity and heating but that may need to be reviewed should utility costs escalate in the future.

Lina Beck

Toddler Group at Hillside All Saints Lobley Hill



We are now nearing the end of our fifth year at All Saints toddler group. This year we have enjoyed offering two sessions throughout the day and have welcomed back a few old regulars along with lots of new families, mams, dads, grandparents, childminders and sometimes refugees who have enjoyed coming every Friday morning from 10am to 11.30am and afternoon from 1pm to 2.30pm. Most attend regularly and we have up to 20 children aged from 0 - 4 attending each session. They enjoy a mixed variety of toys and resources that we are fortunate and grateful to have along with song times, story times, snack time, birthday celebrations and other traditional celebrations throughout the year.

At the moment we charge a fee of £1.50 which also covers a variety of fruit, snacks and juice for the children. We are open every Friday term time and look forward to offering hopefully by September some new ideas and plans for the future. **Lisa and Susan**

Sunday School

During the last year Sunday school has continued to take place over Zoom at 11:15am following the main church service. It was led by Joel until his departure for University in September and then by Louise. We have continued to base the session content upon the Scripture Union “Bubbles” material, although somewhat adapted for online delivery. We have been enjoying watching the Saddleback Kids cartoon adaptation of Bible stories on YouTube; check them out if you get the chance! We’ve made models, done jigsaw puzzles, played guessing games, memory games and Pictionary (my IT skills have certainly been tested!) and James has had us playing musical statues and musical bumps on a regular basis! We are now looking forward to coming back into the church building and resuming in-person sessions once again. **Louise Parry**

Hillside Youth



The Youth Group continues to meet in person every Friday Night for a fun filled night of learning, snacks, and games. COVID-19 is still with us however we do not let this stand in the way of our nights, we ensure that we are following all Government Guidelines, and the National Youth Agency Guidelines as requested by the Diocese of Durham. We hope in the not too distant future to bring more Children and

Young People to the Youth Group from other ministries within Hillside Church (Messy Church ext...), and planning for this has already begun to how this could look, and how all Children/Youth ministries could connect to each other so a young persons journey through Hillside Church is clear.

Matty

Joshua Tree Café

After a good deal of planning, decoration and preparation together with invaluable support from the wider church and from volunteers willing to be involved, the Joshua Tree Café launched during the autumn. It has been a journey of discovery, and hugely rewarding.

In conjunction with the toddler group we are seeing new people and familiar people enjoy what we have to offer in a busy yet friendly atmosphere. A place to relax, meet people, make connections, and enjoy good food on a pay as you feel basis – so affordable to all. **Joe**

Pastoral Report

This is an informal arrangement and is supported by :-

Gill Corner, Ellen Miller, Pat Grey, Janice Garfoot, Maureen Shreeve, Damian Parry, Deborah Caisley Jacqui Thompson, Sue Osman, Gill Brotherston, Janice MacKnight, Lina Beck

Context

The original purpose of the group was to ensure the pastoral oversight of the congregation, during a period of change with the life groups.



Joshua Tree Café

Open Fridays 10am to 3pm
Hillside All Saints Community Hub (Hall)

- Selection of homemade cakes and bakes
- Soup of the day
- Cold Sandwiches with side salad
- Toasted Teacake
- Breakfast Baps
- Teas/Coffees/Soft Drinks

Our Café is 'pay as you feel'!

Current situation

During the past year the team have continued to meet needs as and when they arise. Often through meals, prayer support or meeting to talk. The team continue to be supported by Glen and Rory and aim to address issues in a confidential, sensitive and Godly manner. In January 2021 we were supporting 44 people with regular phone contact as a consequence of Covid.

Since being able to meet once again in church and other settings, contact calls are not as necessary. Some people are still contacted by phone as it is valued as an important connection.

The team have met approximately once every three months to pray and encourage one another. This has given members of the group an opportunity to lead and share what they feel God is saying to them. The continued use of Zoom for prayer meetings and Sunday Church continues to be important in maintaining church community links.

Again I would like to add that the pastoral team is one part of the body of Christ working to meet need. There continues to be examples of unsung heroes who as members of the body of Christ, support people quietly in the background. Again, I would like to say a personal thank you to them and to the pastoral team.

