

ST PETER'S BETHNAL GREEN

England & Wales · Charity number 1154668

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2013-11-20

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

Contact

Address The Vicarage
St. Peter's Close
London
E2 7AE

Phone 07771508393

Email info@stpetersbethnalgreen.org

Website www.stpetersbethnalgreen.org

Activities

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

Activities: To promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church with a focus to worship God, make friends and change the world. This is achieved through working alongside a number of organisations as partners in undertaking mercy, justice and evangelism, practically, financially and/or in encouraging people to volunteer, and receiving support from them to fulfil our calling as a local church.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Hackney
- Tower Hamlets

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£457,937	£252,172	-	-
2023-12-31	£674,107	£632,187	£1,084,538	1
2022-12-31	£196,871	£173,889	-	-
2021-12-31	£218,000	£205,000	-	-
2020-12-31	£148,883	£123,695	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Philippa Cook	Chair	2024-10-01
Abby Marie Ewing		2025-05-11
Alison McIndoe		2021-03-14
Andrew Rixon		2022-03-13
Charlotte Parmiter		2024-04-14
Jessica Emilia Martin		2023-09-19
Joy Middleton		2024-04-14
Pamela Haluwa		2024-04-14
Philip Henry Ellis		2025-05-11
Richard Joel Herbert		2025-05-11
Tim Lovell		2024-04-14

ST PETER'S BETHNAL GREEN

England & Wales - Charity number 1154668

Accounts

St Peter's Bethnal Green Annual Report 2024

1. Reference and Administrative Details

- i. Charity name: St Peter's Bethnal Green Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- ii. Principal Address: St Peter's Bethnal Green, St Peter's Close, London E2 7AE
Registered charity number: 1154668
- iii. St Peter's Bethnal Green uses the banking services of Reliance Bank Ltd at Faith House, 23-24 Lovat Lane, London, EC3R 8EB.
- iv. Stewardship of 1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB were re-appointed to carry out the independent examination of accounts for 2024.

2. Structure and Governance

Responsibilities of the PCC

The PCC of St Peter's Bethnal Green has the responsibility, together with the Priest-in-Charge, the Rev'd Philippa Cook, to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church, with a focus to worship God, make friends and change the world.

This is achieved through working alongside a number of organisations as partners in undertaking mercy, justice and evangelism. It is responsible for the maintenance and buildings of St Peter's Bethnal Green.

As a Church of England parish church, the PCC and Vicar follow the requirements of Church of England Canon Law.

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Objectives and activities

The 2024 electoral roll had 83 registered members at the APCM. Those on the Electoral Roll are able to nominate candidates for the PCC. The PCC and Church Wardens are elected annually to the ACPM.

The PCC organises itself to carry out its aims and objectives by having regular meetings and various sub-committees. The PCC held 10 formal meetings over the course of the year.

The PCC's Finance Team prepares information for explanation and decision making for the PCC and takes forward management matters with the Vicar. Day-to-day management of the church is delegated to the Vicar, Rev'd Philippa Cook and her staff team.

The trustees confirm they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing aims and planning activities detailed in the rest of the report.

Members of the PCC

Members of the PCC are elected on an annual basis at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Since 01 January 2024, the following have served as members of the PCC:

- a. Priest-in-Charge - Rev. Philippa Cook (appointed 1 October 2024)
- b. Associate Priest: The Rev'd Alison Mulroy (continuous service)
- c. Curate: The Rev'd Luke Smith (continuous service)
- d. Wardens: Maria Wyard (resigned 14 April 2024), Andrew Rixon (continuous service), Jess Martin (appointed 14 April 2024)
- e. Representative on the Deanery Synod: Anne Bishop (continuous service)
- f. Elected Members: Charlotte Parmiter (appointed 14 April 2024), Pamela Haluwa (appointed 14 April 2024), Joy Middleton (appointed 14 April 2024), Tim Lovell (appointed 14 April 2024), Andrea McIntosh (appointed 23 April 2023), Alison McIndoe (continuous service), Chris Bollington (resigned 25 January 2024), Jess Martin (appointed to PCC 19 September 2023), John Loveday (appointed 11 May 2025), Richard Herbert (appointed 11 May 2025), Phillip Ellis (appointed 11 May 2025), Abby Ewing (appointed 11 May 2025).

Part 1 – Annual Report

Leadership

2024 saw a change in the leadership of St Peter's Bethnal Green.

In January, we said a sad but fond farewell to the Rev Heather Atkinson. Heather has led St Peter's faithfully since 2018. We have many things to be thankful to Heather for, including leading us through the asbestos decontamination project during 2023.

This meant we were in vacancy for around 8 months of the year. We'd like to thank Ali and Luke for holding us all through that and making the vacancy a smooth experience as it could have been. During this time we launched a survey of the congregation to build a vision of what we were looking for in our next incumbent and from this the PCC and Clergy created the Parish Profile.

In October we welcomed the Rev Philippa Cook as our new Priest-in-Charge.

Thank you St Peter's for the warm welcome as I begin my ministry here as Priest-in-Charge. I look forward to working and worshipping alongside you as we seek to see the Kingdom of God come in Bethnal Green together.

In November, our longstanding Operations Director, David Bishop, moved on from his role on the St Peter's staff. David has done a phenomenal job for a number of years. He was key to the success of our period in the marquee during the asbestos decontamination project of 2023. We wish him success in his new role.

Throughout the week

Regular worship and activities continued throughout 2024. Alongside Sunday services, these included:

- Art and Soul (Wednesday afternoons) continued to be a safe space to explore community, creativity and spirituality. Attendees included Spear trainees and a range of people from the church community and beyond. The group adapted to meeting in both the marquee and Room One over the course of the year
- Morning prayer (8am on Wednesdays)
- Community Climbing Club on Monday evenings, part of Ali's Youth ministry
- Monthly community women's lunches
- Daylight (fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons)
- Streams life groups
- Friday morning coffee at Zander Court
- Dwell (a monthly 'engine room of prayer' to fuel the mission of St Peter's)

We are especially grateful to all volunteers and members of the congregation who faithfully contributed to the life of the church during the year.

Young Life

Children and young people remained central to the life of the church, with regular Sunday activities in rooms one and two. Having brilliantly led Young Life in a volunteer capacity for two years, Anne Bishop stepped back in the summer, with Luke and Ali taking on this role. There remained a desire to appoint a part-time paid Young Life Pastor, and at the end of 2024 Abi Genn was recruited to begin in January 2025.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding of both children and vulnerable adults remained a priority throughout the year with John Loveday continuing to serve as Safeguarding Officer. Safer recruitment and safeguarding training were administered by Rachel Finegan as part of her Teams Administrator role.

Alpha

A handful of newcomers took part in a ten-week Alpha course between January and March, including a Holy Spirit Saturday and culminating in some joining regularly on Sundays.

Easter

Holy Week was well-attended and rich in worship styles. We journeyed through the events of Holy Week, beginning with our Outdoor Palm Sunday procession. We shared a Maundy Thursday meal and vigil followed the next day by Good Friday art and soul making and art stations, ending with a liturgical hour of Eucharist, liturgy and veneration of the Cross. Easter Sunday began with a dawn vigil, and concluded with a joyous all-together service of celebration.

Spear

Members of St Peter's supported the Spear project throughout the year. Once again there were inspirational presentations by the Spear trainees reflecting all the hard work and commitment of the Spear coaches. 82% of the young people who completed the programme were in work or education 1 year later, and 72 young people in total completed the Spear programme. 5 young people also went on to join Alpha.

Art + Soul

In June we had our first Art and Soul Summer exhibition showing the work of the A+S group, alongside works from our church family. The show ran from Wednesday to Sunday, with a well-attended and uplifting opening night. It attracted many from our local community, building on existing connections and

introducing new ones. It also built confidence and enthusiasm in our exhibiting artists.

HFF-funded visit to Ely

The Friday group and Art+Soul visited Ely Cathedral with the support of the Henry Fawcett Fund. As well as seeing the incredible cathedral, we were able to visit a number of exhibitions and museums nearby. Despite being somewhat of a whistle stop tour, there were times of contemplation, and we ended the day with peaceful evening prayers in the cathedral.

Collaboration with Arts for All

Art + Soul continued to collaborate with Arts for All. This took place by sharing a number of joint sessions together throughout the year. These meet-ups were a wonderful way for both groups to continue to connect with each other in both personal and creative ways.

The Beehive Exhibition

In November, Art + Soul had the opportunity to exhibit a selection of their work in the Beehives One Wall Gallery. They exhibited for around 3 months and received a lot of positive feedback on their work. We had an open evening in March to close the show. It was a well-attending and uplifting community event and a great opportunity to continue building our relationship with our neighbours, Bethnal Green Mission Church.

Summer events

A group of us went along to Focus, our church annual weekend away with the Holy Trinity Brompton network under canvas at the Newark Showground. It was great to join with the Tower Hamlets churches to camp together this year - getting to experience community and fellowship with one another was a genuine blessing.

Asbestos removal

The asbestos removal project ended in December 2023, so 2024 represented a year of rebuilding following significant upheaval in the previous year. Being back in the church building has been wonderful.

Kido Nursery

Kido opened its doors to paying clients for the first time in 2024. Rental income from the hall supports the mission and ministry of St Peter's.

Remembrance

The traditional service of remembrance was held on Ion Square, with the piano rolled out, a choir and an opportunity to remember through prayer, silence and the laying of wreaths. The service was well attended by church members and representatives from local communities.

Advent and Christmas

A wonderful series of services was planned and advertised on banners, through the website and delivering flyers round as much of the parish as possible.

We kicked off the season with Campfire carols in the church gardens, where we were pleased to welcome over 200 people from across the community for hot dogs, mulled wine and carol singing around the fire.

Our Christingle service was well attended and enjoyed by all, with packs for making christingles generously put together by the Friday morning coffee group.

Following the extremely busy Wednesday evening Columbia Road Carols in 2023, it was decided to not hold the event at all in Christmas 2024. Safety concerns and other considerations remain the number one priority for any activity the church and local community is involved in.

Carols by Candlelight welcomed many from across the community, with well over 200 in attendance in the church building- every chair and pew was sat on with many standing at the back!

Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve was very busy with local people, and Christmas morning was full of joy.

The Christmas season was full of wonderful opportunities to welcome and get to know our neighbours.

Part 2 – Treasurer’s Report

2024 Overview

Finance at St Peter’s is typically overseen by the Finance Working Group, a sub-committee of the PCC, made up of the Vicar, a Churchwarden and at least one other member, supported by the Operations Director and the Treasurer. This team meets regularly and makes recommendations on finance matters to the PCC. Due to vacancy, the Churchwardens and the Operations Director ran this sub-committee.

Income

The ministries and activities of St Peter’s Bethnal Green were largely funded by three groups of income: –

Giving Income in 2024 (funding from the congregation members and friends of St Peter’s in the form of standing orders, one-off gifts, regular collections and related gift aid) amounted to £76,218 (down from £82k in 2023).

Property Income in 2024 (the letting and renting of church premises) also accounted for a significant proportion of the church’s income, at £109,000 (in 2023, £110k). This came from Kido (£100,000) and £9,000 from renting out the crypt to Parabolic Theatre for the first half of 2024. This was slightly less than expected in the budget due to lower irregular property rental (as Parabolic vacated the crypt in June).

Grant Income in 2024 totalled £50,632 (in 2023, £323k). These included grants from Veolia for the building, as well as the Church Revitalisation Trust and the Henry Fawcett Fund to support lay staffing, Curate costs and Associate Vicar costs.

Other income amounted to £222,087 in 2023, £116k), with £6,528 coming from room hire, weddings and funerals, and £215,559 paid to us in insurance payments. This includes sums due to the PCC for claims in 2024 which were received after the year end.

Overall, St Peter’s received £457,937 in 2024, down from £674,107 in 2023, mostly attributable to the difference in grants claimed for building work, as well as a decrease in total giving.

Expenditure

All expenditure aimed to support our mission as a church.

Over the course of the year: –

Ministry expenses (including clergy, staff, retreat and event expenses) were £117,791. A significant portion of this was funded through specific grants.

Gift expenditure amounted to £58,432 for our Diocesan Common Fund contribution, up from £53k in 2023 and £30k in 2022.

Property related expenditure including church maintenance and insurance totalled £68,121, up from £52,246 in 2023. This year there were no major property repairs carried out (in 2023, we spent £430,659 on major repairs).

Overall, St Peter's spent £252,172 in 2024, down from £632,187 in 2023.

Closing position

The PCC's net assets increased to £1,290,303 (2023: £1,084,539), including fixed assets such as the Mission Hall.

Policy on reserves

The PCC has determined that the charity should aim to hold free reserves (which the trustees define as being unrestricted net current assets less creditors falling due after one year) of no less than £58k i.e. 3 months of budgeted operational expenditure.

Reserves are continually reviewed by the Finance Working Group and the 2024 budget aims to keep the level of reserves as close to the policy as possible, whilst trying to increase Common Fund contributions, as well as necessarily increasing ministry costs.

At the year end the PCC held free reserves of £317,451 in compliance with its reserves policy.

Risk assessment and mitigation

The financial risks which the church faces are considered regularly by the Finance Working Group. Measures are proposed by the Finance Working Group and implemented by the PCC or staff team to ensure that appropriate financial systems, policies and procedures are in place to manage and mitigate financial risks. As an organisation with a relatively low level of reserves, we manage financial risk with strong financial systems and controls. As a matter of general policy, independent professional advice is taken where appropriate.

Investment and cash flow policy

As mentioned above, St Peter's has relatively low reserves and hence it rarely has excess funds to invest. Most of the cash is held by the charity in a bank current account so that it is readily accessible, less the rent deposit for our Mission Hall tenant, which is held in a separate, with notice, deposit account.

Grant making policy

The PCC carefully evaluates grant applications before any grants are awarded.

Health and safety and Employment Law Policy

In 2024 the church employed staff, and the premises are in regular use by various groups and members of our congregation, which include children and vulnerable adults. Employment law, health and safety, and safeguarding measures are adhered to, and assistance in these matters is sought from the Diocese of London and independent professional advisors.

Sustainability policy

St Peter's encourages the adoption of sustainable practice in all areas of church life and work, as a means to contribute to the reduction in carbon emissions in dealing with the growing evidence of climate change. We have undertaken energy audits, recycling programmes and we encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking by our staff and clergy. We are also committed to the national church's Net Zero Carbon mission.

2025 plans

The 2025 budget requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's should be wholly covered by the cash received. The budget will be reviewed regularly by the Finance Working Group.

2025 Income

The PCC's regular income budget sought to increase the amount of regular givers once more, with a target of £54,290 in regular giving and £17,167 in one-off giving (in 2024, £43,000 and £16,900, respectively).

Property income was forecast to total £112,000 between the crypt and the regular hall rent paid by Kido Nursery.

The budget for *grant income* was set at £65,052. This is in expectation of securing some targeted grants to assist with both staffing costs as well as building repair.

2025 Expenditure

We plan to increase our *away giving* for the second year in a row by increasing our Common Fund contribution to 75%. The Common Fund is the name given to the contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding. In years past, our CF contribution was significantly below the level set for each parish by the Diocese, but our ability to now meet this is a testament to the hard work and commitment of the staff, clergy and entire parish community of St Peter's.

Staffing will be as follows: Priest In Charge, Associate Priest, Curate, Operations Director, Teams Administrator, Children's Pastor, Verger, Worship Pastor, Groundsperson.

Staffing costs were expected to dip slightly due to the departure of our Operations Director David Bishop in November 2024, our only full-time member of staff. We have now filled this vacancy with the appointment of Stephanie Ewing in April 2025.

Church restoration

Depending on the success of capital fundraising, urgent capital repairs are being carried out to the tower stonework, the organ and levelling the garden paths. Contractors were hired for the removal of the church's organ in May 2025 for 12 weeks as the first phase of this programme of work.

An assessment made by the Diocesan parish property advisor in January 2020 advised that the church building will require between £750k and £1m spending on the fabric in the next 10 years before redeveloping any internal space; this must be held in mind during future financial planning.

The last quinquennial report was completed in 2019 and St Peter's is due a new inspection in 2025. The diocese has agreed to a full condition report given the

building's challenges over the past five years, but this has been delayed due to the ongoing asbestos works in the church, which they requested were completed before proceeding with the quinquennial report. The organ project is on track to finish in mid-August 2025.

The PCC responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing for these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in SORP (the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities)
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

<u>Andrew Rixon</u> Andrew Rixon (Jul 28, 2025 12:50:31 GMT+1)	Jul 28, 2025
Andrew Rixon, Church Warden	Date
<u>J.Martin</u> J.Martin (Jul 28, 2025 12:54:16 GMT+1)	Jul 28, 2025
Jessica Martin, Church Warden	Date
<u>PSFCook</u> PSFCook (Jul 28, 2025 13:04:43 GMT+1)	Jul 28, 2025
Philippa Cook, Priest-in-Charge	Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
('the Charity')

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 13 to 22 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 15 and 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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.


Archie McDowall (Jul 30, 2025 14:34:24 GMT+1)

Archie McDowall BA CA
Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Jul 30, 2025

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	69,164	57,686	126,850	405,689
Charitable activities	4	6,528	-	6,528	8,255
Other trading activities	5	109,000	-	109,000	111,639
Other income: proceeds of insurance claim		215,559	-	215,559	148,525
Total income and endowments		400,250	57,686	457,937	674,107
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	187,847	58,237	246,084	621,830
Raising funds	7	6,088	-	6,088	10,357
Total expenditure		193,934	58,237	252,172	632,187
Net income/(expenditure)		206,316	(551)	205,765	41,920
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		206,316	(551)	205,765	41,920
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		111,135	973,403	1,084,538	1,042,618
Total funds carried forward	15	317,451	972,852	1,290,303	1,084,538

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these accounts.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	5,044	970,000	975,044	971,894
		<u>5,044</u>	<u>970,000</u>	<u>975,044</u>	<u>971,894</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	209,136	-	209,136	87,493
Cash at bank and in hand	11	149,300	2,853	152,153	148,532
		358,436	2,853	361,289	236,024
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(45,195)	-	(45,195)	(113,380)
		<u>313,240</u>	<u>2,853</u>	<u>316,094</u>	<u>122,645</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)					
		<u>313,240</u>	<u>2,853</u>	<u>316,094</u>	<u>122,645</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>318,285</u>	<u>972,853</u>	<u>1,291,138</u>	<u>1,094,538</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(833)	-	(833)	(10,000)
		<u>317,451</u>	<u>972,853</u>	<u>1,290,305</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS					
		<u>317,451</u>	<u>972,853</u>	<u>1,290,305</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>
FUND BALANCES					
Unrestricted Funds		317,451	-	317,451	111,135
Restricted Funds	15	-	972,853	972,853	973,404
		<u>317,451</u>	<u>972,853</u>	<u>1,290,305</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Rixon

Andrew Rixon (Jul 28, 2025 12:50:31 GMT+1)

Jul 28, 2025

Andrew Rixon - trustee

Date

Charity number: 1154668

The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these accounts.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter with St Thomas, Bethnal Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body and are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes recoverable gift aid, which is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from weddings and funerals, from church events and courses and for letting facilities to the local community.

Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity and comprises income receivable from letting property.

Other income comprises income receivable from insurance claims and comprises claims approved by insurance companies by the year end. Any unpaid claims that have been approved by the year end are recognised as debtors in the accounts.

The charity has taken the view that it has only one charitable activity, namely the advancement of the Christian faith, and all income from donations, legacies and charitable activities is in respect of this one activity.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish quota are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Expenditure on raising funds comprises expenditure incurred in respect of the charity's property letting income and time spent by staff on generating grant income.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

c) Expenditure continued

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

The Charities SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2010 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The trustees used an insurance valuation to help estimate the market value of the charity's freehold property on 1 January 2014 (being the date of transition to FRS102) and, as permitted by FRS102, its estimated market value on that date has been treated as being the property's deemed cost. The members of the PCC consider the residual value of the freehold building to be very high and believe that any provision for depreciation would not be material; consequently no depreciation has been charged in these accounts

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Leased assets

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term (unless another systematic basis is more representative of use).

