



Hillside
CHURCH, GATESHEAD

**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;

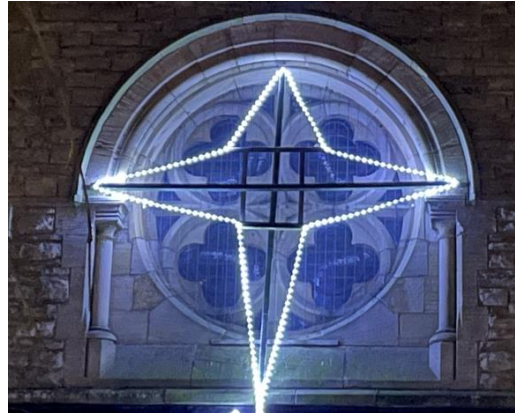
‘I have set a table before Hillside Church, draw nearer and feast with me your food is the Bible, my living Word.’



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



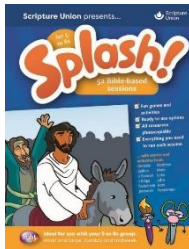
All Saint's toddler group is singing and dancing with delight as we tumble into the beginning of our 7th year full of fun packed Friday morning and afternoon sessions.

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 cafe – 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		
<p>N.B. This case study considers only one possible approach, which will not be suitable for every church. Always seek professional advice.</p>		
<p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 		
		
<p>1 The 'warm space' is hosted by the Joshua Tree café, located in the church hall.</p>	<p>2 The set-up for the Joshua Tree Café's toddler morning as part of the 'warm space'.</p>	<p>3 The church itself has been able to develop as a result of the scheme.</p>
<p>The context</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For more information, visit the church's website or its entry on the Church Heritage Record.</p>		
<p>Background of the Cafe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

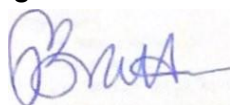
I have completed my examination.

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	—	1,443	—	—	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.