One of the pastoral team recently reflected on the initial lockdown. How she saw the pastoral team come together, be there for one another in times of laughter and times of sadness. She challenged us to emerge from this time in that same spirit and continue to support and be there for one another.

As Body of Christ, we are working together as his hands and feet. Each of us coming with our own gifting and way of relating. One of the strengths of Hillside is the welcome it gives to new people and I would like to thank everyone for the role you play in this expression of hospitality.

Safeguarding

There continues to be a close link between the group and Alan Corner (Safeguarding Lead). Therefore, in accordance with Durham Diocese Safeguarding Policy all members of the team are trained to level C0. Gill Corner and Janice MacKnight are trained to C2 level. All members of the team have a current DBS.

Prayer Phone

This is used urgent prayer needs and is held by Maureen Shreeve. She forwards prayer requests to a team of people who are committed to praying. This is a well-used form of communicating prayer requests and Maureen is excellent at communicating with the team and reminding us of answered prayer.

Prayer Ministry

As Covid restrictions are lifted the opportunity for personal prayer ministry following services will be reinstated in the coming weeks. The names of the people currently in this group are:- Rory Balfour, Ellen Miller, John Gray, Damian Parry, Sue Osman, Louise Parry, Lina Beck and Janice MacKnight.

We hope that you find this information useful and if you have any suggestions please let me know.

Janice MacKnight and the Team

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those regular members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Hillside comprises two places of worship, All Saints, Lobley Hill and St Cuthbert's, Marley Hill. Both are part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, All Saints, Rowanwood Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 0DP.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006). PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:	Incumbent:	The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)
	Curate:	The Reverend Rory Balfour
	Warden:	Gill Corner
	Deanery Synod:	Catharine Howe
	Licensed Reader	Lina Beck

Elected Members:	PCC Secretary	Gloria Anderson
		Matthew Brotherston
		Sarah Morden
		Abi Sanders
		Rita Muse
		Christine Cowans
		John Gray (Term Started 25 April 2021)
		Susan Osman (Term Started 25 April 2021)

Co-opted Members:	PCC Treasurer	Robert Brotherston
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The PCC met **10** times in 2021. Minutes are taken at all PCC meetings and approved copies are displayed on Church notice boards and made available on individual request.

Revision of Hillside Church Electoral Roll

At the time of submitting this report there are 74 members on the Hillside Church Electoral roll which includes 36 members who reside outside the parish boundary.

Risk Review

The PCC continually reviews the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the Churches and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its annual Parish Share.

The work of the Church is governed by safeguarding policies of the Church of England and in particular with due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity's financial year that we should have brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners.

Hillside Safeguarding Report for 2021/22

I am happy to report that there have been no safeguarding incidents to deal with during the past year. During 2021/22, 7 members of the congregation completed the relevant level of training through the Diocese. 5 members went through the DBS process.

As from January 4th 2022, a new Safer Recruitment Process was put in place by Durham Diocese for all employees and volunteers who may have significant contact with vulnerable adults, young people or children. This involved training for me, Glen and Gill and a lot of administrative work to update procedures. It is a somewhat cumbersome process, but it is valuable to ensure that all people associated with Hillside Church are as kept as safe as possible in this respect. DBS checks are now only valid for 3 years which, at a stroke, increases our DBS applications by 40%! in line with the 2022 Diocesan Safeguarding Policy, we now have a Whistle Blowing Policy, and an updated Recruitment of ex-Offenders Policy. We are compliant with all parts of the Safeguarding Annual Parish Checklist,

Alan Corner
21/03/22

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Another challenging year operating under the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 although the gradual easing of those restrictions has brought some semblance of normality back to Church life albeit not to pre-pandemic levels. Our regular planned giving has again remained resolute, and we were delighted to welcome back the Ukulele Group, Slimmer's World, Baby Sensory Group and Bodyshox Keep Fit to our Hall. Thank you to all for your patience and loyalty.

October 2021, we welcomed the opening of the Joshua Tree Café. This has proved to be a resounding success and congratulations must go to Joe Osman and his team who have built on the solid foundations of the "Coffee Drop In" developed by Ellen Miller. A successful application to "Local Connections" resulted in a grant of £2,500 towards Café Equipment.