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, basic financial instruments (which includes cash, debtors and creditors) are measured initially at transaction value and subsequently measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for loans at amortised cost using the effective interest method (i.e. it excludes any interest that may be charged on the loans in future years).

j) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Donations and legacies

	2024	2023
	£	£
Regular giving	42,393	57,750
Ad hoc giving	16,318	9,613
Church collections	4,016	3,213
Gift aid recoverable	13,491	12,043
	<u>76,218</u>	<u>82,619</u>
Government grants		
Listed Places of Worship Scheme	-	49,831
Other grants:		
from Henry Fawcett Fund	20,418	19,520
from Diocese	-	174,476
from others	30,214	79,243
	<u>50,632</u>	<u>323,070</u>
	<u>126,850</u>	<u>405,689</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees for weddings, funerals etc	1,778	832
Retreats and events	1,010	5,463
Letting facilities for community benefit	3,740	1,960
	<u>6,528</u>	<u>8,255</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Church hall lettings	100,000	93,639
Crypt lettings	9,000	18,000
	<u>109,000</u>	<u>111,639</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

	2024	2023
	£	£
Ministry expenses		
Diocesan parish quota - common fund	58,432	52,665
Diocesan service fees	679	(264)
Clergy accommodation and contribution to clergy stipend	47,914	27,649
Staff costs	40,546	38,452
Ministry expenses	26,003	10,310
Retreats and events	2,649	9,093
	<u>176,223</u>	<u>137,905</u>
Church running costs		
Property expenses including cleaning and minor repairs	50,476	30,656
Insurance	4,822	10,255
Office expenses	8,544	7,141
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	3,030	2,940
Depreciation	1,249	1,254
	<u>68,121</u>	<u>52,246</u>
Major property repairs		
Church building: repairs to nave ceiling and asbestos removal	-	418,779
Crypt: emergency lighting and fire alarm	-	11,880
	<u>-</u>	<u>430,659</u>
Grants payable (note 6b)	1,740	1,019
	<u>246,084</u>	<u>621,830</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £3,030 (2023: £2,940).

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6b Grants payable

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2024 £
Grants for the relief of poverty	338	1,403	1,740
	<u>338</u>	<u>1,403</u>	<u>1,740</u>

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2023 £
Grants for the relief of poverty	275	744	1,019
	<u>275</u>	<u>744</u>	<u>1,019</u>

7 Cost of raising funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	4,588	7,867
Legal and professional fees	1,500	2,490
	<u>6,088</u>	<u>10,357</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

2024 2023

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2023: 1). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

Rev. Philippa Cook, Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Rev'd Alison Mulroy and Rev'd Luke Smith are clergy members of the PCC. They receive a stipend from the Diocese and they are not employed by the PCC. Some of the Parish Quota paid by the PCC is used to help meet the cost of their stipends. In addition the PCC paid:

- a) £nil (2023: £580) towards the cost of accommodation provided to Rev'd Heather Atkinson by the Diocese.
- b) £12,969 (2023: £nil) towards the cost of accommodation provided to Rev. Philippa Cook by the Diocese.
- c) £5,448 (2023: £8,913) for the provision of accommodation to Rev'd Alison Mulroy. In addition the PCC directly contributed £7,828 (2023: £6,826) toward the cost of her stipend.
- d) £23,820 (2023: £11,910) for the provision of accommodation to Rev'd Luke Smith.

No member of the PCC received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Worship and Office Equipment £	Total 2024 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	970,000	5,882	975,882
Additions	-	4,399	4,399
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>970,000</u>	<u>10,281</u>	<u>980,281</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	-	3,988	3,988
Charge for the year	-	1,249	1,249
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>5,237</u>	<u>5,237</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2024	<u>970,000</u>	<u>5,044</u>	<u>975,044</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>970,000</u>	<u>1,894</u>	<u>971,894</u>

Freehold property comprises the church hall at Warner Place.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	2,088	4,243
Lettings and event income receivable	-	-
Prepaid expenditure	13,989	11,620
Grants receivable	-	27,779
Insurance claims receivable	193,059	43,851
	<u>209,136</u>	<u>87,493</u>

11 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	126,079	117,937
Notice deposits	26,044	30,565
Petty cash	30	30
	<u>152,153</u>	<u>148,532</u>

12 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due to contractors in respect of repairs to nave ceiling	-	72,429
Other creditors	6,121	1,387
Accrued expenses	3,030	3,998
Tenant deposit	26,044	25,566
Loan from Diocese	10,000	10,000
	<u>45,195</u>	<u>113,380</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Loan from Diocese	833	10,000
	<u>833</u>	<u>10,000</u>

During the prior year the PCC received a loan of £20,000 from the Diocese to help meet the cost of repairs to the nave ceiling. The loan is interest free and is repayable by 24 monthly instalments, which commenced in January 2024.

14 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £1,674 (2023: £1,580) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. No contributions were owed at the balance sheet date (2023: £0 was owed).

15 Restricted funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2024	Incoming resources 2024	Outgoing resources 2024	Transfers in the year 2024	Closing balance 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	549	-	-	-	549
Staff fund	-	7,898	(7,898)	-	-
Clergy fund	655	35,222	(35,222)	-	655
Event fund	-	-	-	-	-
Repair fund	-	8,000	(8,000)	-	-
Vicar's Discretionary fund	1,256	6,567	(6,567)	-	1,256
Youth fund	944	-	(551)	-	393
	<u>973,404</u>	<u>57,686</u>	<u>(58,237)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>972,853</u>

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15 Restricted funds continued

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	5,044	970,000	975,044
Debtors	209,136	-	209,136
Cash at bank and in hand	149,300	2,853	152,153
Creditors falling due within one year	(45,195)	-	(45,195)
Creditors falling due after one year	(833)	-	(833)
	<u>317,451</u>	<u>972,853</u>	<u>1,290,305</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	(1,080)	-	549
Staff fund	-	7,284	(7,284)	-	-
Clergy fund	-	21,667	(21,012)	-	655
Event fund	-	1,764	(1,764)	-	-
Repair fund	-	290,355	(417,699)	127,344	(0)
Vicar's Discretionary fund	-	2,000	(744)	-	1,256
Youth fund	638	600	(295)	-	944
	<u>972,267</u>	<u>323,670</u>	<u>(449,878)</u>	<u>127,344</u>	<u>973,404</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,894	970,000	971,894
Debtors	87,493	-	87,493
Cash at bank and in hand	145,128	3,404	148,532
Creditors falling due within one year	(113,380)	-	(113,380)
Creditors falling due after one year	(10,000)	-	(10,000)
	<u>111,135</u>	<u>973,404</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>

Information about the charity's restricted funds:

The **Church Hall** fund is in respect of the church hall at Warner Place. The custodian trustee is the London Diocesan Fund and the PCC cannot sell the property without the consent of the London Diocesan Fund.

The **Organ** fund was created from grants and donations received for the church organ.

The **Staff** fund was created from grants received to help meet the cost of employing staff.

The **Clergy** fund was created from grants received to help meet the cost of providing accommodation to clergy and the cost of making contributions to the Diocese in respect of the stipend they receive from the Diocese.

The **Event** fund was created from grants received to help fund the provision of ministry events.

The **Energy support** fund was created by a grant received from the Diocese to help the charity with energy costs.

The **Repair** fund was created from grants received to help meet the cost of repairs to the church building.

The **Vicar's Discretionary** fund was created from grants received for discretionary use by the Vicar.

The **Youth** fund was created by donations received to help meet the cost of the PCC's work with children and young people.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

16 Operating lease income

The charity has granted a lease to a nursery provider that gives them exclusive use of the church hall at Warner Place. The minimum amounts receivable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews and any unforeseen events that could result in early termination) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Income falling due:		
Within one year	100,000	100,000
Between one and five years	400,000	400,000
After five years	<u>141,667</u>	<u>141,667</u>
	<u><u>641,667</u></u>	<u><u>641,667</u></u>

17 The charity has an operating lease for rented accommodation provided to clergy. The minimum amount payable in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Payments falling due:		
Within one year	23,820	23,820
Between one and five years	<u>35,730</u>	<u>35,730</u>
	<u><u>59,550</u></u>	<u><u>59,550</u></u>

During the year the charity was charged £23,820 (2023: £23,820) for its operating lease.

18 Other relevant financial information

The PCC pursued insurance claims for the replacement of contents that were contaminated by asbestos and had to be destroyed and for the decontamination from asbestos of the church organ. Subsequent to the year end the PCC's insurers made payments totalling £193,059. This income has been recognised as a debtor in these accounts and the proceeds from the insurance claims will be used to replace contents and decontaminate the organ.

During 2023 the PCC was awarded a grant of £45,000 by Tower Hamlets Council for projects that would reduce the charity's carbon footprint. The charity is currently attempting to secure further funding to undertake these project and it hoped that the PCC will be in a position to be able to claim the grant before the end of 2025.

19 Transactions with related parties

During the year the PCC received grants totalling £21,380.50 (2023: £19,520) from the Henry Fawcett Fund, a registered charity established for the relief of poverty in the parish. The vicar and the PCC's two church wardens serve as trustees of the Henry Fawcett Fund and the Henry Fawcett Fund is regarded as being a related party.

During the year the charity :

- a) received donations totalling £17,055 (2023: £15,417) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) paid employment benefits totalling £41,395 (2023: £39,408) to a person closely related to Anne Bishop, who is a trustee.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking duties associated with serving as clergy, no expenses were paid to (or for) members of the PCC.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and legacies	3	69,164	57,686	126,850	82,019	323,670	405,689
Charitable activities	4	6,528	-	6,528	8,255	-	8,255
Other trading activities	5	109,000	-	109,000	111,639	-	111,639
Other income		215,559	-	215,559	148,525	-	148,525
Total income and endowments		400,250	57,686	457,937	350,438	323,670	674,107
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable activities:	6	187,847	58,237	246,084	171,952	449,878	621,830
Raising funds	7	6,088	-	6,088	10,357	-	10,357
Total Expenditure		193,934	58,237	252,172	182,310	449,878	632,187
Net income/(expenditure)		206,316	(551)	205,765	168,128	(126,208)	41,920
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	(127,344)	127,344	-
Net movement in funds		206,316	(551)	205,765	40,784	1,136	41,920
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		111,135	973,403	1,084,538	70,351	972,267	1,042,618
Total funds carried forward	15	317,451	972,852	1,290,303	111,135	973,403	1,084,539

St Peter's Bethnal Green - 2024 accounts, FINAL FOR SIGNING

Final Audit Report

2025-07-30

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ST PETER'S BETHNAL GREEN

England & Wales - Charity number 1154668

Accounts



St Peter with St Thomas Bethnal Green

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

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ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Part 1

Sections 1-6: The Vicar's Report

1. Reference information

- i. Members of the PCC are elected as Trustees on an annual basis at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Since 01 January 2023, the following have served as members of the PCC:

- a. Vicar: The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, (resigned 21 February 2024)
- b. Associate Priest: The Rev'd Alison Mulroy (continuous service)
- c. Curate: The Rev'd Luke Smith (appointed 01 July 2023) previously a co-opted member of PCC as an Ordinand
- d. Wardens: 1. Maria Wyard (resigned 14 April 2024) 2. Andrew Rixon (continuous service) 3. Jess Martin (appointed 14 April 2024)
- e. Representative on the Deanery Synod: Anne Bishop (continuous service)
- f. Elected Members: Abby Ewing (resigned 31 January 2023), Alison McIndoe (continuous service), Andrea McIntosh (appointed 23 April 2023), Jess Martin (appointed 19 September 2023), Chris Bollington (resigned 25 January 2024), Pamela Haluwa (appointed 14 April 2024), Tim Lovell (appointed 14 April 2024), Joy Middleton (appointed 14 April 2024), Charlotte Parmiter (appointed 14 April 2024)

- ii. St Peter's Bethnal Green is a registered charity number 1154668.
- iii. St Peter's Bethnal Green uses the banking services of Reliance Bank Ltd at Faith House, 23-24 Lovat Lane, London, EC3R 8EB.
- iv. Stewardship (1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB) were re-appointed as the charity's accountants and an employee nominated by Stewardship serves as the charity's independent examiner.
- v. Postal address of the church: St Peter's Bethnal Green, St Peter's Close, London E2 7AE.
- vi. Administrative address: The Church Office, The Vicarage, St Peter's Square, London, E2 7AE

2. Structure & Governance

i. Responsibilities of the PCC

The PCC of St Peter's Bethnal Green has the responsibility, together with the Vicar, the Rev'd Heather Atkinson, to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church. This includes the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical aspects. It is responsible for the maintenance of the buildings of St Peter's Bethnal Green. As a Church of England Parish church, the PCC and Vicar follow requirements of Church of England Canon Law.

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

ii. Objectives and activities

The objectives of St Peter's Bethnal Green are to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church with a focus to worship God, make friends and change the world. Amplification of the vision of St Peter's is on the website and available in other papers. Otherwise do talk to the clergy.

The electoral roll had 83 registered members at the APCM (14 April 2024). Those on the Electoral roll are able to nominate candidates for the PCC. The PCC and Church Wardens are elected annually at the APCM. The PCC organises itself to carry out its aims and objectives by having regular meetings and various sub-committees. The PCC held five formal meetings over the year and one emergency meeting regarding the closure of the nave.

Day-to-day management of the church is delegated to the Vicar and staff team. Since Heather Atkinson's resignation on 21 February 2024 the Vicar's responsibilities have passed to the Church Wardens. A Standing Committee has now been formed (comprising the Clergy, Church Wardens and a representative of the PCC)

iii. Public Benefit

The PCC members confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. St Peter's Bethnal Green works alongside a number of organisations as partners in undertaking mercy, justice and evangelism. We support these practically, financially and in encouraging people to volunteer and we receive support from them in fulfilling our calling as a local church.

These include: Bethnal Green Spear Trust, Resurgo, Bow Foodbank, Columbia Road Traders Association, and other local churches, individual ministries, primary schools and social enterprises.

The church of St Peter's Bethnal Green benefits the community by the activities described in the section entitled 'Change the World', notably through outreach and supporting others through our volunteer programme, prayer and financial input.

3. Throughout the week

Despite the church building closure, regular worship and activities continued throughout the year. Alongside Sunday services, these included: -

- Art and Soul (Wednesday afternoons) continued to be a safe place to explore community, creativity and spirituality. Attendees included Spear trainees and a range of people from the church community and beyond. The group adapted to meeting in both the marquee and room one over the course of the year.
- Morning Prayer (8am Wednesdays on Zoom).
- Community Climbing Club for young people (Monday evenings).
- Climb and Dine (monthly on Sundays for church young people).
- Friday Women's Climbing, Daylight (fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons).
- Friday Morning Coffee (Zander Court).
- Dwell (a monthly 'engine room of prayer' to fuel the mission of St Peter's).

Young Life

Children and young people remained central to the life of the church, with regular Sunday activities in rooms one and two. Having brilliantly led Young Life in a volunteer capacity for two years, Anne Bishop stepped back in the summer, with Luke Smith now taking on this role. The vision to appoint a part-time paid Young Life Pastor remains.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding of both children and vulnerable adults remained a priority throughout the year with John Loveday continuing to serve as Safeguarding Officer. Safer recruitment and safeguarding training were administered by Rachel Finegan as part of her Teams Administrator role.

4. Across the year

January-March

Worship in the marquee

2023 began with services taking place in the recently erected marquee in the church garden (following the nave ceiling collapse and the closure of the church building in November 2022). Despite the cold and damp, worship continued with enthusiasm and good humour. At the same time a spirit of camaraderie drew the congregation closer together, while there were encouraging reports of how much neighbours enjoyed the sound of worship each Sunday. There was only one occasion when umbrellas were needed inside the marquee as warm air condensed on the cold surface of the marquee roof resulting in a constant dripping!

Refreshments, tea and coffee were served between the 10 and 11am services from the small marquee, with the Tea and Coffee Crew quickly adapting to the challenges of working in an outside environment.

Alpha

A handful of newcomers took part in a ten-week Alpha course between January and March, including a Holy Spirit Saturday and culminating in some joining regularly on Sundays.

April-June

Easter

Holy week and Easter were a new experience in the marquee, with the Maundy Thursday supper and Holy Communion a particular highlight, followed by a vigil until midnight in Room one. Good Friday and Easter Day were also celebrated in the marquee with the Easter dawn vigil round the fire pit on Ion Square. Bill White was confirmed at St Paul's Cathedral on Easter Saturday.

Spear

Members of St Peter's supported Spear throughout the year, including at the celebration of the fiftieth Bethnal Green Spear cohort at Hanbury Hall in June. Once again there were inspirational presentations by the Spear trainees reflecting all of the hard work and commitment of the Spear coaches.

July-September

Petertide

July saw several of us at St Paul's Cathedral for Luke Smith's ordination at Petertide, which was also celebrated with a church family picnic on Ion Square.

Elevate

Elevate (which serves as a bridge between Spear and St Peter's) hosted a summer BBQ and a visit from Archbishop Justin Welby who took part in a highly engaging question and answer session, while the marquee provided shelter from the rain. The event was also attended by trainees from Spear Islington.

Summer events

A group of twenty-five people took part in Focus, our church annual weekend away with the HTB (Holy Trinity Brompton) network under canvas in Lincolnshire. This was much enjoyed by young and old alike.

September saw a Back-to-School BBQ with fairground style games for children. A number from St Peter's attended Adam Atkinson's consecration as Bishop of Bradwell in Westminster Abbey and there was also a Saturday coach trip to Southend-on-Sea.

Asbestos removal

Meanwhile contractors safely removed all asbestos contaminated items (including all fabric items and electrical equipment) from the church building. The nave and chancel ceiling (both the original lath and plaster and the asbestos insulation board overlay) were taken down entirely and replaced with a membrane, insulation board covered over with traditional plaster. There were also extensive repairs of the slate roof. The insulation was funded by a grant from Veolia Environmental Trust. A further grant for £45,000 was awarded by Tower Hamlets to improve the heating and insulation of rooms one and two. The PCC hopes to be able to claim this grant in 2024 once funding for the balance of the cost of the project has been secured.

October - December

Kido Nursery

Building work was also ongoing in the church hall (St Peter's Mission Hall) leased to Kido in 2022. The works were completed by the year end, in time for the nursery to open in 2024. Rental income from the hall supports the mission and ministry of St Peter's.

Remembrance

The traditional service of remembrance was held on Ion Square, with the piano rolled out and the recently re-formed church choir performed, led by Jess Martin.

PCC/leadership Day

Members of the PCC (Parochial Church Council), clergy and staff took part in a vision day at St Paul's Shadwell facilitated by Heather Atkinson. This was to begin considering the future for St Peter's following Heather's planned leaving in February 2024.

Advent and Christmas

The usual series of services was planned and advertised both on banners, through the website and delivering flyers round as much of the parish as possible. A large number of visitors took part in Campfire carols, Christingle and Carols by Candlelight (with the choir performing again) all in the marquee.

Columbia Road Carols

Columbia Road Carols on Wednesdays leading up to Christmas was so hugely successful that the final two weeks of four had to be cancelled. This was following crowds of over 7,000 people attending on week two, raising concerns for crowd safety.

Forward into church

The delayed completion of the ceiling works was achieved in the week before Christmas, with the result that the first service back in the building was the Midnight service on Christmas Eve. 'Carols by Candlelight' 2022 was the first service in the marquee and 'Carols by Candlelight' 2023 the last.

Finally, a word from Heather

Heather Atkinson continued as Vicar of St Peter's Bethnal Green throughout 2023. Heather's final report to PCC in January 2024 before leaving included the following: -

'I have deeply loved serving this parish and to leave is a wrench. I have loved and learned and rejoiced to be part of this church. I trust I have also been useful. May God bless you and keep you and grow in you a desire to follow Him with trust and expectation on your future adventures as His beloved church.'

Part 2

Section 7: Treasurer's report

Income to support Church mission

Finances at St Peter's were overseen by the Finance Working Group, a sub-committee of the PCC, made up of the Vicar, a Church Warden and at least one other member, supported by the Operations Director and the former Treasurer. This team met regularly and makes recommendations on finance matters to the PCC.

2023 Review

2023 Income

The ministries and activities of St Peter's Bethnal Green were largely funded by three groups of income: -

Giving Income in 2023 (funding from the congregation members and friends of St Peter's in the form of standing orders, one-off gifts, regular collections and related gift aid) amounted to **£83k**. This was down from 2022 when giving income totalled £94k. No 'giving drives' for particular projects were held in 2023.

Property Income (the letting and renting of church premises) also accounted for a significant proportion of the church's income, at **£112k** (2022: £67k). This comprised £94k for the hall and £18k for the church crypt. The year-on-year increase is due to the church hall having been leased for the full financial year. The hall was fully refurbished during the year by Kido who opened their pre-school nursery in January 2024. Meanwhile Parabolic Theatre continued their pilot phase in the crypt.