The decision to restrict our Parish Share to £2,500pm has proved prudent and successful in its aim of producing a break-even situation on the General Fund (Unrestricted) excluding grants received.

RETURN OF PARISH FINANCE	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year
Tax Efficient Planned Giving	30,374			30,374	33,227
Other Planned Giving	9,880			9,880	9,571
Collections at Services	1,149			1,149	1,991
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	2,876	1,944	4,814	9,634	10,533
Gift Aid	10,113			10,113	13,782
Grants	10,572		3,744	14,316	2,003
Statutory Fees Retained	394			394	428
Gross Income from Trading	5,791			5,791	4,035
Total Incoming Resources	71,149	1,944	8,558	81,651	75,571
Mission Giving & Donations	320			320	620
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	31,057			31,057	43,444
Administration and Office Expenses	11,631		7	11,638	11,285
Clergy & Staff Expenses	328		1,008	1,336	1,979
Mission & Evangelism Expenses	350	73	3,917	4,340	731
Service Expenses	1,064			1,064	915
Maintenance	3,317		2,823	6,140	1,910
Cleaning Expenses (Inc Wages)	287			287	2,723
Insurance	5,584			5,584	3,979
Depreciation	306	770	1,655	2,731	927
Telephony	1,217			1,217	1,010
Utility Costs	4,010			4,010	5,103
General Expenses	703			703	355
Costs of Trading	685			685	3,875
Governance Costs	43			43	14
Resources Used	60,902	843	9,410	71,155	78,870
Net Income / (Expenditure)	10,247	1,101	(852)	10,495	(3,299)

INCOMING RESOURCES:

- **Tax Efficient Planned Giving:**
Money given regularly under Gift Aid.
- **Other Planned Giving**
Money given regularly without Gift Aid
- **Collections at Services:**
Open plate donations have been restricted to those times the church was able to open within governmental guidelines

- **All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts**

Designated Funds includes proceeds from the sale of a Brass Lectern and fees received from Toddler Groups. Restricted Funds include receipts from the Joshua Tree Café. The Joshua Tree does not charge but accepts donations on a 'pay as you feel basis'

- **Gift Aid:**

Apart from gift aid paid as part of the Parish Giving Scheme this is accrued income and is receivable early April upon successful completion of claim to HMRC.

- **Grants:**

1. GMBC Additional Restriction Support Grant (£10,572)
2. National Lottery Community Fund "Local Connections" (£2,994) Joshua Tree
3. Allchurches Trust Limited (£750) Vestry Repairs

- **Statutory Fees Retained:**

Covid-19 restrictions has severely prohibited weddings, baptisms and funerals from taking place in church.

- **Gross Income from Trading:**

Primarily proceeds from the hire of the Church Hall.

RESOURCES USED:

- **Mission Giving & Donations:**

Suspended whilst under Covid-19 restrictions

- **Diocesan Parish Share Contribution:**

The PCC has enacted on its decision to limit its share to £2,500pm. This enabled the PCC to achieve its goal of a break-even position on its General Fund (excluding grants received)

- **Administration & Office Expenses:**

Includes salary of administrator.

- **Mission & Evangelism Expenses:**

Includes the cost of provisions for the Joshua Tree Café but also the purchase of café equipment paid for by way of grants received.

- **Maintenance:**

Includes repairs to the Choir Vestry, Church Hall Roof, and St Cuthberts Roof

Rob Brotherston

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC recognises the need to hold reserves to ensure funding is available to provide continuing mission but also to ensure that the PCC can meet its legal commitments should the Charity be unable to continue due to a lack of sustainable income stream.

The PCC have agreed that it would be prudent to maintain a cash and cash equivalent reserve at least equivalent to 3 months average monthly expenditure including any pledged Parish Share.

Approved by the PCC on 11 April 2022 date and signed on their behalf by The Reverend Glen MacKnight (Chairman)



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HILLSIDE

(ALL SAINTS, LOBLEY HILL and St CUTHBERTS, MARLEY HILL)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1153663

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Hillside Church

HILLSIDE CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

December 21

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 21 / 12 / 2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which 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.

Signed:

B. Smith

Date:

19.3.22

Name: Mrs Denise Bratton

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any): ACMA CGMA (CIMA ID-3372C9)

Address: 22 The Meadows

Burnopfield

Newcastle
NE16 6QW

Section B

Disclosure

NA

Hillside Church - 1153663
Statement Of Financial Activities
For The Period 01 January 2021 To 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Prior Year Funds
Income And Endowments From:					
Donations And Legacies	54,393	1,513	609	56,515	68,387
Income From Charitable Activities	394			394	428
Other Trading Activities	5,790	430	2,875	9,095	4,753
Other Income	10,572		5,074	15,646	2,003
Total Income	71,149	1,944	8,558	81,651	75,571
Expenditure:					
Charitable Activities	60,582	843	9,410	70,835	78,250
Other Expenditure	320			320	620
Total Expenditure	60,902	843	9,410	71,155	78,870
Net Income/(Expenditure) Resources Before Transfers	10,247	1,101	(852)	10,495	(3,299)
Transfers					
Gross Transfers Between Funds - In			1,662	1,662	
Gross Transfers Between Funds - Out	(1)	(1,279)	(382)	(1,662)	
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)					
Net Movement In Funds	10,246	(178)	428	10,495	(3,299)
Reconciliation Of Funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward	3,836	11,357	10,424	25,618	28,917
Total Funds Carried Forward	14,082	11,179	10,852	36,113	25,618
Represented By:					
General Fund	14,082			14,082	3,836
All Saints Toddler Group		536		536	299
St Cuthberts Toddler Group		903		903	783
St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund		1,513		1,513	
Renes' Fund		8,226		8,226	10,276
All Saints Gas Boiler Fund			7,207	7,207	8,862
Pre School Fund			659	659	1,259
Sarah Jane Vickery Dale Fund			322	322	
Sponsor A Light Bulb			3	3	
Pulpit Bible Fund			28	28	28
Joshua Tree Café Fund			2,633	2,633	275
Funds Of The Church	14,082	11,179	10,852	36,113	25,618

Hillside Church - 1153663

Balance Sheet As At 31 December 2021

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	As At 31/12/2020
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	155	1,869	6,481	8,506	9,321
Fixed Assets	155	1,869	6,481	8,506	9,321
Current Assets					
Debtors	9,887		206	10,093	13,088
Cash At Bank And In Hand	5,188	9,309	5,044	19,541	4,626
Current Assets	15,075	9,309	5,249	29,634	17,714
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	1,149		878	2,027	1,418
Net Current Assets Less Current Liabilities	13,926	9,309	4,371	27,607	16,296
Total Net Assets	14,082	11,179	10,852	36,113	25,618
Represented By:					
General Fund	14,082			14,082	3,836
All Saints Toddler Group		536		536	299
St Cuthberts Toddler Group		903		903	783
St Cuthberts Maintenance Fund		1,513		1,513	
Renes' Fund		8,226		8,226	10,276
All Saints Gas Boiler Fund			7,207	7,207	8,862
Pre School Fund			659	659	1,259
Sarah Jane Vickery Dale Fund			322	322	
Sponsor A Light Bulb			3	3	
Pulpit Bible Fund			28	28	28
Joshua Tree Café Fund			2,633	2,633	275
Funds Of The Church	14,082	11,179	10,852	36,113	25,618

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

Basis of Accounting

Trustees' duties are set out in the Charities Act 2011 and Charity Trustee Act 1993. These Acts impose a duty on the trustees to direct the affairs of the charity, ensure that it is solvent, ensure that proper accurate accounting records are kept, and that statements of account which adhere to the charity law and accounting regulations are prepared in respect of each financial year.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the applicable SORP (FRS102). Under the provisions of FRS102, the PCC is not classified as a larger charity and therefore is not required to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Funds

Unrestricted funds represent those funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are those which have been nominally allocated for a particular purpose by the PCC but which can be applied to other general purposes if required and are therefore also classified as unrestricted.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

The PCC has no endowment funds.

INCOME

Voluntary Income and collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Tax recoverable is recognised in the same year in which the donations are made. Any recoverable tax not received is shown as a debtor in the balance sheet.

Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

The PCC deem all fees and Early Years Funding received by the Pre School as restricted in use and are classified as such in these accounts. Fees and funding received in advance of actual term times are held in the balance sheet as a creditor.