Grant Income from external bodies was **£323k** (2022 £19k). Grants totalling £241k were received for ceiling repairs and associated costs from Veolia Environmental Trust and London Diocesan Fund. Other grants were £19k from the Henry Fawcett Fund (HFF) mainly supporting staffing costs (Operations Director, Associate Priest and Teams Administrator), £13k from the Revitalise Trust in support of the Curate's costs and £50k from the government's Listed Places of Worship Scheme (which covered the VAT paid on building repairs).

Other income amounted to **£156k** (2022: £17k), including a £148k insurance payout with the remainder from events (£6k) and room hire (£2k).

Overall, St Peter's income was **£674k** in 2023, up from £197k in 2022.

2023 Expenditure

All expenditure aimed to support the mission of St Peter's Bethnal Green to Worship God, Make Friends and Change the World.

Over the course of the year: -

Clergy and staff costs were **£74k** (2022: £45k) which included accommodation costs for clergy, stipend and pension contributions for the Associate Priest, and pay for the Operations Director and the Teams Administrator.

Ministry expenses (including retreat and event expenses) were **£20k** (£22k). These included youth and children's activities, an Alpha course, a group going to Focus and costs for Columbia Carols (which was covered entirely by related income).

Gift expenditure amounted to **£53k** as a contribution to the Diocesan Common Fund (£30k in 2022).

[Common Fund (CF) is the name given to contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding.]

The year-on-year significant increase in CF (£30k to £53k) was possible owing to the lease income coming from the church hall property. The CF contribution requested by the Diocese was £87.8k but only £53k was paid. This amounted to 60% of full CF and was felt by the PCC to be a manageable and realistic increase, with a view to further increasing the percentage of CF to be paid in future years.

Property related expenditure totalled **£461k** (2022: £55k) This comprised £431,000 (2022: £22,000) spent on major repairs including £419,000 associated with the church building ceiling and roof repairs as well as £30,000 (2022: £33,000) on routine expenditure.

Administration and running costs expenditure amounted to **£24k** (2022: £22k).

Overall St Peter's spent **£632k** in 2023, up from £174k in 2022.

Surplus for the year and the closing position

This year the PCC has reported a surplus of **£42k** (2022 **£23k surplus**) and the PCC's net assets increased by this amount to £1,085k. This comprises fixed assets (principally the Mission Hall) with a carrying value of £972k plus cash of £149k (of which £3k was restricted) less other net liabilities of £36k.

Policy on reserves

The PCC has determined that the charity should aim to free reserves (which the trustees define as being unrestricted net current assets less creditors falling due after one year) of no less than £58k (which equates to about 3 months' of budgeted operational expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and/or expenditure vary adversely.

Reserves are continually reviewed by the Finance Working Group and the 2024 budget aims to keep the level of reserves as close to the policy as possible, whilst trying to increase Common Fund contributions and necessarily increasing ministry costs with new staff. At the year end the PCC held free reserves of £109k and the PCC is complying with its reserves policy.

Risk assessment and mitigation

The financial risks which the church faces are considered bi-monthly by the Finance Working Group.

Measures are proposed by the Finance Working Group and implemented by the PCC or staff team to ensure that appropriate financial systems, policies and procedures are in place to manage and mitigate financial risks. As an organisation with a relatively low level of reserves, there is a financial risk which is managed by strong financial systems and controls. As a matter of general policy, independent professional advice is taken where appropriate.

Investment and cash flow policy

As mentioned above, St Peter's has relatively low reserves and hence it rarely has excess funds to invest. The rent deposit of £25k received from the Mission Hall tenant is held in a separate, with notice, deposit account. The rest of the cash held by the charity is held in a bank current account so that it is readily accessible.

Grant making policy

The PCC carefully evaluates grant applications before any grants are awarded.

Health and Safety and Employment Law Policy

In 2023 the church employed one staff member, and the premises are in regular use by several people including children and vulnerable adults. Employment Law and health and safety measures are adhered to, and assistance in these matters is sought from the Diocese of London and independent professional advisors.

Sustainability policy

St Peter's encourages the adoption of sustainable practice in all areas of church life and work, as a means to contributing to the reduction in carbon emissions in dealing with the growing evidence for manmade climate change. Measures taken include: - recycling, energy audits, encouraging the use of public transport, cycling and walking.

2024 Plans

The financial plan for 2024 assumes regular routines of worship and ministry will continue at St Peter's. (At the start of the year the PCC was aware that Heather Atkinson would resigning as Vicar in February 2024 and that the parish would most likely be 'in vacancy' for 6-9 months before the appointment of a new Priest In Charge.)

The 2024 budget requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's to be wholly covered by the cash received. The budget will be reviewed regularly by the Finance Working Group.

2024 Income

The PCC set a bold income budget, seeking to increase the number of regular givers by 12. Our budget for regular *giving income* is set at £76k (2023 actual £58k).

Property income is forecast at £118k, based on the lease of the hall to Kido Schools UK Ltd (£8.3k PCM) and the rental income from Parabolic Theatre (or another user) for the crypt (£1.5k PCM).

The budget for *grant income* is set at £157k, including an ambitious £100k of grants to fund capital repairs; £25k from Revitalise Trust for the Curate's cost, £16k from Henry Fawcett Fund plus a further £16k for ministry related projects.

2024 Expenditure

We plan to increase our *away giving* through an increase in our Common Fund (CF) contribution from £4.4k PCM in 2023 (60% of full CF) to £4.9k PCM in 2024 (64% of full CF).

(CF is the name given to contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding.)

Our CF contribution remains significantly below the level set for each parish by the Diocese (£7.6k PCM). We have increased our contribution year on year and plan to review our contribution upwards in future years.

Staffing will be as follows: - Priest In Charge, Associate Priest, Curate, Operations Director, Teams Assistant and Site Assistant. A part-time paid Young Life Pastor role remains vacant.

Dependent on the success of capital fundraising and insurance claims, urgent capital repairs will be carried out to the tower stonework, the organ and levelling the garden paths. In addition the PCC is exploring projects to reduce the church's carbon footprint.

Note: - An assessment by the Diocesan parish property adviser in January 2020 advised that the church building will require between **£750k and £1m spending on the fabric** in the next 10 years (before any re-development of the internal space). This must be held in mind in future financial planning.

The PCC responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Andrew Rixon

Andrew Rixon, Church Warden

Date 23 July 2024

David Bishop

David Bishop, on behalf of the Finance Working Group

Date 23 July 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
('the Charity')

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 13 to 23 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 16 and 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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.

Ajay Rajani

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

24 July 2024

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	82,019	323,670	405,689	112,748
Charitable activities	4	8,255	-	8,255	6,276
Other trading activities	5	111,639	-	111,639	66,811
Other income: proceeds of insurance claim		148,525	-	148,525	11,035
Total income and endowments		350,438	323,670	674,107	196,871
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	171,952	449,878	621,830	172,114
Raising funds	7	10,357	-	10,357	1,775
Total expenditure		182,310	449,878	632,187	173,889
Net income/(expenditure)		168,128	(126,208)	41,920	22,983
Transfers between funds	15	(127,344)	127,344	-	-
Net movement in funds		40,784	1,136	41,920	22,983
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		70,351	972,267	1,042,618	1,019,634
Total funds carried forward	15	111,135	973,404	1,084,538	1,042,618

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form part of these accounts.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,894	970,000	971,894	973,148
		<u>1,894</u>	<u>970,000</u>	<u>971,894</u>	<u>973,148</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	87,493	-	87,493	23,625
Cash at bank and in hand	11	145,128	3,404	148,532	85,000
		232,621	3,404	236,024	108,625
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(113,380)	-	(113,380)	(39,155)
		<u>119,240</u>	<u>3,404</u>	<u>122,645</u>	<u>69,470</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)					
		<u>119,240</u>	<u>3,404</u>	<u>122,645</u>	<u>69,470</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>121,135</u>	<u>973,404</u>	<u>1,094,538</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(10,000)	-	(10,000)	-
		<u>111,135</u>	<u>973,404</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS					
		<u>111,135</u>	<u>973,404</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>
FUND BALANCES					
Unrestricted Funds		111,135	-	111,135	70,351
Restricted Funds	15	-	973,404	973,404	972,267
		<u>111,135</u>	<u>973,404</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Rixon

Andrew Rixon - trustee

23 July 2024

Date

Charity number: 1154668

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form part of these accounts.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	a	<u>43,531</u>	<u>42,501</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	(2,830)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(2,830)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Cash inflows from new borrowing		20,000	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and equivalents in the reporting period		<u>63,532</u>	<u>39,671</u>
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	b	<u>85,000</u>	<u>45,329</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	b	<u>148,532</u>	<u>85,000</u>

Analysis of changes in net debt:

	At start of year £	Cash-flows £	At end of year £
Cash	85,000	63,532	148,532
Loans from Diocese:			
Falling due within one year	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Falling due after one year	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Total net funds / (debt)	<u>85,000</u>	<u>43,532</u>	<u>128,532</u>

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities:

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	41,920	22,983
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges and provisions for impairment	1,254	403
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(63,868)	(14,761)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	64,225	33,876
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>43,531</u>	<u>42,501</u>

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	117,937	54,903
Notice deposits (with a term of three months or less)	30,565	30,067
Petty cash	30	30
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>148,532</u>	<u>85,000</u>

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter with St Thomas, Bethnal Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body and are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes recoverable gift aid, which is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from weddings and funerals, from church events and courses and for letting facilities to the local community.

Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity and comprises income receivable from letting property.

Other income comprises income receivable from insurance claims and comprises claims approved by insurance companies by the year end. Any unpaid claims that have been approved by the year end are recognised as debtors in the accounts.

The charity has taken the view that it has only one charitable activity, namely the advancement of the Christian faith, and all income from donations, legacies and charitable activities is in respect of this one activity.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish quota are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Expenditure on raising funds comprises expenditure incurred in respect of the charity's property letting income and time spent by staff on generating grant income.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

c) Expenditure continued

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

The Charities SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2010 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The trustees used an insurance valuation to help estimate the market value of the charity's freehold property on 1 January 2014 (being the date of transition to FRS102) and, as permitted by FRS102, its estimated market value on that date has been treated as being the property's deemed cost. The members of the PCC consider the residual value of the freehold building to be very high and believe that any provision for depreciation would not be material; consequently no depreciation has been charged in these accounts.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Leased assets

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term (unless another systematic basis is more representative of use).

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, basic financial instruments (which includes cash, debtors and creditors) are measured initially at transaction value and subsequently measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for loans at amortised cost using the effective interest method (i.e. it excludes any interest that may be charged on the loans in future years).

j) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Regular giving	57,750	68,023
Ad hoc giving	9,613	6,675
Church collections	3,213	2,962
Gift aid recoverable	12,043	15,799
	<u>82,619</u>	<u>93,458</u>
Government grants		
Listed Places of Worship Scheme	49,831	2,469
Other grants:		
from Henry Fawcett Fund	19,520	14,180
from Diocese	174,476	2,641
from others	79,243	-
	<u>323,070</u>	<u>19,290</u>
	<u>405,689</u>	<u>112,748</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees for weddings, funerals etc	832	2,052
Retreats and events	5,463	4,224
Letting facilities for community benefit	1,960	-
	<u>8,255</u>	<u>6,276</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Church hall lettings	93,639	54,014
Crypt lettings	18,000	12,797
	<u>111,639</u>	<u>66,811</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
Ministry expenses		
Diocesan parish quota - common fund	52,665	30,000
Diocesan service fees	(264)	2,976
Clergy accommodation and contribution to clergy stipend	27,649	8,820
Staff costs	38,452	36,201
Ministry expenses	10,310	9,698
Retreats and events	9,093	7,691
	<u>137,905</u>	<u>95,386</u>
Church running costs		
Property expenses including cleaning and minor repairs	30,656	33,535
Insurance	10,255	10,007
Office expenses	7,141	7,064
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	2,940	2,400
Depreciation	1,254	403
	<u>52,246</u>	<u>53,408</u>
Major property repairs		
Church building: repairs to nave ceiling and asbestos removal	418,779	-
Crypt: emergency lighting and fire alarm	11,880	-
Church building: electrical re-wiring	-	10,200
Church hall: boundary wall (largely covered by related insurance claim)	-	11,339
	<u>430,659</u>	<u>21,539</u>
Grants payable (note 6b)	1,019	1,780
	<u>621,830</u>	<u>172,114</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £2,940 (2022: £2,400).

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6b Grants payable

	Institutions	Individuals	2023
	£	£	£
Grants for the relief of poverty	275	744	1,019
	<u>275</u>	<u>744</u>	<u>1,019</u>

	Institutions	Individuals	2022
	£	£	£
Grants for the relief of poverty	-	1,780	1,780
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,780</u>	<u>1,780</u>

7 Cost of raising funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	7,867	-
Legal and professional fees	2,490	1,775
	<u>10,357</u>	<u>1,775</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	37,830	29,555
Pension costs	1,578	1,126
	<u>39,408</u>	<u>30,682</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2022: 1). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Rev'd Alison Mulroy and Rev'd Luke Smith are clergy members of the PCC. They receive a stipend from the Diocese and they are not employed by the PCC. Some of the Parish Quota paid by the PCC is used to help meet the cost of their stipends. In addition the PCC paid:

- £580 (2022: £nil) towards the cost of accommodation provided to Rev'd Heather Atkinson by the Diocese.
- £8,913 (2022: £8,820) for the provision of accommodation to Rev'd Alison Mulroy. In addition the PCC directly contributed £6,826 (2022: £nil) toward the cost of her stipend.
- £11,910 (2022: £nil) for the provision of accommodation to Rev'd Luke Smith.

No member of the PCC received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property	Worship and Office Equipment	Total
	£	£	2023 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	970,000	7,212	977,212
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(1,330)	(1,330)
At 31 December 2023	<u>970,000</u>	<u>5,882</u>	<u>975,882</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	-	4,064	4,064
Charge for the year	-	1,254	1,254
Eliminated on disposal	-	(1,330)	(1,330)
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>3,988</u>	<u>3,988</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2023	<u>970,000</u>	<u>1,894</u>	<u>971,894</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>970,000</u>	<u>3,148</u>	<u>973,148</u>

Freehold property comprises the church hall at Warner Place.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	4,243	5,543
Lettings and event income receivable	-	6,956
Prepaid expenditure	11,620	11,125
Grants receivable	27,779	-
Insurance claims receivable	43,851	-
	<u>87,493</u>	<u>23,625</u>

11 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	117,937	54,903
Notice deposits	30,565	30,067
Petty cash	30	30
	<u>148,532</u>	<u>85,000</u>

12 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Due to contractors in respect of repairs to nave ceiling	72,429	-
Other creditors	1,387	5,533
Accrued expenses	3,998	3,623
Tenant deposit	25,566	29,999
Loan from Diocese	10,000	-
	<u>113,380</u>	<u>39,155</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Loan from Diocese	10,000	-
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year the PCC received a loan of £20,000 from the Diocese to help meet the cost of repairs to the nave ceiling. The loan is interest free and is repayable by 24 monthly instalments, which commenced in January 2024.

14 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £1,580 (2022: £2,227) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. No contributions were owed at the balance sheet date (2022: £1,062 was owed).

15 Restricted funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023	Incoming resources 2023	Outgoing resources 2023	Transfers in the year 2023	Closing balance 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	(1,080)	-	549
Staff fund	-	7,284	(7,284)	-	-
Clergy fund	-	21,667	(21,012)	-	655
Event fund	-	1,764	(1,764)	-	-
Repair fund	-	290,355	(417,699)	127,344	-
Vicar's Discretionary fund	-	2,000	(744)	-	1,256
Youth fund	638	600	(295)	-	944
	<u>972,267</u>	<u>323,670</u>	<u>(449,878)</u>	<u>127,344</u>	<u>973,404</u>

During the year the transferred £127,344 from unrestricted funds to the restricted Repair fund so that the fund created for repairs to the nave ceiling was not in deficit at the year end.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

15 Restricted funds continued

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,894	970,000	971,894
Debtors	87,493	-	87,493
Cash at bank and in hand	145,128	3,404	148,532
Creditors falling due within one year	(113,380)	-	(113,380)
Creditors falling due after one year	(10,000)	-	(10,000)
	<u>111,135</u>	<u>973,404</u>	<u>1,084,538</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Staff fund	-	7,177	(7,177)	-	-
Clergy fund	-	5,692	(5,692)	-	-
Event fund	-	1,311	(1,311)	-	-
Art & Soul fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Energy support fund	-	2,641	(2,641)	-	-
Repair fund	-	2,469	(2,469)	-	-
Other small funds	1,157	600	(1,118)	-	638
	<u>972,786</u>	<u>20,890</u>	<u>(21,409)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>972,267</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,148	970,000	973,148
Debtors	23,625	-	23,625
Cash at bank and in hand	82,733	2,267	85,000
Creditors falling due within one year	(39,155)	-	(39,155)
	<u>70,351</u>	<u>972,267</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>

Information about the charity's restricted funds:

The **Church Hall** fund is in respect of the church hall at Warner Place. The custodian trustee is the London Diocesan Fund and the PCC cannot sell the property without the consent of the London Diocesan Fund.

The **Organ** fund was created from grants and donations received for the church organ.

The **Staff** fund was created from grants received to help meet the cost of employing staff.

The **Clergy** fund was created from grants received to help meet the cost of providing accommodation to clergy and the cost of making contributions to the Diocese in respect of the stipend they receive from the Diocese.

The **Event** fund was created from grants received to help fund the provision of ministry events.

The **Art & Soul** fund was created from donations received to help the charity run a community arts group.

The **Energy support** fund was created by a grant received from the Diocese to help the charity with energy costs.

The **Repair** fund was created from grants received to help meet the cost of repairs to the church building.

The **Vicar's Discretionary** fund was created from grants received for discretionary use by the Vicar.

The **Youth** fund was created by donations received to help meet the cost of the PCC's work with children and young people.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 Operating lease income

The charity has granted a lease to a nursery provider that gives them exclusive use of the church hall at Warner Place. The minimum amounts receivable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews and any unforeseen events that could result in early termination) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Income falling due:		
Within one year	100,000	91,666
Between one and five years	400,000	400,000
After five years	<u>141,667</u>	<u>241,667</u>
	<u><u>641,667</u></u>	<u><u>733,333</u></u>

17 The charity has an operating lease for rented accommodation provided to clergy. The minimum amount payable in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Payments falling due:		
Within one year	23,820	-
Between one and five years	<u>35,730</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>59,550</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

During the year the charity was charged £11,910 (2022: £nil) for its operating lease.

18 Other relevant financial information

The PCC is pursuing insurance claims for the replacement of contents that were contaminated by asbestos and had to be destroyed and for the decontamination from asbestos of the church organ. In the new financial year the PCC's insurers have made an on account payment of £22,500; the actual claims are for a far greater amount. The proceeds from the insurance claims will be used to replace contents and decontaminate the organ.

During the year the PCC was awarded a grant of £45,000 by Tower Hamlets Council for projects that would reduce the charity's carbon footprint. The charity is currently attempting to secure further funding to undertake these project and it hoped that the PCC will be in a position to be able to claim the grant before the end of 2024.

19 Transactions with related parties

During the year the PCC received grants totalling £19,520 (2022: £14,180) from the Henry Fawcett Fund, a registered charity established for the relief of poverty in the parish. The vicar and the PCC's two church wardens serve as trustees of the Henry Fawcett Fund and the Henry Fawcett Fund is regarded as being a related party.

During the year the charity :

- a) received donations totalling £15,417 (2022: £17,624) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) paid employment benefits totalling £39,408 (2022: £30,721) to a person closely related to Anne Bishop, who is a trustee.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking duties associated with serving as clergy, no expenses were paid to (or for) members of the PCC.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and legacies	3	82,019	323,670	405,689	91,858	20,890	112,748
Charitable activities	4	8,255	-	8,255	6,276	-	6,276
Other trading activities	5	111,639	-	111,639	66,811	-	66,811
Other income		148,525	-	148,525	11,035	-	11,035
Total income and endowments		350,438	323,670	674,107	175,981	20,890	196,871
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable activities:	6	171,952	449,878	621,830	150,705	21,409	172,114
Raising funds	7	10,357	-	10,357	1,775	-	1,775
Total Expenditure		182,310	449,878	632,187	152,480	21,409	173,889
Net income/(expenditure)		168,128	(126,208)	41,920	23,501	(518)	22,983
Transfers between funds	15	(127,344)	127,344	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		40,784	1,136	41,920	23,501	(518)	22,983
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		70,351	972,267	1,042,618	46,849	972,786	1,019,634
Total funds carried forward	15	111,135	973,404	1,084,538	70,351	972,267	1,042,618

ST PETER'S BETHNAL GREEN

England & Wales - Charity number 1154668

Accounts



St Peter with St Thomas Bethnal Green

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

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ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Part 1

Sections 1-6: The Vicar's Report

1. Reference information

- i. Members of the PCC are elected as Trustees on an annual basis at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Since the previous year end, the following have served as members of the PCC:

- a. Vicar: The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, (Chair)
 - b. Associate Priest: The Rev'd Alison Mulroy
 - c. Curate: The Rev'd Luke Smith (appointed 01 July 2023) previously a co-opted member of PCC as an Ordinand
 - d. Wardens: 1. Maria Wyard (continuous service) 2. Andrew Rixon (appointed 13 March 2022)
 - e. Representative on the Deanery Synod: Anne Bishop (continuous service - Triennium to 2023)
 - f. Elected Members: Josh Parikh (resigned 13 March 2022), Pieter-Bas Spronk (resigned 13 March 2022), Chris Bollington (appointed 13 March 2022), Vikki Lovell (resigned 11 July 2022), Abby Ewing (resigned 31 January 2023), Alison McIndoe (continuous service), Andrea McIntosh (appointed 23 April 2023), Jess Martin (appointed 19 September 2023)
- ii. St Peter's Bethnal Green is a registered charity number 1154668.
 - iii. St Peter's Bethnal Green uses the banking services of Reliance Bank Ltd at Faith House, 23-24 Lovat Lane, London, EC3R 8EB.
 - iv. Stewardship (1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB) were re-appointed as the charity's accountants and an employee nominated by Stewardship serves as the charity's independent examiner.
 - v. Postal address of the church: St Peter's Bethnal Green, St Peter's Close, London E2 7AE.
 - vi. Administrative address: The Church Office, The Vicarage, St Peter's Square, London, E2 7AE

2. Structure & Governance

i. Responsibilities of the PCC

The PCC of St Peter's Bethnal Green has the responsibility, together with the Vicar, the Rev'd Heather Atkinson, to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church. This includes the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical aspects. It is responsible for the maintenance of the buildings of St Peter's Bethnal Green. As a Church of England Parish church, the PCC and Vicar follow requirements of Church of England Canon Law.

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

ii. Objectives and activities

The objectives of St Peter's Bethnal Green are to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church with a focus to worship God, make friends and change the world. Amplification of the vision of St Peter's is on the website and available in other papers. Otherwise do talk to the clergy.

The 2022 electoral roll had 152 registered members at the APCM. Of these 53 have now moved to other localities, 2 precious people rest in peace, 3 have been sent to train for the priesthood (plus 2 spouses) and six others have gone to work for other churches/mission organisations. Those on the Electoral roll are able to nominate candidates for the PCC. The PCC and Church Wardens are elected annually at the APCM. The PCC organises itself to carry out its aims and objectives by having regular meetings and various sub-committees. The PCC held five formal meetings over the year and one emergency meeting regarding the closure of the nave.

The PCC's Finance Team prepares information for explanation and decision making for the PCC and takes forward management matters with the Vicar. Day-to-day management of the church is delegated to the Vicar, Rev'd Heather Atkinson and her staff team. An Executive Group operating as a Standing Committee was not formed this year given the sleek size of the PCC and swift digital communications.

iii. Public Benefit

The PCC members confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. St Peters' Bethnal Green works alongside a number of organisations as partners in undertaking mercy, justice and evangelism. We support these practically, financially and in encouraging people to volunteer and we receive support from them in fulfilling our calling as a local church.

These include: Bethnal Green Spear Trust, Resurgo, Bow, Bethnal Green and First Love Foodbanks, Columbia Road Traders Association, The Mission Practice, Oaklands School, The Arch (formerly Arch 76), The Tower Hamlets Healing Prayer School, and other local churches, individual ministries, primary schools and social enterprises.

The church of St Peter's Bethnal Green benefits the community by the activities described in the section entitled 'Change the World', notably through outreach and supporting others through our volunteer programme, prayer and financial input.

3. 'Worship God'

i. Church attendance

Average Sunday attendance in 2022 at St Peter's Bethnal Green (2021-2017 in brackets):

	Q1 (Jan-March)	Q2 (April-June)	Q3 (July-Sept)	Q4 (Oct-Dec)
10am sung Eucharist				
adults	22 (17, 26, 32, 31, 38,)	29 (23, 33, 30, 27, 34)	27 (27, 32, 27, 24, 27)	28 (25, 30, 27, 30, 31)
children	1 (1)	2 (1)	3 (1)	3 (1)
11am service of the Word/Eucharist/All Age Worship				
adults	43 (35, 61, 55, 40, 37)	30 (32, 51, 56, 40, 37,)	35 (38, 43, 56, 37, 41)	33 (33, 46, 58, 55, 45)
children	16 (12, 15, 14, 10, 14)	10 (15, 11, 16, 12, 11)	14 (14, 12, 17, 10, 13)	15 (15, 15, 13, 15, 12)
10.30am all-age services				
adults	56 (40, 0, 60, 74, 70)	73 (99, 68, 77, 54, 80,)	47 (38, 46, 48, 56, 58)	40 (45, 58, 77, 68, 70)
children	21 (12, 0, 15, 11, 20)	18 (6, 16, 19, 13, 4)	13 (9, 7, 11, 10, 7)	13 (7, 8, 10, 14, 12)
5pm evening service (Not inc Campfire Carols: 58 adults, 30 kids or Carols by Candlelight: 75 adults, 18 kids, or Carols on Columbia Road – approx. 7,000 adults...)				
adults	0 (0, 15, 23, 23, 31)	0 (0, 0, 12, 15, 21, 28)	0 (0, 0, 18, 29, 25)	0 (0, 0, 19, 0, 25, 30)
Total number of communicants across all Sunday services				
	335	460	419	433

The clergy and lay members of St Peter's Bethnal Green led and preached at services. We follow the Church of England lectionary and the rubric of Common Worship. We experienced a third year of adapting to circumstances in the wake of the pandemic, the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II and then the collapse of the ceiling.

During the early part of the year it was decided to no longer make hybrid services available, since very few used the zoom option and it was potentially an 'easy option' that was second best to gathering in person. While masks are no longer obligatory we continued to have hand sanitiser and PCR tests available in church. During the year it felt appropriate for the clergy to drop the use of a mask and gloves when presiding at Holy Communion while care is taken to wash hands before distribution and if the president suspects a cold coming on, a mask is used. The congregation indicated a preference not to return to the common cup but to reinterpret this by remaining with the practice of the Eucharistic Minister administering by intinction. This will be reviewed after appropriate study as a church.

Morning Prayer, where a liturgical format works as a cradle for intercession for the church, the community and the world, is said every Wednesday at 8am on Zoom. It has been increasingly hard for some older members who have less mobility and strength to get to church. The clergy have needed to increase the number of pastoral visits and offered Holy Communion at home, in hospital and in care homes.

ii. Occasional Services, Seasonal Services and Service to the Wider Church.

3 consenting baptisms, 1 wedding and 2 funerals were officiated by the clergy at St Peter's Bethnal Green in 2022. 2 sets of Banns were read for marriages and the clergy undertook 5 funerals, as well as hosting a screening of the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II, attended by 49 people from the parish. In releasing the Mission Hall to full time tenants, we celebrated Holy Communion and prayed solemnly for the building's continued use in God's mission to the local area as a nursery in the next decade. The Vicar also undertook duties as an Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, as a Trustee of the Simeon's Patronage Trust and The Arch, and as a Stepney Area Deliverance Ministry Advisor. Other services included:

- Ash Wednesday – Holy Communion with ashing
- Releasing the Mission Hall – Holy Communion and intercession for the hall's continued mission
- Annual Celebration – Worship, Holy Communion and the APCM all in one joyful morning
- Mothering Sunday – with daffodils for all
- Palm Sunday – with a donkey, a piper, a parade and an outdoor Holy Communion on Ion Square, with guests from The Tab Church in Shoreditch
- Maundy Thursday – An agape style supper and foot washing to remember Christ's gift of Holy Communion
- Good Friday – All Age Art & Soul, Stations of the Cross and the Veneration Liturgy
- Easter Sunday – Dawn vigil, celebration breakfast and an All Age Holy Communion
- Ascension Day – Evening Prayer
- Spear Sundays
- Prisons Sunday – with a guest speaker from Alpha in Prisons
- All Saints – Holy Communion
- Safeguarding Sunday
- Remembrance Sunday – Held in Ion Square
- Christingle – An All Age Holy Communion followed by a children's party
- 'Columbia Road Carols – Taking carols and prayers out to the community. Attendance approximately 7,000 people over 4 events.
- Campfire Carols – All age carol singing round the campfire
- Midnight Mass – A Christmas Eve Eucharist with a socially distanced choir
- Christmas Day – An all age service with Holy Communion

iii. Children's Church

The children are invited to join in the prayer and worship at the beginning of the 11am service before leaving for groups and, have activities at 10.30 services which may be drama, activity or craft-based. Anne Bishop has continued to serve the church leading the ministry to young people on a voluntary basis. In the first half of the year we were able to run groups during the 11am services for Young Life and the creche. With team members moving on it was harder to sustain this in the latter part of the year although a 'creche' group for the under 5s continues and covers this burgeoning age group.

There is an urgent need for more suitable helpers on the Young Life Team and the PCC discussed the urgent need for more space for groups. There is work to do to develop an age appropriate faith curriculum for the under 5s and the worship team has been working on introducing new songs for little ones. St Peter's has continued to build a tradition of adults exemplifying engaged worship – including doing the actions. It has been brilliant to welcome some of the young people on to the Worship/AV Team. Further details of the work are given below in section 4.iv .

iv. Prayer and Worship

Prayer is foundational to everything we do at St Peter's. Any visible action and growth are built on the unseen life of prayer and the chancel has been a dedicated space for prayer while the zoom prayer meetings are the engine of the church. The 'prayer warriors' who attend Wednesday 8am zoom prayer meetings have been incredibly committed and interceded in ways that have led to many answers. Without them this church would not function. They add to the prayers of the PCC, the staff and those who pray for the ministry of St Peter's at home. The intercessions in our services are often led by volunteers, bringing a wide range of voices and approaches. Increasingly we use WhatsApp groups, (including St Peter's Alive, 'Prayer Warriors' and ones for individual life groups) to share prayers and prayer requests.

The 8am Morning Prayer zoom call is open to all. We are looking at other morning slots midweek which might be even more convenient for some and everyone is invited to join that conversation. Meanwhile we have successfully launched Dwell, which is an opportunity for worship, intercession and listening to the Holy Spirit on a Wednesday or Thursday evening. The Dwell dates aim to auger in seasons and missions such as Advent, Lent, Alpha and school terms so that these are couched and equipped by prayer and worship. They have been a powerful addition to our worshiping life in 2022.

Until November 17th 2022 the doors of the porch were kept open and the 'say one for me' cards were available in the church porch. These were used occasionally by members of the congregation to seek solidarity in prayer, but were mainly filled in by members of the public. These cards have been prayed over by the staff and, on occasion, in services. They are stored in the aumbry, with the reserved sacrament, and are burnt at the Easter Morning Vigil. We can see from the handwriting that some people are confident enough in the kindness of the church to use this gift regularly. The church porch will re-open as soon as possible.

On the occasion of the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II the church was opened in the afternoon for the ten days of state mourning. Many people came to sign the book of condolence and to spend time in the church. Some chose to leave their details on Hello cards and, as a result, one visitor responded positively to an invitation to Alpha. Others attended the screening of the state funeral and had the opportunity to pray and sing with us.

With strong and sacrificial support from the Worship/AV Team Luke Smith has overseen our music as part of his role as Ordinand. I am very grateful to Andrew Rixon who has borne the greater burden of playing the organ/keys at the 10am and to those who have lent their considerable skills and vision to bringing choral music at special services. In fact every member of the team has prayed, practiced, turned up, rehearsed and set up with extraordinary generosity and sensitivity.

I am so thankful to God for many gifted saints who have led us into deep worship through the year, come what may. They have shown remarkable versatility, imagination and good humour, when we have been forced to relocate to the back rooms, the garden and then a marquee. There is now doubt it has been costly, but they have always responded with optimism, practicality and good grace.

v. Scripture and Learning

Our preaching team cherishes both lay and clergy talent and I am deeply grateful to all those who have prayerfully prepared sermons in addition to their other responsibilities. We welcomed an external speaker from Alpha in Prisons, on Prisons Sunday, as well as the Archdeacon of Hackney who preached at Patronal Festival of Petertide.

We began the year exploring how the bible, (in particular 1 Corinthians 12-15 and passages in Luke chapters 3-9) gives a pattern for being church: Spirit-led, anointed, equipped, resurrected, loving, proclaiming, worshiping and transformed. We continued reading Luke through Lent and then reflected on being 'Easterly People', inspired by readings from the Acts of the Apostles. After Pentecost, in Ordinary Time, we sought inspiration to live out our faith from the minor prophets of the Old Testament and in August we had a series of Sundays focussing on the theology and practice of adoption. A number of our congregation have experience of fostering and adoption but this proved to be a rich and powerful focus for all of us, releasing a deeper and felt understanding of God's hospitality, healing and hope – our own treasured hallmarks.

In the Autumn we turned to 1 Timothy with a preaching series entitled 'Following Jesus', as well as topical Sundays such as Spear Sunday, Prisons Sunday, All Saints, Remembrance and Safeguarding Sunday. Our Advent lessons from the gospel of Matthew were 'expecting', 'suffering', 'flourishing' and 'obeying' which led to our Christmas theme of 'Unearthing Joy'.

4. 'Make Friends'

'Making friends' is about discipleship and community for those in the congregation and those beyond it.

i. Nurturing Connection with Children

Although our regular visit from Columbia Primary School was not possible in December 2022, Heather was invited into Elizabeth Selby Primary School to give two lessons on Christian faith to Key Stage 1 classes. A proposed visit was postponed while the nave is closed.

Having persuaded Mile End Climbing Wall to offer a Community Climbing Club, with professional instruction, free of charge, Ali Mulroy works with two volunteer helpers to offer climbing as an after school activity to young people in the local community who would most benefit from this project. 70% of these are from our local estates. Ali writes, *'The young people's self-confidence and confidence with one another is building solidly week by week. Now they have been entered in the National Indoor Climbing Assessment Scheme, free of charge, which provides structure: personal goals, assessment, rope skills, concentration, mental resilience and the trust building exercise of belaying. The young people have been working towards their level one, building authentic community and confidence, whilst also maintaining a sense of fun. We also have our own Instagram account! Follow us @communityclimbingclub'.*

ii. Nurturing Connection with Adults

Columbia Road Carols faced more challenges than usual when the old piano was inaccessible, but every obstacle was overcome to reach approximately 7000 people over four evenings of carol singing, prayers and our comms on printed carol sheets. Add to that the extraordinary number of tweets, Instagram shares, coverage on the BBC London television and radio – not to mention several videos trending on Tiktok (one had over 65,000 hits) we felt that the profile of the church was boosted but, more importantly, that Christ was being put back into the midst of Christmas and many people reminded of Christian culture.

The new '3rd Sunday' lunch club is a space for the women of the church to connect socially by going out for coffee or lunch at venues within walking distance from church or in Room 3, (in the Vicarage basement). Ali writes, *'This has been a low key, relaxed way to get to know each other on a smaller scale. We have a 3rd Sunday WhatsApp group to keep track of what we are doing each month.'*

Two volunteers host a weekly coffee morning for senior citizens, meeting either in the church or in the garden and latterly in Zander Court Club House just yards from the south gates. As well as combating the very real issue of loneliness, this has afforded opportunities for spiritual conversations and a sense of reconnection with the local church for people who have lived in the area for a very long time.

The Petertide Pizza Party and the Back to School BBQ were also great opportunities to build friendship and relax together. Big thanks to those who worked quietly behind the scenes (not least behind the pizza oven and BBQs) to enable those parties to bring joy and be spaces we could invite guests into.

iii. Nurturing Welcome and Hospitality

Just as last year our practice and understanding of hospitality has morphed and widened even further with new challenges with the building. The twin tasks of Welcome and Hospitality belonged to the whole church in 2022 and everyone was encouraged to help newcomers stay and develop friendships. The practicalities of hospitality fall on four smiling teams lovingly entitled 'The Tea and Coffee Crew' under the leadership of Ali Mulroy, who writes, *'Over the last year our hospitality team has worked tirelessly to keep us refreshed. Endlessly enabling beautiful times of community to happen at services and events with hot drinks and always a lovely collection of munchies. They bring a sense of down to earth fun and warmth to their role - this is a real gift to our church family. As a team there is a huge amount of support for one another. The desire to serve the church community and make it feel like home feels always at the forefront. We are so grateful to their loyal and regular service.'*

Certain saints are on site very early each week to ensure there are lights, neat seating, refreshments and prayer before our services while our administrative staff have worked tirelessly to ensure everything from heating and cleaning to insurance and milk in the fridge. It's worth noting that they are not employed on Sunday and since the worship has been held in the marquee, it has been necessary for all the staff to arrive earlier and set up everything necessary for services. Even so, we could not have managed this without the extra help given by a team of brilliant volunteers who have practiced hospitality by setting up and putting away. There were a lot of shiny halos glinting in the December sun.

iv. Nurturing Communication

Our online media have been a vital part of staying connected with our community and offering good hospitality to those who are reaching out to the church. A more tangible approach for our nearest neighbours has been to mount the old glass fronted noticeboard, formerly on the church door a decade ago, next to the South gates. Reusable banners for seasonal services have been designed by Luke and have been hung on the railings.

Luke Smith, along with our Teams Administrator, has responsibility for ensuring the website is updated regularly and developed to use with our database and organisational software, ChurchSuite. Team rotas are now mostly organised via ChurchSuite. They hope that further use will be made of this facility going forward and are keen to hear from anyone at St Peter's who does not know how to access it for themselves, via: 'MyChurchSuite'.

Instagram and Facebook, managed by Ali, are our main external reach. Mailchimp 'round robin' emails reach the Electoral Roll and beyond. The WhatsApp group 'St Peter's Alive' has continued to engender a sense of church family but is used regularly only by about a third of its members. Smaller groups within the church also have WhatsApp groups and the Life Group leaders and staff will continue to pursue a wise – and no doubt evolving – use of social media to promote both social connection and broadcast information.

The old African wisdom that 'it takes a village to raise a child' resonates in a church such as ours. We place a high value on intergenerational events and seek for our children and young people to find faith in the context of a multi-generational church family. It's not surprising then that our Young Life Team has members in their second and seventh decade, and some in between, all passionate to see the next generation sink deep roots into the Christian faith. We long to see more people commit to this team.

The return to in person worship inside and the glorious arrival of new babies and families allowed for children's groups to flourish and during 2022 we often tried to run appropriate groups for three different age categories because numbers were growing. We realised that more space for Young Life groups was essential and the team used rooms in the Vicarage, which were not very practical, while the options for a new space were explored.

While this was an exciting problem to have, at the same time there were challenges. Members of the team moved on and others became discouraged because attendance was erratic so that carefully planned sessions might have to be abandoned and mixed age activities improvised. In part this was understandably due to families taking more opportunities to visit family and friends after the enforced disconnections of Lockdown. It was also a consequence of a small team, with leaders and helpers needing to flex out of their preferred age range to work with older or younger children. It was certainly a result of that fragile stage of growth in which two or three families being away on the same weekend makes a big difference, but everyone turning up means the rooms are too small.

I am so grateful to Anne and the Young Life Team for pressing onwards in difficult circumstances and continuing to pray for and champion this crucial ministry. Although Sundays have been a roller coaster, there have been many wonderful moments and encouragements. Young people regularly participate in All Age services, including the Act of Remembrance in Ion Square and Dwell.

Anne and others have also taken the young people to Youth East, a termly gathering for worship, teaching and fun hosted for East London 11-18s by Saint Church in Hackney. This has been a very positive opportunity for our (pre)-teenagers, offering relevant, engaging teaching to counter some of the confusing and even anti-Christian ideas encountered in secular culture and education as well as to widen friendships across churches. Some of our young people also attended Christian summer camps and Focus, which gave them greater confidence in Jesus and space to air their faith questions.

Since February 2022 Ali has facilitated 'Climb and Dine' Sundays roughly twice a term for the older youth who do not attend the Community Club, (which is also more externally focussed but includes some of our primary aged children). Ali writes, *'The idea for this is for them to have social time together, learning new skills, having a laugh and getting to know themselves and each other in different ways. Stronghold in London Fields gave us a greatly reduced price on Sunday sessions with our own instructor which was a real blessing. The young people took on the challenge of climbing with such good attitudes and a real community approach - cheering one another on. We have had a broad variety of people helping. It's been a great opportunity for the youth of the church to get to know different adults and find intergenerational community, building community and fellowship through fun and friendship.'*

vi. *Nurturing faith in adults*

Life Groups are midweek meetings, with a focus on discipleship and mutual support, designed to be at the heart of the church at St Peter's Bethnal Green. In addition to existing groups, two new evening life groups started in 2022, and a third was being gathered by the close of the year. In order to 'make friends', both with God, with one another and with people who need the friendship of God, we strongly encourage everyone to serve on a team and to belong to a life group.