Funds raised by church events are accounted for when received and are shown gross.

Rental income from the letting of PCC premises is recognised when the rental is due.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share that is unpaid at 31 December would be provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and would be shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements in accordance with s.10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful economic life of each asset.

CURRENT ASSETS

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December 2021 in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provisions for amounts that are considered uncollectable.

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

CURRENT LIABILITIES

All known liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law up to 31 December 2021 are included in these financial statements.

Note 2 - Analysis of Income

			Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
Donations				
Parish Giving Scheme	11,414	-	11,414	9,807
Planned Giving	26,475	-	26,475	31,361
Covenant Envelopes	1,310	-	1,310	860
Uncovenanted Envelopes	1,055	-	1,055	770
Open Plate	1,149	-	1,149	1,991
Gift Aid	10,113	-	10,113	13,782
Grant Income	10,572	3,744	14,316	2,003
Misc Income	4,391	1,939	6,330	9,816
Total	66,478	5,683	72,161	70,390
Income from Charitable Activities				
PCC Fees	394	-	394	428
Total	394	-	394	428
Other Trading Activities				
Toddler Groups	430	-	430	272
Traidcraft	10	-	10	205
Hire of Premises	5,780	-	5,780	3,830
Joshua Tree Community Café	-	2,875	2,875	445
Total	6,220	2,875	9,095	4,753
INCOME TOTAL	73,092	8,558	81,651	75,571

Note 3 – Analysis of Expenditure

			Total	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
Expenditure on Charitable Activities				
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	31,057	-	31,057	43,444
Salaries, wages and honoraria	10,352	-	10,352	10,536
Redundancy Payments	-	-	-	916
Clergy and staff expenses	328	1,008	1,336	1,979
Church Event Costs	423	3,917	4,340	731
Cleaners Wages & Cleaning Expenses	287	-	287	5,227
Maintenance	3,328	2,823	6,151	1,450
Telephony	1,217	-	1,217	1,010
Administration	1,273	-	1,273	921
Depreciation	1,076	1,655	2,731	927
Insurance	5,584	-	5,584	3,979
Church Service Costs	1,064	-	1,064	900
Traidcraft	675	-	675	273
Gas	2,586	-	2,586	3,583
Electricity	1,256	-	1,256	1,216
Water	168	-	168	304
Governance	43	-	43	474
Miscellaneous	709	7	716	366
Total	61,425	9,410	70,835	78,236
Other Expenditure				
Charitable Donations	320	-	320	620
Total	320	-	320	620
Total Expenditure	61,745	9,410	71,155	78,856

Note 4 – Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment & Software	Plant & Machinery (3yrs)	Plant & Machinery (5yrs)	TOTAL
Cost				
At 1st Jan 2021	5,455	3,179	8,274	16,908
Additions			1,915	1,915
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2021	5,455	3,179	10,189	18,823
Depreciation				
At 1st Jan 2020	4,994	2,455	138	7,586
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	193	595	1,942	2,731
At 31st December 2021	5,187	3,050	2,080	10,317
Net Book Value				
At 1st Jan 2021	461	724	8,136	9,321
At 31st December 2021	268	129	8,109	8,506

Note 5 – Debtors

	This year	Last year
Gift Aid Recoverable	5,996	9,107
Prepayments	4,097	4,051
Accounts Receivable	0	(70)
	10,093	13,088

Note 6 – Creditors

	This year	Last year
Accruals	1,002	779
HMRC	20	22
NEST Pension Costs	-	-
Agency Collections	695	49
Accounts Payable	309	554
	2,027	1,403

Note 7 – Personnel Costs

	This year	Last year
Salaries and other emoluments	10,232	13,060
Employers National Insurance	-	-
NEST Pension Costs	120	120
	10,352	13,180

Number of employees in post 31 December.	1	1
Average number of employees over the year.	1.00	4.08

There were no employees who met the definition of "key management personnel" during the year. [0]
 No salary or employee benefits have been paid to Trustees in respect of their membership of the PCC. [0]
 Incumbent clergy salaries are paid directly by the Durham Diocese and not by the PCC.

Redundancy payments of £0 have been recognised in salaries and other emoluments in this financial year.
 [£916]