In addition to teaching through our preaching and life group bible studies, faith was nurtured by a variety of means, including a well-attended and powerful evening sharing in the HTB Leadership Conference via weblink and a group attended Focus in July to be inspired again by renowned speakers and worship leaders.

In accordance with the direction of the House of Bishops, Heather extended an invitation to the Living in Love and Faith Course either in person with other Tower Hamlets churches at St Paul's Shadwell or online. Five people chose to take part online with Heather which was a small number but led to good conversations and prayerful consideration of what it means to be human, with a focus on identity, sexuality and relationships.

Luke has been running *Elevate* as an optional gathering for Spear trainees in which spiritual conversations are facilitated and welcome into the community of St Peter's nurtured. Luke has developed the model and has trained other Spear centres in his approach.

Alpha ran in the Spring and Autumn, attracting attendees from within and without the regular congregation. Two guests came from *Elevate*, one came having struck up conversation while walking through the garden, but all came because the Holy Spirit was gently at work. Both courses were hosted and catered for by a very small team, empowered by the prayers of a wider group of faithful intercessors. Looking ahead it would be great to have more people to join the Alpha Team. Those who have served in the last year have found it very rewarding.

5. 'Change the world'

i. *Pastoral Care*

Supporting and caring for others bridges the call to make friends and change the world. It has been impressive to see a number of church members committing to visit those who are housebound and enjoying their friendship. Each befriender, along with the life group leaders, are forming into an increasingly effective Pastoral Team. As more of our older members need to be cared for at home we are learning how to stretch in their direction, while always encouraging their determination to get to events. So much pastoral care goes on here without others seeing, in many directions. To those who reach out, pray with, message, telephone, shop, bake, visit, help out and listen – may God give the increase to all you offer.

ii. *The Church Garden*

With careful maintenance of the shrubs and beds from our staff and volunteers, the garden remains a source of beauty and peace for the many locals who now spend time there.

iii. Spear

Spear Bethnal Green, which runs employment coaching for NEET young people aged 16 – 24 continued, the 9th year of operation. It is the piece of social action that St Peter's unites over, while celebrating that many individuals are impacting society in a host of other ways too.

Bethnal Green Spear Trust is a separate charity but St Peter's offers office space and training facilities gratis. The Trust employs three full time coaches who are part of the St Peter's staff team. The Trust works in partnership with Resurgo, the umbrella organization which supports Spear Centres across the country and provides our staff with professional coaching and development. Most of the gathered events, such as Mock Interview Day, are held at St Peter's in church buildings or with our friends at Bethnal Green Mission Church. The celebration evenings, when a cohort finish their intensive coaching, offer a great opportunity for the rest of the church to show their support of the project in an easy, heart-warming way.

Our centre consistently has above average statistics for getting and retraining young people back into employment, education or training. Last July, Spear Bethnal Green was assessed on ratings and Key Performance Indicators as 'Thriving', which is an outstanding achievement. The Centre Manager writes, *'This has only been achieved a handful of times across all Spear centres, so we're chuffed that as a team we've been able to get to this place.'*

Members of the congregation support Spear in many ways but all are encouraged to pray and to consider giving financially, where possible, in addition to giving to St Peter's. Some volunteer for mock interviews or using professional contacts to make links with corporate sponsors or to enable company visits. Others cater for and attend the celebrations – the power of showing up impacts the young people very positively.

The Trustees are members of the church or friends of St Peter's worshipping in other churches. They operate in an executive capacity and we are especially grateful to them for an immense amount of hard work and prayer which has enabled the charity to keep going. During 2022 the role of Chair of the Board of Trustees was officially vacant and two trustees did stints as Acting Chair.

Other income is derived from grant-making bodies (though this is a precarious and time-consuming model) and we are pleased that Spear is a popular charity locally, supported in recent years by members of the local community, including the Columbia Road Traders Association who again trained and employed Spear trainees to act as stewards for our carol singing events at the Columbia Road Christmas market.

iv. Art and Soul

Along with a volunteer helper Ali Mulroy launched our popular community art club, 'Art and Soul', in February 2022 in response to research that indicated a local need for third space intergenerational activities and creative pursuits that counter poor mental health and loneliness.

Ali explains *'We wanted Art and Soul it to be a really relaxed space for all and it seems to be that way. The vision is for it to be a space where we are able to explore community, creativity and faith at whatever pace feels right for each person . There seems to be a strength and intimacy that comes from different ages and backgrounds meeting together. We regularly have Spear trainees, neighbours and church regulars, of different ages, nationalities and religions, all creating together.'*

At around 3pm we have an optional prayer time in the chancel for anyone who wants to join. It's been a gentle and deep time of prayer and meditation together. Affectionately known as 'candle time', more and more this has become a space to explore different ways to pray, hear God and share with one another what we feel God is saying. Many have been growing in confidence and are discovering that sharing their spirituality in the group in a relaxed, natural way, blesses all of us.

Art and Soul have also created a really lovely connection with Arts for All, a local art therapy club for people with diverse backgrounds and additional needs, hosting Arts for All a number of times and the two groups have worked well together.

We've gone on one art museum outing and aim to do more in the summer of 23.'

v. The Other 6 Days...

St Peter's staff and congregation are encouraged to be involved in management and governance of ministries, projects and institutions. We seek to support and champion everyone's weekday activities, by counting what we do for 'the other six days' as the mission of the church, whether what we do is paid or unpaid. Our regular 'This Time Tomorrow' slot in the 11am service highlights the lives and impact of individuals, with the aim of being known, being commissioned and being prayed for. This includes our daily tasks of raising families and earning a living or it may be another area of service, for example Street Pastors or the The Arch, a local charity building friendship with vulnerable women, whose board of trustees and volunteer base includes several members of St Peter's.

6. Site Management & Administration

i. The Mission Hall

After 6 years of negotiation, stagnation and further negotiation, Kido Education International eventually made an exceptionally good offer to take on a long term lease on the Mission Hall for 12 years, with an 8 year mutual break clause, paying £100,000 per annum rental and undertaking to renovate the building, improve its energy rating, install a mezzanine floor and fit it out to become a nursery serving the local area. Given that our research of local needs in 2021 had affirmed the results of previous listening campaigns – that nursery provision is sorely needed in the area - this seemed an appropriate use of the building for the immediate future, when it is in urgent need of investment and failing to produce an adequate steady income (or a robust missional purpose) with ad hoc rentals.

The offer made in January 2022 could not be ignored, being on the previously agreed terms with a 25% increase on the previous rental offer. Over the minimum term of tenancy, this still amounts to a better deal than before, when the market was in our favour and the PCC voted unanimously to let the hall to Kido, following through on decisions made previously. The PCC then worked with Birketts Solicitors to agree a robust contract with Kido and this was signed in May 2022.

Frustratingly for all, work started on the building but then had to be stopped when excavations in the foundations revealed evidence of a Thames Water Sewer. It took many months for Thames Water to respond and by the end of the year Kido were still waiting for the survey to be completed. Kido have nonetheless honoured their contractual obligations to pay a monthly rent to St Peter's for the site and communication with them is efficient.

[Addendum: The survey was completed in March 2023 and Kido's building work is due to recommence in May 2023 with the hope that the nursery will open in September.]

ii. The Crypt

Parabolic Theatre Company continue to provide an income stream for St Peter's as they store their props and tech in the crypt and develop its use for immersive theatre, rehearsal and prayer. The Artistic Director now holds a premises licence to sell alcohol on site in very limited circumstances while the Venue Manager has undertaken a range of relevant training. The church retains one aisle and two rooms in the crypt for our own storage. Last summer four shows ran for a healthy season and forged positive links with young creatives in the theatre industry. I am grateful to all those who have negotiated the practicalities of this relatively new project with grace and diligence.

iii. Maintenance & Development

The Church

- Phase 2 of electrical rewiring of the whole church building was completed in the first week of February. The most visible sign of this is the new, transformative lighting in vestry but the whole project means a much safer building.
- The central heating control panel has been relocated (potentially enabling us to open the South West door) and is now controlled remotely via the Hive App, which we hope will give us better control.
- The lightning conductor has been tested
- The gutters are cleared twice a year and the contractor reports on roofing issues. The flat roof of Room 2 still gathers leaves and appears to have an intermittent, slow leak.
- The door key pads have been serviced.
- Moths were detected in the chancel. The kneelers were stored in plastic bags to prevent a spread and the space was fumigated.
- We recognised an urgent need for toilets for those living with disability, for at least one more room for children's ministry and, ideally, for a catering kitchen. Beyond this the crypt needs a second fire escape if it is to be used on a larger scale commercially or missionally. In October our architect came on site to begin a feasibility study (later put on hold).
- Between 10pm November 16 and 7pm November 17 2022 asbestos ceiling tiles in the south west area of the nave fell to the floor as the original lath and plaster ceiling gave way. We give thanks that no one was sitting at the sound desk, which bore a direct hit. Asbestos specialists were immediately called in and the area was quickly sealed off, as well as the insurance company being informed. The staff team, supported by the PCC, acted swiftly and responsibly to ensure all the appropriate procedures were followed and alternative arrangements were made for services in the garden and back rooms. As nothing from the nave, chancel or vestry could be reached, another baptism pool was hastily borrowed and built in the garden by the following Sunday where two hardy individuals were baptised amongst great joy. Since then, improvisation and team work have been momentous.
- In the following four weeks the staff team, along with an incredible group of volunteers, raised two marquees in the church garden and by the time we celebrated our Carols by Candlelight we had worship and refreshment spaces that were heated and carpeted and equipped with a separate electricity supply. Luke organised a vast banner depicting the church interior and the Archdeacon of Hackney enabled an emergency grant from Stepney Area funds to offset our immediate costs. Andrew Rixon procured a new piano for Columbia Road Carols and with help from the staff got it onto another skate, with even better wheels.
- Despite the loss of our usual facilities, not a single act of worship or missional activity was lost.

The Crypt

- Parabolic have installed smoke alarms in the crypt
- A fire door to the electrical intake room in the crypt and the meter room down there now meets current standards.
- Internal and external fire risk assessments have been carried out.
- The habitual summer flooding issue was significantly reduced by clearing leaves that collect along the south and north walls.

The Garden

- The broken, rotting raised beds on the South side have been removed and the soil dug over and professionally prepared for new planting. Bulbs and shrubs were planted. Local residents were asked for ideas of planting schemes, but none were offered, and this remains a project for attention which we hope to work on for the King's Coronation.
- The staff team are initiating a new system of communication and management in order to be more systematic and supportive.
- The old noticeboard (removed from the front door of church about a decade ago) was renovated. It is now back in use, fixed to the railings by the South Gate.
- Thousands of leaves were swept up in the garden and yard and many are kept to make leaf mould which will be used as garden mulch.
- On three summer evenings a handful of volunteers gathered to weed and tidy the garden (and eat pizza).
- A very large branch was left dangling dangerously from one of the oldest plane trees after Storm Eunice and had to be removed.
- The plastic shed has become rotten and dangerous. Rough sleepers have also been a problem there.
- London Open Garden Squares awarded St Peter's a free raised bed and plants in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This was installed on the south side but sadly foxes have repeatedly dug up the plants so alternative planting schemes are being considered.
- New homes were found for all the items in the container and it has been removed from site.
- We have improved the look of notices on the front railings by removing the Alpha banner and painting the wooden board in line with the other boards there.

The Vicarage and Basement Flat

- We are thankful that the vicarage roof has been replaced by the diocese, dealing with significant damp and water ingress into the rooms on the top floor. One bedroom was completely redecorated.
- A leaking pipe in an upstairs bathroom also caused damage to a bedroom ceiling on the floor below and this was rectified before the ceiling collapsed. The bedroom in question was also redecorated.
- Over the last 15 years the vicarage has been gradually redecorated either at the expense of the family or, in the case of the two of the water damaged rooms, by the diocese. The PCC is aware of its responsibility to maintain the vicarage décor, aiming at one room per year, or to reserve funds for redecoration during a vacancy. At present, 7 rooms and all the hallways, stairs and landings are in need of redecoration.

The Mission Hall and The Old School

- The wall dividing the Mission Hall garden from the playground in Ion Square, which fell down in Storm Eunice has been rebuilt with like for like brickwork, according to the insurance liability. However the builder who did the work has abandoned the project before completion. He did not point out, as the surveyor working for Kido has done since, that the wall should have been built with piers, according to current safety standards. We have at least rebuilt it without an unnecessary and destabilising damp proof course, and the large wire fencing addition above, on which a creeper had grown thickly, will be replaced by a lower, more open wooden trellis. Thus the new wall is considerably safer, being more akin to Lego than a pile of wooden blocks topped with a sail. Kido's builders will add the piers when they return to site. The cost of this additional precaution is shared by Kido and the church.
- Next door the old school/organ works, who have a right of way through our gates to yard, was sold to Newcore Capital. Through the spring and summer they have completed their landlord works to the buildings, including introducing a gas supply across the yard to the Lodge. At December 2022 the tenant-designate in the building was Hackney Studios.

iv. *Staff*

- For the most part the staff team has remained fairly settled in 2022. Paid staff work in close partnership with a number of amazing volunteers who sacrificially give many hours of labour, leadership, creativity and prayer to grow and sustain the ministry of St Peter's. I am not just incredibly grateful for them, but I see them as a sign of God's grace and presence in this church.
- The Spear Team are employed by Bethnal Green Spear Trust but operate as part of the whole staff team who have mourned the departure of two Spear staff, but have rejoiced in the arrival of two more. Both have settled so well that they have won promotion within a year of being with us.
- A Teams Administrator (part time) was appointed in February 2022 and has made a significant contribution to our operations and communications efficiency as well as bringing their own love for people and hospitality into our community.
- The church ministry staff are detailed in the table below:

<i>Heather</i>	<i>Vicar</i>	<i>Full time (6 days)</i>
<i>Alison</i>	<i>Associate Priest</i>	<i>Part time (3 days)</i>
<i>David</i>	<i>Operations Director</i>	<i>Full time from Jan 2023</i>
<i>Luke</i>	<i>Ordinand</i>	<i>Part time (3 days)</i>
<i>Rachel</i>	<i>Teams Administrator</i>	<i>Part time (10 hours)</i>
<i>George</i>	<i>Site Security Officer</i>	<i>Part time (4 hours plus daily lock up)</i>
<i>Colin</i>	<i>Groundsman</i>	<i>Part time (12 hours)</i>

Overall 2022 evolved as a year of recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic in which we began to feel ready to look to the future and start a development project on site to improve our facilities as well as maintain them. The sudden loss of our worship space, and the extraordinary and robust response of the congregation who backed the decision not to abandon the locality (we wanted those with mobility issues to still be able to get to church and to continue to celebrate Holy Communion in the parish) but remain in situ and worship, whatever it took, was and is inspirational. But none of that mattered compared to the value of the people we cherish here and the people beyond our walls who we want to bless. Through bereavement and healing, through catastrophe and creativity we have begun to recognize how God is tending us. For this and many reasons, I am so, so proud to be vicar of this awesome church where the good news of Jesus is lived and shared.

HMAA

Part 2

Section 7: Treasurer's report

Income to support Church mission

Finances at St Peter's were overseen by the Finance Working Group, a sub-committee of the PCC, made up of the Incumbent, a Church Warden and at least one other member, supported by the Operations Director and the former Treasurer. This team met regularly and makes recommendations on finance matters to the PCC.

2022 Review

2022 Income

The ministries and activities of St Peter's Bethnal Green were largely funded by three groups of income: -

Giving Income in 2022 (funding from the congregation members and friends of St Peter's in the form of standing orders, one-off gifts, regular collections and related gift aid) amounted to **£94k**. This was at a similar level to 2021 when giving income totalled £91k. No 'giving drives' for particular projects were held in 2022.

Property Income (the letting and renting of church premises) also accounted for a significant proportion of the church's income, at **£67k** (2021: £30k). This comprised £54k for the hall and £13k for the church crypt.

- Hall

The hall was leased to Kido Schools UK Ltd from June 2022 (Kido plan to open a pre-school nursery in the hall later in 2023). The PCC have thus achieved their goal of finding a socially conscious commercial venture to provide market rental of the hall to fund other aspects of St Peter's mission and secure a solid long-term financial footing.

- Crypt

At the start of 2021 the crypt was given over to Parabolic (an immersive theatre company) as storage and for the development of an immersive performance space. A pilot phase continued through 2022 during which the monthly rental increased from £500 to £1,500 per month.

Thirdly, **Grant Income** from external bodies, such as the Henry Fawcett Fund (HFF), provided a total of **£19k**. (2021: £89k). HFF mainly supported staffing costs (Operations Director, Associate Priest and Teams Administrator). Other grants included a grant from the government's Listed Places of Worship Scheme (which covered the VAT paid on building repairs) and an energy support grant from the London Diocesan Fund. No substantial fundraising bids were successful in 2022, hence the drop in grant income.

In addition St Peter's received **£11k** from an insurance claim for storm damage to the Mission Hall boundary wall and **£6k** (2021: £8k) from events (including Columbia Carols). Overall, St Peter's received **£197k** in 2022, down from £218k in 2021.

2022 Expenditure

All expenditure aimed to support the mission of St Peter's Bethnal Green to Worship God, Make Friends and Change the World.

Over the course of the year: -

Staff costs were **£36k** (2021: £34k), which included pension contributions for the Associate Priest, and pay for the Operations Director and the Teams Administrator,

Ministry expenses (including retreat and event expenses) were **£20k** (2021: £15k). These included youth and children's activities, leading two Alpha courses, a group of 18 people going to Focus and costs for Columbia Carols (which was covered entirely by related income).

Gift expenditure amounted to **£32k** (2021: £77k). This comprised a contribution of £30k (2021: £24k) to the Diocesan Common Fund and financial assistance totalling £2k to individuals facing hardship. (The higher level of Gift expenditure in 2021 was due to the dispersal of Love Your Neighbour grants funded by the government Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.)

[Common Fund (CF) is the name given to contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding.]

The CF contribution requested by the Diocese was £85.2k (£7.1k per month) but only £30k was paid. The decision to continue to contribute to the CF at a lower rate than hoped was taken after a great deal of thought and prayer by the PCC. It was accepted as necessary to allay fears of running out of cash at key points in the past year.

Property related expenditure totalled **£66k**. (2021: £63k). This comprised routine expenditure of £45k (on items such as site security, the upkeep of the grounds, cleaning, energy, rent for the Associate Priest's flat, letting the Mission Hall and routine repairs), £11k on repairs to the Mission Hall boundary wall (covered by an insurance claim) and £10k on phase two of re-wiring the electrical mains in the church building

Administration expenditure which included insurance, office costs, the fee for preparing and examining the accounts, and depreciation amounted to **£20k** (2021: £16k).

Overall St Peter's spent **£174k** in 2022, down from £205k in 2021.

Surplus for the year and the closing position

This year the PCC has reported an increased surplus for 2022 of **£23k** (2021: £13k) and the PCC's net assets increased by this amount to £1,043k. This comprises fixed assets (principally the Mission Hall) with a carrying value of £973K and net current assets of £70k, of which £67K are unrestricted.

Policy on reserves

The PCC has determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted net current assets of no less than £58k (which equates to about 3 months' of budgeted operational expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and/or expenditure vary adversely.

Reserves are continually reviewed by the Finance Working Group and the 2023 budget aims to keep the level of reserves as close to the policy as possible, whilst trying to increase Common Fund contributions and necessarily increasing ministry costs with new staff. At the year end the PCC held unrestricted net current assets of £67k and the PCC is complying with its reserves policy.

Risk assessment and mitigation

The financial risks which the church faces are considered bi-monthly by the Finance Working Group.

Measures are proposed by the Finance Working Group and implemented by the PCC or staff team to ensure that appropriate financial systems, policies and procedures are in place to manage and mitigate financial risks. As an organisation with a relatively low level of reserves, there is a financial risk which is managed by strong financial systems and controls. As a matter of general policy, independent professional advice is taken where appropriate.

Investment and cash flow policy

As mentioned above, St Peter's has relatively low reserves and hence it rarely has excess funds to invest. The rent deposit of £30k received from the Mission Hall tenant is held in a separate, with notice, deposit account. The rest of the cash held by the charity is held in a bank current account so that it is readily accessible.

Grant making policy

The PCC carefully evaluates grant applications before any grants are awarded.

Health and Safety and Employment Law Policy

In 2022 the church employed one staff member, and the premises are in regular use by several people including children and vulnerable adults. Employment Law and health and safety measures are adhered to, and assistance in these matters is sought from the Diocese of London and independent professional advisors.

Sustainability policy

St Peter's encourages the adoption of sustainable practice in all areas of church life and work, as a means to contributing to the reduction in carbon emissions in dealing with the growing evidence for manmade climate change. Measures taken include: - recycling, energy audits, encouraging the use of public transport, cycling and walking.

2023 Plans

The financial plan for 2023 assumes regular routines of worship and ministry will continue at St Peter's. This despite the forced closure of the church building in November 2022 due to asbestos contamination following a partial ceiling collapse. (Additional funds will be sought externally to cover the cost of repairs and making the building safe for use once again. These will include an insurance claim. The financial support of the Diocese is also being sought.)

The 2023 budget requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's to be wholly covered by the cash received. The budget will be reviewed regularly by the Finance Working Group.

2023 Income

Our budget for regular *giving income* is set at £83k (2022 actual £93k).

Property income is forecast based on the lease of the hall to Kido Schools UK Ltd (which will increase from £6.7k to £8.3k PCM from June 2023) and the rental income from Parabolic Theatre for the crypt (£1.5k PCM).

The budget for *grant income* is set to include an ambitious £60k of grants to fund capital repairs; also the cost of the Operations Director working as a fundraiser for one day a week. This arrangement will be subject to review during the year.

2023 Expenditure

We plan to increase our *away giving* through an increase in our Common Fund (CF) contribution from £2.5k PCM in 2022 (35% of full CF) to £4.4k PCM in 2023 (60% of full CF).

(CF is the name given to contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding.)

Our CF contribution remains significantly below the level set for each parish by the Diocese (£7.3k PCM). We plan to review our contribution upwards in future years.

Staffing will remain at the levels established in 2022 (Vicar, Associate Priest, Ordinand, Operations Director, Teams Assistant and Site Assistant). The Associate Priest will have an adjusted package to on a par with similar appointments. A part-time paid Young Life Pastor role remains vacant.

Dependent on the success of capital fundraising, urgent capital repairs will be carried out to the tower stonework, the organ and levelling the garden paths. Other capital works include the installation of a fire alarm system and emergency lighting in the crypt.

The 2023 budget requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's to be wholly covered by the cash received. It is to be reviewed every half-year.

Note: - An assessment by the Diocesan parish property adviser in January 2020 advised that the church building will require between **£750k and £1m spending on the fabric** in the next 10 years (before any re-development of the internal space). This must be held in mind in future financial planning.

The PCC responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Heather Atkinson

The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Vicar

Date: 30 October 2023

David Bishop

David Bishop, on behalf of the Finance Working Group

Date: 30 October 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
('the Charity')

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 on pages 22 to 31 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 24 and 25.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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.

Ajay Rajani

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

31 October 2023

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	91,858	20,890	112,748	180,169
Charitable activities	4	6,276	-	6,276	8,233
Other trading activities	5	66,811	-	66,811	30,011
Other income: proceeds of insurance claim		11,035	-	11,035	-
Total income and endowments		175,981	20,890	196,871	218,413
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	150,705	21,409	172,114	202,313
Raising funds	7	1,775	-	1,775	2,550
Total expenditure		152,480	21,409	173,889	204,863
Net income/(expenditure)		23,501	(518)	22,983	13,549
Transfers between funds	14	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		23,501	(518)	22,983	13,549
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		46,849	972,786	1,019,634	1,006,086
Total funds carried forward	14	70,351	972,267	1,042,618	1,019,635

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 24 to 31 form part of these accounts.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	3,148	970,000	973,148	970,721
		<u>3,148</u>	<u>970,000</u>	<u>973,148</u>	<u>970,721</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	23,625	-	23,625	8,864
Cash at bank and in hand	11	82,733	2,267	85,000	45,329
		106,358	2,267	108,625	54,193
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(39,155)	-	(39,155)	(5,279)
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>67,203</u>	<u>2,267</u>	<u>69,470</u>	<u>48,914</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>70,351</u>	<u>972,267</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>	<u>1,019,635</u>
FUND BALANCES	14				
Unrestricted Funds		70,351	-	70,351	46,849
Restricted Funds		-	972,267	972,267	972,786
		<u>70,351</u>	<u>972,267</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>	<u>1,019,635</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Heather Atkinson

Rev Heather Atkinson

Date 30 October 2023

Charity number: 1154668

The notes on page 24 to 31 form part of these accounts.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter with St Thomas, Bethnal Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body and are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes recoverable gift aid, which is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from weddings and funerals and from church events and courses.

Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity and comprises income receivable from letting property.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish quota are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Expenditure on raising funds comprises expenditure incurred in respect of the charity's property letting income.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2010 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The trustees used an insurance valuation to help estimate the market value of the charity's freehold property on 1 January 2014 (being the date of transition to FRS102) and, as permitted by FRS102, its estimated market value on that date has been treated as being the property's deemed cost. The members of the PCC consider the residual value of the freehold building to be very high and believe that any provision for depreciation would not be material; consequently no depreciation has been charged in these accounts.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Leased assets

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term (unless another systematic basis is more representative of use).

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, basic financial instruments (which includes cash, debtors and creditors) are measured initially at transaction value and subsequently measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for loans at amortised cost using the effective interest method (i.e. it excludes any interest that may be charged on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 Donations and legacies

	2022	2021
	£	£
Regular giving	68,023	54,303
Ad hoc giving	6,675	23,644
Church collections	2,962	692
Income tax recoverable	15,799	12,613
Government grants: Listed Places of Worship Scheme	2,469	-
Grants	16,821	88,918
	<u>112,748</u>	<u>180,169</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fees for weddings, funerals etc	2,052	1,766
Retreats and events	4,224	6,467
	<u>6,276</u>	<u>8,233</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Church hall lettings	54,014	20,762
Crypt lettings	12,797	5,225
Rents received	-	4,024
	<u>66,811</u>	<u>30,011</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

a Costs incurred directly on specific activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Ministry expenses		
Diocesan parish quota - common fund	30,000	24,000
Diocesan service fees	2,976	1,157
Staff costs	36,201	33,667
Ministry expenses	9,698	3,492
Retreats and events	7,691	10,238
Church running costs		
Property expenses including cleaning and minor repairs	41,364	38,877
Major repairs to church building including electrical re-wiring	10,200	20,690
Major repairs to church hall (largely covered by related insurance claim)	11,339	-
Insurance	10,007	7,713
Office expenses	7,064	5,755
Depreciation	403	493
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	2,400	2,370
Major project expenditure		
Site development	991	686
	<u>170,334</u>	<u>149,141</u>
Grants payable (note 6b)	1,780	53,174
	<u>172,114</u>	<u>202,314</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £2,370 (2021: £2,370).

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6b Grants payable

	Institutions	Individuals	2022
	£	£	£
Grants for the relief of poverty	-	1,780	1,780
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,780</u>	<u>1,780</u>

	Institutions	Individuals	2021
	£	£	£
Grants for the relief of poverty	52,972	202	53,174
	<u>52,972</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>53,174</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2022	2021
	£	£
St John's Hoxton	-	3,835
St Mathew's Bethnal Green	-	24,992
Bethnal Green Spear Trust	-	24,145
	<u>-</u>	<u>52,972</u>

7 Cost of raising funds

	2022	2021
	£	£
Rents payable	-	2,550
Legal and professional fees	1,775	-
	<u>1,775</u>	<u>2,550</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2021: 1). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

Pension contributions of £1,062 were payable in respect of Rev'd Alision Mulroy, who is a clergy member of the PCC. She also receives a stipend from the Diocese and some of the Parish Quota paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of this stipend. In addition she is provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy); during the year the cost of this accommodation to the PCC was £8,820.

Rev Heather Atkinson (who is a clergy member of the PCC) also receives a stipend from the Diocese and some of the Parish Quota paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of this stipend. Rev Atkinson is also provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy); during the year the PCC did not make any payments (2021: £nil) in respect of her use of this accommodation.

No member of the PCC received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Worship and Office Equipment £	Total 2022 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2022	970,000	4,382	974,382
Additions	-	2,830	2,830
At 31 December 2022	<u>970,000</u>	<u>7,212</u>	<u>977,212</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	3,661	3,661
Charge for the year	-	403	403
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>4,064</u>	<u>4,064</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2022	<u>970,000</u>	<u>3,148</u>	<u>973,148</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>970,000</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>970,721</u>

Freehold property comprises the church hall at Warner Place.

10 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Income tax recoverable	5,543	2,548
Lettings and event income receivable	6,956	1,878
Prepaid expenditure	11,125	-
Grants receivable	-	4,438
	<u>23,625</u>	<u>8,864</u>

11 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	54,903	45,299
Notice deposits	30,067	-
Petty cash	30	30
	<u>85,000</u>	<u>45,329</u>

12 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	5,533	2,355
Accrued expenses	3,623	2,924
Tenant deposit	29,999	-
	<u>39,155</u>	<u>5,279</u>

13 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £2,227 (2021: £1,314) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £1,062 (2021: £nil) were owed.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

14 Restricted funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Staff fund	-	12,869	(12,869)	-	-
Event fund	-	1,311	(1,311)	-	-
Art & Soul fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Energy support fund	-	2,641	(2,641)	-	-
Repair fund	-	2,469	(2,469)	-	-
Other small funds	1,157	600	(1,118)	-	638
	<u>972,786</u>	<u>20,890</u>	<u>(21,409)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>972,267</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,148	970,000	973,148
Debtors	23,625	-	23,625
Cash at bank and in hand	82,733	2,267	85,000
Creditors falling due within one year	(39,155)	-	(39,155)
	<u>70,351</u>	<u>972,267</u>	<u>1,042,618</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2021 £	Incoming resources 2021 £	Outgoing resources 2021 £	Transfers in the year 2021 £	Closing balance 2021 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Access fund	3,304	2,078	(1,648)	(3,734)	-
Staff fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Love Your Neighbour fund	462	55,760	(56,222)	-	-
Retreat fund	1,944	1,820	(3,764)	-	-
Hardship fund	-	405	(405)	-	-
Culture Recovery fund	-	23,600	(23,600)	-	-
Other small funds	911	855	(609)	-	1,157
	<u>978,250</u>	<u>89,518</u>	<u>(91,248)</u>	<u>(3,734)</u>	<u>972,786</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	721	970,000	970,721
Debtors	4,426	4,438	8,864
Cash at bank and in hand	46,981	(1,652)	45,329
Creditors falling due within one year	(5,279)	-	(5,279)
	<u>46,849</u>	<u>972,786</u>	<u>1,019,635</u>

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

14 Restricted funds continued

The **Church Hall** fund is in respect of the church hall at Warner Place. The custodian trustee is the London Diocesan Fund and the PCC cannot sell the property without the consent of the London Diocesan Fund.

The **Organ** fund was created from grants and donations received for the church organ.

The **Access** fund was created, principally, from grants and donations received to improve disabled access to the church site.

The **Staff** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of employing staff.

The **Love Your Neighbour** fund was created from a grant received from the Church Revitalisation Trust to help provide essential services to vulnerable people. 95% of the amount received has been distributed as grants to organisations that provide these essential services. These organisations are St Matthews (which runs the Bethnal Green Food Bank), St John's Hoxton (which runs a Debt Advice Centre) and Spear Bethnal Green (which offers employment coaching for young people).

The **Retreat** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of a church retreat.

The **Hardship** fund was created from grants received to help individuals experiencing financial hardship.

The **Culture Recovery** fund was created from a grant received from the Heritage fund to help the PCC during the pandemic and specifically to help the PCC pay some operating expenses and undertake repairs to church property.

The **Event** fund was created from grants received to help fund the provision of ministry events.

The **Art & Soul** fund was created from donations received to help the charity run a community arts group.

The **Energy support** fund was created by a grant received from the Diocese to help the charity with energy costs.

The **Repair** fund was created from a grant from the government's Listed Places of Worship Scheme to help meet the cost of repairs to the church building.

The **Other** fund was created by a number of small grants and donations given for a variety of different projects.

15 Operating lease income

The charity has granted a lease to a nursery provider that gives them exclusive use of the church hall at Warner Place. The minimum amounts receivable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews and any unforeseen events that could result in early termination) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Income falling due:		
Within one year	91,666	-
Between one and five years	400,000	-
After five years	241,667	-

16 Transactions with related parties

During the year the PCC received grants totalling £14,180 (2021: £7,280) from the Henry Fawcett Fund, a registered charity established for the relief of poverty in the parish. The vicar and the PCC's two church wardens serve as trustees of the Henry Fawcett Fund and the Henry Fawcett Fund is regarded as being a related party.

During the year the charity :

- a) received donations totalling £17,624 (2021: £13,210) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) paid employment benefits totalling £30,721 (2021: £33,657) to a person closely related to Anne Bishop, who is a trustee.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking duties associated with serving as clergy, no expenses were paid to (or for) members of the PCC.

17 Common fund contribution

In some previous years the PCC has been unable to pay in full the common fund contribution it had offered to the Diocese. The shortfall, which for accounting purposes is not a liability, amounts to £65,000. If the PCC's finances improve, then there may come a time when the PCC would consider making additional payments to the Diocese to make good some, or all, of the shortfall.

18 Other financial information

Towards the end of the year there was some damage to the ceiling in the church building. It soon came to light that there was asbestos in the ceiling (some of which had been released by the ceiling damage) and that work would need to be undertaken to repair not only the damage and but also deal with the asbestos. The PCC has had to close the church building whilst this work is undertaken and the church is meeting temporarily in a heated marquee in the church grounds and in other rooms. The repair work, including the removal of the asbestos, is expected to cost about £466,000 and this will be funded by an insurance claim for £212,000, a grant of £107,000 from the Diocese, other grants totalling £127,000 (including £54,000 from the government's Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme) and a loan of £20,000 from the Diocese. The PCC hopes to open the church building again before the end of 2023.

ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and legacies	3	91,858	20,890	112,748	90,651	89,518	180,169
Charitable activities	4	6,276	-	6,276	8,233	-	8,233
Other trading activities	5	66,811	-	66,811	30,011	-	30,011
Other income		11,035	-	11,035	-	-	-
Total income and endowments		175,981	20,890	196,871	128,895	89,518	218,414
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable activities:	6	150,705	21,409	172,114	111,066	91,248	202,313
Raising funds	7	1,775	-	1,775	2,550	-	2,550
Total Expenditure		152,480	21,409	173,889	113,616	91,248	204,863
Net income/(expenditure)		23,501	(518)	22,983	15,279	(1,730)	13,549
Transfers between funds	14	-	-	-	3,734	(3,734)	-
Net movement in funds		23,501	(518)	22,983	19,013	(5,464)	13,549
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		46,849	972,786	1,019,634	27,836	978,250	1,006,086
Total funds carried forward	14	70,351	972,267	1,042,618	46,849	972,786	1,019,635

ST PETER'S BETHNAL GREEN

England & Wales - Charity number 1154668

Accounts



St Peter with St Thomas Bethnal Green

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

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ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Part 1

Sections 1-6: The Vicar's Report

1. Reference information

- i. Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are elected as Trustees on an annual basis at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

- a. Vicar: The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Chair
 - b. Associate Priest: The Rev'd Ali Mulroy (appointed 1 June 2021)
 - c. Ordinand: Luke Smith (appointed 1 October 2021)
 - d. Wardens: 1. Maria Wyard 2. *Vacant*
 - e. Representative on the Deanery Synod: David Lawrence (resigned 14 March 2021), Anne Bishop (appointed 14 March 2021) (Triennium to 2023)
 - f. Elected Members: Charlotte Parmiter (resigned 14 March 2021), Vikki Lovell, Josh Parikh (resigned 13 March 2022), Tessa Bosworth (resigned 14 March 2021), Philippa Bannister (resigned 13 March 2022), Pieter-Bas Spronk (resigned 13 March 2022), Alison McIndoe (appointed 14 March 2021), Abby Ewing (appointed 14 March 2021), Andrew Rixon (appointed 13 March 2022), Chris Bollington (appointed 13 March 2022).
- ii. St Peter's Bethnal Green is a registered charity number 1154668.
 - iii. St Peter's Bethnal Green uses the banking services of Reliance Bank Ltd at Faith House, 23-24 Lovat Lane, London, EC3R 8EB.
 - iv. Stewardship (1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB) were re-appointed as the charity's accountants and an employee nominated by Stewardship serves as the charity's independent examiner.
 - v. Postal address of the church: St Peter's Bethnal Green, St Peter's Close, London E2 7AE.
 - vi. Administrative address: The Church Office, The Vicarage, St Peter's Square, London, E2 7AE

2. Structure & Governance

i. Responsibilities of the PCC

The PCC of St Peter's Bethnal Green has the responsibility, together with the Vicar, the Rev'd Heather Atkinson, to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church. This includes the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical aspects. It is responsible for the maintenance of the buildings of St Peter's Bethnal Green. As a Church of England Parish church, the PCC and Vicar follow requirements of Church of England Canon Law.

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

ii. Objectives and activities

The objectives of St Peter's Bethnal Green are to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church with a focus to worship God, make friends and change the world. Amplification of the vision of St Peter's is on the website.

The 2021 electoral roll had 128 registered members at the APCM. Those on the Electoral roll are able to nominate candidates for the PCC. The PCC and Church Wardens are elected annually at the APCM. The PCC organises itself to carry out its aims and objectives by having regular meetings and various sub-committees. The PCC held five formal meetings over the year and two standing meetings regarding the hall.

The PCC's Finance Team prepares information for explanation and decision making for the PCC and takes forward management matters with the Vicar. Day-to-day management of the church is delegated to the Vicar, Rev'd Heather Atkinson and her staff team. An Executive Group operating as a Standing Committee was not formed this year.

iii. Public Benefit

The PCC members confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. St Peter's Bethnal Green works alongside a number of organisations as partners in undertaking mercy, justice and evangelism. We support these practically, financially and in encouraging people to volunteer and we receive support from them in fulfilling our calling as a local church.

These include: - Bethnal Green Spear Trust, Resurgo, Tower Hamlets, Bow and Bethnal Green Foodbanks, Columbia Road Traders Association, The Mission Practice, Oaklands School, The Arch (formerly Arch 76), The Tower Hamlets Healing Prayer School, and other local churches, individual ministries and social enterprises.

The church of St Peter's Bethnal Green benefits the community by the activities described in the section entitled 'Change the World', notably through outreach and supporting others through our volunteer programme, prayer and financial input.

3. 'Worship God'

i. Church attendance

Average Sunday attendance in 2021 at St Peter's Bethnal Green (2020-2016 in brackets):

	Q1 (Jan-March)	Q2 (April-June)	Q3 (July-Sept)	Q4 (Oct-Dec)
10am sung Eucharist				
adults	17 (26, 32, 31, 38, 50,)	23 (33, 30, 27, 34, 58,)	27 (32, 27, 24, 27, 44,)	25 (30, 27, 30, 31, 37,)
children	0	1	1	1
11am service of the Word/Eucharist/All Age Worship				
adults	35 (61, 55, 40, 37, 40,)	32 (51, 56, 40, 37,)	38 (43, 56, 37, 41, 35,)	33 (46, 58, 55, 45, 44,)
children	12 (15, 14, 10, 14, 11,)	15 (11, 16, 12, 11, 10,)	14 (12, 17, 10, 13, 10)	15 (15, 13, 15, 12, 12)
10.30am all-age services				
adults	40 (0, 60, 74, 70, 68)	42 (99, 68, 77, 54, 80,)	38 (46, 48, 56, 58, 59)	45 (58, 77, 68, 70, 74,)
children	12 (0, 15, 11, 20, 13,)	6 (16, 19, 13, 4, 13,)	9 (7, 11, 10, 7, 10,)	7 (8, 10, 14, 12, 16,)
5pm evening service (Not inc Campfire Carols: 66 adults, 34 kids or Carols by Candlelight: 84 adults, 16 kids, or Carols on Columbia Road – approx. 4,000 adults...)				
adults	0 (15, 23, 23, 31, 25,)	0 (12, 15, 21, 28, 25,)	0 (0, 18, 29, 25, 37,)	0 (0, 19, 0, 25, 30, 1)
Total number of communicants across all Sunday services				
	518	282	299	319

As last year 'a variety of services were held' understates a second year of adapting to circumstances enforced by the pandemic. The table above summarises what we did, but in each case we were balancing the *benefit* of meeting together to worship and find spiritual succour, with the *danger* of an increasing risk of spreading infection. Indoor worshipers were obliged to socially distance and wear masks while singing was actively discouraged until October, when masks were still worn. The clergy continued to preside at Communion wearing a mask and disposable gloves. Every time the situation changed the new guidelines were absorbed, interpreted and a thorough risk assessment made for every adjustment to public worship.

The Zoom services themselves were adapted to be slicker and enable engagement. Though always second best, they have been an important provision, both when they were the sole option and when we offered 'hybrid' provision. The lockdown services maintained a good standard of preaching and the breakout rooms were appreciated, but we noticed more 'zoom fatigue' and opting out than before.

The table below charts the range of services we have held. The clergy and lay members of St Peter's Bethnal Green led and preached at services. We follow the Church of England lectionary and the rubric of Common Worship. The shaded area indicates where we were legally obliged to close the church building entirely and gathered worship was prohibited. Where 'in person' services were resumed from 2nd April, all due precautions were taken to ensure that the risk of infection was reduced as far as possible, including re-arrangement of the church furniture, provision of ventilation, masks, sanitiser etc, as well as strict adherence to guidelines for the distribution of Holy Communion.

Period	Sunday & Weekday Service(s)	Notes
Lockdown 3 (Jan – Mar)	10.30 Zoom with Spiritual Communion	Church open for private prayer daily 1-3pm
Holy Week	Individual, socially-distanced on site Good Friday Meditations via podcast Easter Sunday 10.30am Garden Service	
Restricted Worship (April – Sept, bar August)	10am Holy Communion indoors 11am Garden Services with zoom option	Garden services were usually All Age, Informal Services of the Word, with Holy Communion periodically. July 25 th Entirely on zoom to share in Focus teaching.
Focus (July 25 th)	10.30 Zoom Service with 'Focus' videos 10.30 Holy Communion in church	HTB Network 'Focus' Festival Quiet Communion
August	10.30 All Age Holy Communion	In the garden
October 1-3	Church Weekend Away Evening Holy Communion 7pm	5 Acts of Worship, including an All Age Holy Communion away and a Quiet Communion in church.
Worship with Eased Restrictions (Oct – Nov)	10am Holy Communion 11am Informal Worship	Children's Groups Resumed
Worship with Eased Restrictions (Dec)	10.30 All Age Holy Communion	Additional Advent Services

The senior citizens who attended a midweek informal Service of the Word (designed to be very accessible to those without a history of regular church going) continued to attend until the better weather enabled outdoor gatherings.

Morning Prayer, where a liturgical format works as a cradle for intercession for the church, the community and the world, is said every Wednesday at 8am on Zoom and Evening Prayer was said every Thursday at 8pm until Pentecost. In contrast to the morning service, the latter struggled to attract a committed core, and we discontinued, with the intention of establishing new opportunities and forms for the essential spiritual discipline of corporate prayer.

It has been increasingly hard for some older members to get to church. During lockdown the daily lectionary readings have been printed out with weekly collects and distributed regularly to those who appreciate them, along with encouragements to watch Songs of Praise and call the Church of England 'Daily Hopeline' for daily readings and prayers. With restrictions easing the clergy have still needed to increase the number of pastoral visits and offered Holy Communion at home and in hospital.

ii. Occasional Services, Seasonal Services and Service to the Wider Church.

2 infant baptisms and 1 wedding were officiated by the Vicar at St Peter's Bethnal Green in 2021. 5 sets of Banns were read for marriages and the Vicar undertook 5 funerals, as well as undertaking duties as an Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, as a Trustee of the Simeon's Patronage Trust and The Arch, and as a Stepney Area Deliverance Ministry Advisor. Other services included:

- Ash Wednesday – Spiritual Communion
- Mothering Sunday with APCM – A zoom service (Daffodils delivered to all the senior members of the church)
- Maundy Thursday – Spiritual Communion
- Good Friday – Stations of the Cross, with individual, socially distanced meditations accessed via our podcast (The Prayer Garden) followed by the Good Friday liturgy in person

- Easter Sunday – In person, in the garden.
- Ascension Day – a zoom service of Evening Prayer
- All Saints – an in person Holy Communion
- Remembrance Sunday – Held in Ion Square
- Christingle – An All-Age Holy Communion
- Columbia Road Carols – Taking carols out to the community as a sign of hope twice before restrictions tightened again. Thousands attending.
- Campfire Carols – A children’s party with all age carol singing round the campfire
- Midnight Mass – An ‘in person or zoom’ Christmas Eve Eucharist with a socially distanced choir
- Christmas Day – An ‘in person or zoom’ all-age service

iii. Children’s Church

When more restrictions were lifted in the Autumn, the children's work resumed during the 11am service, taking place for 6-14s in Room 1, (used by Spear midweek as the training room) and, in Room 2, a 0-5s crèche. The children are invited to join in the prayer and worship at the beginning of the 11am service before leaving for groups and, have activities at 10.30 services which are often craft-based. There is an urgent need for more suitable helpers on the team and for more space. Further details of the work are given below in section 4.iv.

iv. Worship Music

This was a year of singing at screens, singing in our heads, singing behind masks, and singing in front of the neighbours (they said on Instagram that they liked hearing it through their open windows in summer). The garden services were remarkable for people stopping and listening to heartfelt worship.

Responsibility for our sung worship has continued to rest largely on the shoulders of our brilliant volunteer team who have continued to give selflessly and skillfully to our worship in both services, although high quality videos made by Holy Trinity Brompton served our zoom services well for the first quarter.

It was a great joy to begin singing again, albeit softly and behind masks. Later in the year new talent began to emerge for the 10 and 11am services, which has helped to diversify and renew our sound.

v. Prayer and Bible Study

Prayer is foundational to all the work we do. Any visible action and growth are built on the unseen life of prayer and the chancel remains a dedicated space for prayer while the zoom prayer meetings are the engine of the church. It is fair to say that Covid and the lack of a paid Worship Leader have conspired to diminish options for corporate prayer and this is a distinct area for renewal. However the ‘prayer warriors’ who attend the early and late zoom prayer meetings have been incredibly committed and interceded in ways that have led to many answers. Without them this church would not function. They add to the prayers of the PCC, the staff and those who pray for the ministry of St Peter’s at home. The intercessions in our services are often led by volunteers, bringing a wide range of voices and approaches.

In Lockdown we opened the church for private prayer as often as possible and this was greatly appreciated by those who came in. The doors of the porch were kept open, in contrast to the first lockdown. The ‘say one for me’ cards available in the church porch are used occasionally by members of the congregation to seek solidarity in prayer, but they are mainly filled in by members of the public. These cards are prayed over by the staff and, on occasion, in prayer services. They are stored in the aumbry, with the reserved sacrament, and are burnt at the Easter Morning Vigil.

It was a difficult year to welcome outside speakers to the church but we were able to hear the acting Archdeacon of Hackney who spoke on Christmas Eve and the Bishop of Stepney in June. Our preaching team cherishes both lay and clergy talent.

We began the year exploring our desire to be hallmarked as a community by Hospitality, Healing and Hope, followed by some wisdom from Proverbs and then the unfurling promises of God in Lent. Later sermon series included looking at the impact of Easter through the senses and one entitled 'Jesus Christ: Hope Coach' in which we asked ourselves coaching questions to grow our mindset and grasp of God's character. In the summer, as the grind of the pandemic wore us down, (and we needed to find ways to make readings heard well in the garden) we turned to 'Comfort Food', as we relished some of our (voted favourite) and most familiar bible stories again. At the Weekend Away we took time to ponder Matthew 11: 28-30 and at Advent our weekly themes were Hope, Love, Joy and Peace which led well to our Christmas theme of '*From heaven to here*'.

4. 'Make Friends'

'Making friends' is about discipleship and community for ourselves and for others.

i. Welcome & Hospitality

This year our practice and understanding of hospitality has morphed and widened even further. We learned to welcome passers-by who simply stood at the edge of our garden services and no greeting was complete without the offer of hand sanitizer and a free face mask. At our Christmas Day service, in a year when many more people than usual were spending Christmas alone, we offered fizz and nibbles after the service – and the trays on which these were proffered contained free packs of Lateral Flow Tests as well.

The twin tasks of Welcome and Hospitality belonged to the whole church in 2021 and everyone was encouraged to help newcomers stay and develop friendships. Once lockdown ended and zoom services gave way to garden services and indoor quiet services, online hospitality continued to be offered through the zoom as a 'hybrid' option with in-person services so that those who were self-isolating, anxious or unwell could still feel connected and nourished to some extent.

For in-person services the practicalities of hospitality fall on four smiling teams lovingly entitled 'The Tea and Coffee Crew'. Over the last year our hospitality team have regrouped as the Covid restrictions have allowed. We are so grateful to their loyal and regular service, enabling beautiful times of community to happen between the 10 and 11am services.

ii. Media

Our online media have been a vital part of staying connected with our community and offering good hospitality to those who are reaching out to the church. A more old-fashioned approach has been to update regularly the temporary notices and banners on the railings around the church.

The website was maintained to a high standard. It is updated regularly and developed to use with our database and organisational software. Instagram and Facebook are now our main external reach. Mailchimp emails reach the Electoral Roll and beyond. The WhatsApp group 'St Peter's Alive' has continued to engender a sense of church family. We will continue to pursue a wise – and no doubt evolving – use of social media to promote both social connection and broadcast information.

iii. Midweek Groups

Life Groups are the midweek meetings, with a focus on prayer, bible study and mutual support, designed to be at the heart of the church at St Peter's Bethnal Green. However a second year of the pandemic eroded them even further and by the end of 2021 there were only three groups meeting regularly.

There was a weekly coffee morning for senior citizens, meeting either in the church or in the garden. As well as combating the very real issue of loneliness, this has afforded opportunities for spiritual conversations and a sense of reconnection with the local church for people who have lived in the area for a very long time.

In order to 'make friends', both with God, with one another and with people who need the friendship of God, we strongly encourage everyone to belong to something, to remain outwardly focused in their life groups and to serve on a team.

iv. Nurturing Faith in Children & Youth

The old African wisdom that 'it takes a village to raise a child' usually resonates in a church such as ours. Parents have carried a particularly heavy load during 2021 with home-schooling on top of being much less able to share the task of handing on faith with the rest of 'the village'.

St Peter's has aimed to ensure that all the children on our roll feel loved and valued, even if they have had less direct experience of worship, teaching and fellowship during the pandemic. Each family was sent a Lent Pack of learning resources and fun activities.

Once back together again the garden services were designed (with varying success) to be child-friendly and the children generally managed an urban form of 'Forest Church' if they weren't decorating the concrete with truly glorious chalk drawings. However, the ministry urgently needed designated leadership, especially when we came back inside in the Autumn. A small team has run children's groups every Sunday in the last quarter. I am so grateful for these individuals and the whole team's prayer and care of the children.

The vision for 'Making Friends' in younger age groups is not limited to those who are already in church. In collaboration with Mile End Climbing Wall, we have been able to offer a Community Climbing Club which is free of charge to young people in the local community. With professional instruction it is a great opportunity to value, encourage, heal and teach youngsters whose mental health has suffered in the pandemic.

v. Nurturing faith in adults

A choice of three Lent Courses online were offered and an encouraging number of people attended. These included a course on Ignatian Prayer, the Difference Course and The Unanswered Prayer Course.

In addition, we ran our first online Alpha in the Spring term, culminating in guests attending a garden service and a BBQ. This, along with the other Lent courses enabled some newer members to build more relationships, ask important questions and feel more part of the church.

vi. Relationship building and sharing

Gathering to say farewell to our Ordinand was a great excuse for a party, as was the Bishop's visit to license our Associate Priest, and the Back-to-School BBQ. These all become excellent reasons to fire up the pizza oven and train pizza chefs although the first thing to be cooked in the oven publicly was fish, (as a sermon illustration for Luke 24: 36-43) and on August Bank Holiday clay figures of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego found themselves in our very own fiery furnace.

The long-awaited Church Weekend Away, originally planned for April 2020 was finally able to happen at the start of October 2021. The timing for re-grouping as a church was perfect; the venue at Ashburnham Place in Sussex worked really well; the opportunities for relationship building; games, prayer, sung worship and vision casting were treasured; the weather was lousy. It did give rise to our first ever 'indoor campfire' and the birth of an occasional 'pool club' when a group discovered pool tables in the basement. Seventy church members attended, aged from 0-91.

The children had their own programme run by the organization '*Children Can*'. The staff all worked very hard to make the weekend happen and had great support from a number of wonderful volunteers. We sensed God's hospitality in the care of the prayer-soaked space of Ashburnham Place. We experienced precious healing after a challenging season and we began to have hope for the future, returning to London with refreshed energy and passion for our church and God's work in us and through us.

5. 'Change the world'

i. Pastoral Care

Supporting and caring for others bridges the call to make friends and change the world. As more of our older members need to be cared for at home we are learning how to stretch in their direction, while always encouraging their determination to get to events. If we've learnt one thing, it's that 'in person' really is better than anything else.

So much pastoral care goes on here without others seeing, in many directions. To those who reach out, pray with, message, telephone, shop, bake, visit, help out and listen – may God give the increase to all you offer.

'Love Christmas' mini-hampers were delivered to vulnerable adults and many of the congregation were on 'the front line' serving in schools, shops and the NHS, while others were working flat out 'behind the lines' in a range of industries.

ii. Social Action

Spear Bethnal Green, which runs employment coaching for NEET young people aged 16 – 25 continued, the 8th year of operation. Bethnal Green Spear Trust is a separate charity but St Peter's offers office space and training facilities gratis. Spear Bethnal Green coaches are part of the St Peter's staff team by extension. Most of the gathered events, such as Mock Interview Day, are held at St Peter's in the church or Mission Hall. The celebrations, when a cohort finish their intensive coaching, last about 90 minutes in total and offer a great opportunity for the rest of the church to show their support of the project in an easy, heart-warming way. In 2021 the courses were taught online until September and the course has been adapted to include an online element so that trainees are prepared for online interviews and working environments. Members of the congregation are encouraged to support Spear in many ways, including volunteering for mock interviews or using professional contacts to make links with corporate sponsors or to enable company visits.

We are especially grateful to the Spear trustees for an immense amount of hard work which has enabled the charity to keep going. Spear is popular locally, supported in recent years by members of the local community, including the Columbia Road Traders Association who again trained and employed Spear trainees to act as stewards for our carol singing events at the Columbia Road Christmas market. This year, although they were only able to do two events before restrictions were tightened, some of the trainees have gone on to gain further employment as stewards at other events, thus building their confidence and their CVs.

St Peter's staff and congregation are encouraged to be involved in management and governance of ministries, projects and institutions. We seek to support and champion everyone's weekday activities, by counting what we do for 'the other six days' as the mission of the church, whether what we do is paid or unpaid. Our regular 'This Time Tomorrow' slot in the 11am service highlights the lives and impact of individuals, with the aim of being known, being commissioned and being prayed for. This includes our daily tasks of raising families and earning a living or it may be another area of service, for example Street Pastors or the The Arch, a local charity building friendship with vulnerable women, whose board of trustees and volunteer base includes several members of St Peter's.

Yet when I compare 2021 with the previous year of intense lockdown, I notice less obvious activity and perhaps more simplified, focussed work. It certainly felt as if there was less heroics and more exhaustion this year. Through a Community Survey we heard from a spectrum of people what they felt about living here, what the greatest needs of the area were and what young and old particularly enjoyed or yearned for.

Five common themes were identified: -

1. The value of local third spaces
2. The desire for purposeful activities for young people, young families and the elderly.
3. The fears for safety – among the elderly and young people - generally relating to street/doorstep safety, gangs or drug culture
4. An ongoing need for *affordable* nursery/playgroup provision
5. The need for youth work which offers purpose and builds skills and confidence for work and a healthy lifestyle

This research affirms our continued commitment to Spear and to the development of the church garden, among other initiatives.

iii. The Church Garden

Thanks to our staff and volunteers, the garden remains a source of beauty and peace for the many locals who now spend time there. The marquee served as shelter from both sun and rain as well as a focal point for parties and meetings. We are conscious that there is more we can do with the garden both in what it looks like and how it is used.

6. Management & Administration

i. The Mission Hall

110 years ago the foundation stone of the Mission Hall was laid by a Miss Phillimore as the Bishop of Stepney, the clergy and the choir looked on, their banners held high. The project would enable activities for young people and members of the local community to thrive and over the years the hall was used for everything from Band of Hope gatherings for women to 'sign the pledge' to Harvest Suppers featuring bottle stalls and dancing. Families celebrated birthdays, weddings and anniversaries; the Queen's Coronation prompted a huge community party with children in fancy dress. Members of the Bethnal Green club on Facebook remember Cis Raymond and Lily Abraham running Brownies and Guides there, as well as a Cub pack. One woman remembered drawing pictures in a tray of sand at Sunday School there, while another recalled regularly attending a Darby and Joan club penny lunch with her grandmother after the war. In the earliest days the Church Lads Brigade had their drill there, before the First World War made real soldiers of them. Latterly the jumble sales gave way to a co-working space, but the hall became increasingly difficult to maintain and heat efficiently.

In 2016 the PCC agreed to look at alternative options while enabling major renovation work to restore the hall for future generations. The intention was never to sell this precious resource, but to let go of it for a season, during which a larger body would give it a facelift and use it to good purpose. By early 2020 we were almost ready to lease the hall to Kido, a nursery education provider. However Covid 19 struck and everything was put on hold.

Over the course of 2021 we gathered enough venue hire bookings for the hall to break even. Then in the Autumn negotiations with Kido re-commenced and in January 2022 the PCC voted unanimously to lease the hall to them. The lease with Kido was signed on 1 June 2022.

ii. The Crypt

In February 2021 a license agreement was granted to Parabolic Theatre Company to rent approximately 4/5ths of the crypt for storage purposes. This with the understanding that they would also experiment with immersive theatre performances and aim to develop the crypt into a performance venue which other companies could use, (subject to their material falling within the range of suitability as defined by an agreed memorandum of understanding). However, it proved impossible, with Covid rife, to do as much as was originally hoped and the season was deferred to 2022, giving us more time to prepare the space in compliance with fire safety regulations for larger audiences. The play which was trialled, *Threshold*, ran successfully for a few weeks, in compliance with regulations, but coincided with the 'pingdemic' in which contacts of Covid cases also had to self-isolate. It wasn't long before actors were being pinged and the decision was taken to finish the run. It did indicate however that the crypt could potentially be used for performances without disruption to others, which gives encouragement for 2022.

The potential therefore exists for rental income based on performances as well as storage from the space and for reinvestment into the space to make it more commercially viable. While there are details to iron out, a partnership is growing. A good example was when a local Guide leader sought permission to bring her company for a picnic in the church garden, we were able to offer a tour of a theatre and two members of the company spent half an hour with the young people answering their questions and allowing them to imagine how they would direct a play in it.

The Church

- Between the main outer doors and the inner front doors, a further set of doors have been stripped of their ugly cladding and restored. Paid for by drawing down the last monies awarded by the City Bridge Fund for access improvements, this offers several advantages: 1) Added security, since the glass is bullet proof and therefore impossible to break on an attempt at forced entry; 2) Improved draught exclusion and better at keeping the heat in; 3) A more identifiable entrance for those with impaired eyesight because of the colour contrast of dark wood against white walls; 4) They look much nicer.
- A bid to the Culture Recovery Fund Round 2 was successful in an award for about 2/3rds of what we asked for. We were awarded £23,600, which enabled the damaged railings and pillar in the north west corner of the site to be restored to a safe structure and for the broken grilles across the heating system between the nave wooden floor and the chancel to be replaced. This dealt with a considerable safety hazard and improves the appearance of our buildings.
- It also contributed to some overheads for our site staff, a summer event and the electrical repairs/modifications (required by our insurer).
- The boiler has been serviced.
- Gutters – a new contract with a more efficient contractor who has shown how the walls are being affected by leaks, misalignments and splits in the down pipes. This explains the appalling state of the north wall above the refreshments area, as well as damp patches around the loo.
- The door key pads have been serviced.
- Leaks in the church roof were repaired.
- On three occasions a small external spotlight on the front steps has been damaged/stolen.
- The far-left aisle of the crypt is now designated for St Peter's storage.
- A bag of vintage toys given to the church some years ago has been sold on eBay and rendered £300.

The Crypt

- The diocese initiated an asbestos report on the vicarage which identified asbestos in the courtyard. We asked the same company to remove the asbestos from the crypt which was previously identified in our quinquennial inspection at the same time, thereby relieving us of the set-up costs.
- This involved removing three doors (to the boiler room and the electrical intake room) two of which were small doors at chest level. Therefore, in order to work towards a second fire exit in the future, we took the opportunity to build a proper doorway into the electrical intake room in the crypt, rather than a 'window' through which we previously climbed.
- Flooding in the crypt was a problem in the summer. The leaves that had accumulated on the south side by the wall of the church were cleared to deter rainwater pooling there.
- Phase 1 of the essential electrical repairs and modifications in the church building, identified in our quinquennial inspection, was undertaken by a local contractor who has been really good to work with. There is more essential work to be done, so that our insurers are satisfied.

The Garden

- As well as the renovation of the railings and pillar, cuttings have replenished the plant stock in parts of the garden.
- The shed has been cleared out and about 50% of its contents taken to the tip. This has made it a much more efficient space.
- The diocese commissioned work on the overgrown sycamore tree that was damaging the garden wall, the drains and the vicarage roof.
- The pizza oven was concreted in.
- The leaf mould piles are now under control and we are considering homemade hot composting.

The Vicarage and Basement Flat

- Tenants moved out of the vicarage basement flat in March. Research by diocese showed that the flat remains part of the parsonage provision to the incumbent. Given that the vicarage has 'temporarily' hosted the church and Spear office for the last three years, it made sense for the staff team to now work in the basement.
- We still have separate council tax, water rates and gas standing charges on the basement level of the vicarage. While this offers clarity to the costs of running a church office and asserts a level of parish interest in the property, it creates a new burden of cost that we haven't had since moving the church and Spear office out of the hall. The diocese has agreed to continue to pay the council tax on the basement for the time being. (The electrical circuits for the whole building are not separate and the bill for the whole house is paid for by the incumbent.)
- The basement was redecorated at low cost by a small team of church members.
- Furniture was donated to create a basement meeting room, which has a small kitchen leading off it.
- The diocese replaced broken lights in the basement.
- To accommodate the office and enable occupants to operate efficiently, two new WiFi access points were installed.
- Our electrician repaired and installed several new sockets in the basement free of charge.

The Mission Hall

- Storage heaters were repaired and new convactor heaters were installed in the hall as the old ones had failed and we had a duty to tenants. The fire alarm was serviced and leaks in the roof were repaired.
- The ground floor storage room (located between the neighbouring Pebble Centre building and the main hall) suffered a partial collapse of the ceiling in early June. This was the consequence of a leak from the boiler for the Pebble Centre which is situated directly above our storage room. The owner of the Pebble Centre has so far refused to deal with the issue.

iv. Staff

- We began the year prayerfully advertising for a Worship & Church Growth Pastor and a replacement ordinand, looking to secure funding for a Children's Pastor later in the year. Although these posts were clearly what was needed at the time, we had the strong sense that the pieces of the jigsaw would fall to the ground in a different pattern, and so it proved to be.
- Tessa Bosworth was ordained deacon at Petertide and went to serve her title at Holy Sepulchre, London. Her ministry at St Peter's was a great blessing to many and she leaves behind many friends, as well as a beautiful website, solid administrative records, memories of rich teaching and the imprint of a humble servant of God who filled so many gaps and offered gentle, authoritative leadership.
- Rev'd Alison Mulroy opened a conversation with us which rapidly helped us see how the jigsaw pieces may indeed fall differently to the plan and The Bishop of Stepney readily approved a plan to license Ali as Associate Priest to this parish when we all talked fully, had prayed and had discerned a good fit. Ali is a bi-vocational priest and artist who supports herself by her painting. While Ali is centrally involved in Sunday worship, her main area of ministry is in the missional spaces with young people and the senior community, using her pastoral and evangelistic gifts.
- Our Operations Director manages all the church finances, oversees the maintenance and development of the buildings, administers the Henry Fawcett Fund and serves Bethnal Green Spear Trust as financial operator, while helping to manage site staff and underpinning it all with prayer and a pastoral heart.
- Our Site Assistant takes care of the grounds for 12 hours per week, creating a calm atmosphere valued by other members of the site team.
- Luke Smith joined the team in October as an ordinand.
- The Rev'd Heather Atkinson remains Vicar of St Peter's and deeply thankful for the privilege of leading this caring, faithful, creative and outward-looking community.

Part 2

Section 7: Treasurer's report

Income to support Church mission

Finances at St Peter's were overseen by the Finance Working Group, a sub-committee of the PCC, made up of the Incumbent, a Church Warden and at least one other member, supported by the Operations Director and the former Treasurer. This team met regularly and makes recommendations on finance matters to the PCC.

2021 Review

2021 Income

The ministries and activities of St Peter's Bethnal Green were largely funded by three groups of income: -

Giving Income in 2021 (funding from the congregation members and friends of St Peter's in the form of standing orders, one-off gifts, regular collections and related gift aid) amounted to **£91k**. This was up from 2020 when giving income totalled £83k. No 'giving drives' for particular projects were held in 2021.

Property Income (the letting and renting of church premises) also accounted for a significant proportion of the church's income, at **£30k** (2020: £24k). This comprised £21k for the hall, £5k for the church crypt and £4k from a flat.

- Hall

The PCC continued to seek a socially conscious commercial venture to provide market rental of the hall to fund other aspects of St Peter's mission and secure a solid long-term financial footing. Meanwhile from the second quarter of 2021 onwards, rental income from both regular and ad-hoc bookings of the hall gave a welcome boost to income.

- Crypt

At the start of 2021 the crypt was given over to Parabolic (an immersive theatre company) as storage and for the development of an immersive performance space. An interim rental agreement was entered into for a pilot phase.

- Flat

Flat rental income was for the period January to April 2021, after which the flat was made available as accommodation for the Associate Priest.

Thirdly, **Grant Income** from external bodies, such as the Henry Fawcett Fund (HFF), Heritage Fund Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) and the Church Revitalisation Trust (CRT) provided a total of **£89k**. (2020: £39k). HFF mainly supported some staffing costs (Operations Director) and the Church Weekend Away, CRF covered some heritage repairs and overheads during the COVID 19 recovery period, and CRT helped fund support for the community work done by St Matthew's Bethnal Green, St John's Hoxton and Spear Bethnal Green.

Overall, St Peter's received **£218k*** in 2021, up from £149k in 2020.

(*this also included £6k of income from the Church Weekend Away and other events, and £2k (2020: £1k) from weddings and funerals; in 2020 income also included £2k from insurance claims).

2021 Expenditure

All expenditure aimed to support the mission of St Peter's Bethnal Green to Worship God, Make Friends and Change the World.

Over the course of the year: -

Staff costs were **£34k** (2020: £37k). (There has not been a worship pastor in post since 2019, although this was budgeted for at £9.5k for 2021 but not spent.)

Ministry expenses were **£15k** (2020: £6k), which this year included £10k retreats and events (most of this was spent on the Church Weekend Away).

Gift expenditure amounted to **£77k** (2020: £26k). This comprised a contribution of £24k (2020: £15k) to the Diocesan Common Fund and grants totalling £53k (2020: £9k) from the money received from CRT (see below).

[Common Fund (CF) is the name given to contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding.]

The CF contribution requested by the Diocese for 2021 was £85.2k (£7.1k per month) but only £24k was paid. The decision to continue to contribute to the CF at a lower rate than hoped was taken after a great deal of thought and prayer by the PCC. It was accepted as necessary to allay fears of running out of cash at key points in the past year.

Property related expenditure totalled **£62k**. (2020: £35k). In addition to the routine expenditure we incur annually, this year we also spent £12k on phase one of re-wiring the electrical mains in the church building and £10k on heritage repairs to the perimeter railings and brickwork and to cast iron floor grilles within the nave. The internal west doors were also refurbished, adding secure glass vision panels, improving safety, accessibility and reducing heat loss (£2k) and we refurbished the Vicarage basement so that it could be used as an office (£2k).

Administration expenditure which includes insurance, office costs, the fee for preparing and examining the accounts, and depreciation amounted to **£16k** (2020: £19k).

Development Expenditure totalled **£1k** in 2021; (2020: £1k) This covered the continued hire of a container as temporary storage space. All development works continued to be on hold.

Overall St Peter's spent **£205k** in 2021, up from £124k in 2020.

As a result, the PCC reported a reduced surplus for 2021 of **£13k** (2020: £25k).

Cash in the bank as at 31 December 2021 was £45k, of which £47k is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose; the cash held by unrestricted funds was in deficit by £2k because cash was spent before the related restricted income was received.

Policy on reserves

The PCC have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £25k (which equates to about 3 months' of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and/or expenditure vary adversely. Reserves are continually reviewed by the Finance Working Group and the 2022 budget aims to keep the level of reserves as close to the policy as possible, whilst trying to increase Common Fund contributions and necessarily increasing ministry costs with new staff. At the year end the PCC held unrestricted cash of £47k and the PCC is complying with its reserves policy.

Risk assessment and mitigation

The financial risks which the church faces are considered bi-monthly by the Finance Working Group.

Measures are proposed by the Finance Working Group and implemented by the PCC or staff team to ensure that appropriate financial systems, policies and procedures are in place to manage and mitigate financial risks. As an organisation with a relatively low level of reserves, there is a financial risk which is managed by strong financial systems and controls. As a matter of general policy, independent professional advice is taken where appropriate.

Investment and cash flow policy

As mentioned above, St Peter's has relatively low reserves and hence it rarely has excess funds to invest. Available cash was held in the main bank account in order primarily to control levels of reserves more easily, but also to ensure cash flow remains liquid.

Grant making policy

The PCC carefully evaluates grant applications before any grants are awarded. Until recently the aggregate value of the grants distributed by the PCC was relatively low (because the PCC's reserves were low) but in 2021 and 2020 the PCC was able to distribute grants totalling £61,750 to three charities from the grants that the PCC received from the Church Revitalisation Trust. CRT wanted to help fund the provision of essential services to vulnerable people and, to this end, the PCC decided to award grants to St Matthew's (which runs the Bethnal Green Food Bank), St John's Hoxton (which runs a Debt Advice Centre) and Spear Bethnal Green (which, as mentioned above, offers employment coaching for young people).

Health and Safety and Employment Law Policy

In 2021 the church employed one staff member, and the premises are in regular use by several people including children and vulnerable adults. Employment Law and health and safety measures are adhered to, and assistance in these matters is sought from the Diocese of London and independent professional advisors.

Sustainability policy

St Peter's encourages the adoption of sustainable practice in all areas of church life and work, to contribute to the overall reduction in carbon emissions as a means to contributing to the reduction in carbon emissions in dealing with the growing evidence for manmade climate change. Measures taken include: - recycling, energy audits, encouraging the use of public transport, cycling and walking. Energy costs in 2021 were again reduced by minimising use of heating, power and lighting during lockdown.

2022 Plans

Our financial plan for 2022 assumes a return to regular routines of worship and ministry at St Peter's. The 2022 budget requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's to be wholly covered by the cash received. The budget will be reviewed regularly by the Finance Working Group.

2022 Income

Our budget for regular *giving income* is set at £5.5k PCM (2021 actual £4.5k PCM). (An increase in regular giving would enable us to extend our ministry, to address urgent capital repairs and development priorities and to increase our support for the Diocese.)

Ahead of the agreement to lease the Mission Hall to Kido, *Property income* was forecast based on continuing to receive ad hoc rental income through hiring out the hall; while rental income for the crypt is set to increase to £1k PCM during the Parabolic immersive theatre performance season.

The budget for grant income is set to include an ambitious £44k of grants to fund capital repairs. The aim is for the Operations Director to lead this fundraising effort by applying to charitable trusts.

2022 Expenditure

We plan to increase our *away giving* through an increase in our Common Fund (CF) contribution from £2k PCM in 2021 to £2.5k PCM in 2022.

(CF is the name given to contribution made by each parish in the Diocese to support the costs of clergy, clergy accommodation, clergy in training as well as other Diocesan functions such as safeguarding.)

Our CF contribution remains significantly below the level set for each parish by the Diocese (£7.1k PCM). We plan to review our contribution upwards pending the successful completion of lease negotiations on the Mission Hall.

Staffing will remain at the levels established in 2021 (Vicar, Associate Priest, Ordinand, Operations Director and Site Assistant). In addition, two new appointments are planned: - a part-time paid Teams Administrator (from February 2022) to support volunteering and a part-time paid Children's Pastor (from July 2022).

Dependent on the success of capital fundraising, urgent capital repairs will be carried out to the tower stonework, the organ and levelling the garden paths. Other capital works include the completion of

electrical re-wiring begun in 2021. Mindful of increasing running costs we have also budgeted for a 33% increase in utilities costs.

Our 2022 budget requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's to be wholly covered by the cash received. It is to be flexed every half-year.

Note: - An assessment by the Diocesan parish property adviser in January 2020 advised that the church building will require between **£750k and £1m spending on the fabric** in the next 10 years (before any re-development of the internal space). This must be held in mind in future financial planning.

The PCC responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Heather Atkinson

The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Vicar

Date: 26 July 2022

David Bishop

David Bishop, on behalf of the Finance Working Group

Date: 26 July 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
('the Charity')

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 on pages 21 to 30 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 23 and 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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.

Ajay Rajani

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

26 July 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	90,651	89,518	180,169	121,370
Charitable activities	4	8,233	-	8,233	929
Other trading activities	5	30,011	-	30,011	24,218
Other income		-	-	-	2,366
Total income and endowments		128,895	89,518	218,413	148,883
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	111,066	91,248	202,313	117,575
Raising funds	7	2,550	-	2,550	6,120
Total expenditure		113,616	91,248	204,863	123,695
Net income/(expenditure)		15,279	(1,730)	13,549	25,188
Transfers between funds	15	3,734	(3,734)	-	-
Net movement in funds		19,013	(5,464)	13,549	25,188
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		27,836	978,250	1,006,086	980,898
Total funds carried forward	15	46,850	972,786	1,019,635	1,006,086

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 23 to 30 form part of these accounts.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	721	970,000	970,721	971,214
		<u>721</u>	<u>970,000</u>	<u>970,721</u>	<u>971,214</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	4,426	4,438	8,864	5,882
Cash at bank and in hand	12	46,981	(1,652)	45,329	47,152
		51,408	2,786	54,193	53,034
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(5,279)	-	(5,279)	(18,162)
		<u>46,129</u>	<u>2,786</u>	<u>48,914</u>	<u>34,872</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)					
		<u>46,129</u>	<u>2,786</u>	<u>48,914</u>	<u>34,872</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>46,850</u>	<u>972,786</u>	<u>1,019,635</u>	<u>1,006,086</u>
FUND BALANCES	15				
Unrestricted Funds		46,850	-	46,850	27,836
Restricted Funds		-	972,786	972,786	978,250
		<u>46,850</u>	<u>972,786</u>	<u>1,019,635</u>	<u>1,006,086</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Heather Atkinson

Rev Heather Atkinson

Date 26 July 2022

Charity number: 1154668

The notes on page 23 to 30 form part of these accounts.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter with St Thomas, Bethnal Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body and are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes recoverable gift aid, which is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from weddings and funerals and from church events and courses.

Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity and comprises income receivable from letting property.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish quota are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2010 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The trustees used an insurance valuation to help estimate the market value of the charity's freehold property on 1 January 2014 (being the date of transition to FRS102) and, as permitted by FRS102, its estimated market value on that date has been treated as being the property's deemed cost. The members of the PCC consider the residual value of the freehold building to be very high and believe that any provision for depreciation would not be material; consequently no depreciation has been charged in these accounts.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Leased assets

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term (unless another systematic basis is more representative of use).

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, basic financial instruments (which includes cash, debtors and creditors) are measured initially at transaction value and subsequently measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for loans at amortised cost using the effective interest method (i.e. it excludes any interest that may be charged on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Donations and legacies

	2021	2020
	£	£
Regular giving	54,303	63,477
Ad hoc giving	23,644	5,351
Church collections	692	893
Income tax recoverable	12,613	12,817
Grants	88,918	38,832
	<u>180,169</u>	<u>121,370</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees for weddings, funerals etc	1,766	929
Retreats and events	6,467	-
	<u>8,233</u>	<u>929</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Church hall lettings	20,762	1,132
Crypt lettings	5,225	16,902
Rents received	4,024	6,184
	<u>30,011</u>	<u>24,218</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

a Costs incurred directly on specific activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Ministry expenses		
Diocesan parish quota - common fund	24,000	15,300
Diocesan service fees	1,157	-
Staff costs	33,667	37,216
Ministry expenses	3,492	6,040
Retreats and events	10,238	-
Church running costs		
Property expenses including minor repairs	38,877	28,602
Major repairs including railings and electrical re-wiring	20,690	-
Insurance	7,713	7,954
Office expenses	5,755	7,971
Depreciation	493	620
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	2,370	2,400
Major project expenditure		
Site development	686	686
	<u>149,140</u>	<u>106,790</u>
Grants payable (note 6b)	53,174	10,786
	<u>202,313</u>	<u>117,576</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £2,370 (2020: £2,400).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

6b Grants payable

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2021 £
Grants for the relief of poverty	52,972	202	53,174
	<u>52,972</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>53,174</u>

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2020 £
Grants for the relief of poverty	9,070	1,716	10,786
	<u>9,070</u>	<u>1,716</u>	<u>10,786</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2021 £	2020 £
St John's Hoxton	3,835	8,515
St Mathew's Bethnal Green	24,992	263
Bethnal Green Spear Trust	24,145	-
Grants to institutions for less than £1,000 each	-	292
	<u>52,972</u>	<u>9,070</u>

7 Cost of raising funds

	2021 £	2020 £
Rents payable	2,550	6,120
	<u>2,550</u>	<u>6,120</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

	2021 £	2020 £
Gross wages and salaries	32,352	35,642
Social security	-	305
Pension costs	1,314	1,269
	<u>33,666</u>	<u>37,216</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2020: 1.7). This equated to 1 (2020: 1.3) full time equivalent staff. Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

Rev Heather Atkinson (who is a clergy member of the PCC) receives a stipend from the Diocese and so she is not an employee; some of the Parish Quota paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of this stipend. Rev Atkinson is provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy); no payments (2020 £324) were made during the year in respect of that part of the Vicarage used by Rev Atkinson.

No member of the PCC received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

9 Acting as agent

The PCC collects rent for the London Diocesan Fund, which it then pays over. As the charity is acting as agent, the rent and the onward payments are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities. During the year this rent and the onward payments amounted to £3,373 (2020: £16,836) and £3,373 (2020: £16,950) respectively. No amounts were owed to the London Diocesan Fund at the year-end (2020: £nil).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Worship and Office Equipment £	Total 2021 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	970,000	4,382	974,382
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	<u>970,000</u>	<u>4,382</u>	<u>974,382</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	-	3,168	3,168
Charge for the year	-	493	493
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>3,661</u>	<u>3,661</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2021	<u>970,000</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>970,721</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>970,000</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>971,214</u>

Freehold property comprises the church hall at Warner Place.

11 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Income tax recoverable	2,548	2,067
Prepayments and accrued income	-	3,815
Lettings and event income receivable	1,878	-
Grants receivable	4,438	-
	<u>8,864</u>	<u>5,882</u>

12 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	45,299	47,122
Petty cash	30	30
	<u>45,329</u>	<u>47,152</u>

13 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other creditors	2,355	1,545
Accrued expenses	2,924	3,544
Parish quota	-	1,700
Grant obligations	-	8,778
Deferred income	-	2,595
	<u>5,279</u>	<u>18,162</u>

Deferred income relates to income received in advance for a church retreat that took place in October 2021.

14 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £1,314 (2020: £1,269) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. No pension contributions were owing at the balance sheet date (2020: £nil).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

15 Restricted funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2021 £	Incoming resources 2021 £	Outgoing resources 2021 £	Transfers in the year 2021 £	Closing balance 2021 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Access fund	3,304	2,078	(1,648)	(3,734)	-
Staff fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Love Your Neighbour fund	462	55,760	(56,222)	-	-
Retreat fund	1,944	1,820	(3,764)	-	-
Hardship fund	-	405	(405)	-	-
Culture Recovery fund	-	23,600	(23,600)	-	-
Other small funds	911	855	(609)	-	1,157
	<u>978,250</u>	<u>89,518</u>	<u>(91,248)</u>	<u>(3,734)</u>	<u>972,786</u>

During the year it came to light that the restricted income received by the Access fund had been spent fully by the year-end and the balance on the fund was reduced to nil by making a transfer was from the Access fund to unrestricted funds.

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	721	970,000	970,721
Debtors	4,426	4,438	8,864
Cash at bank and in hand	46,981	(1,652)	45,329
Creditors falling due within one year	(5,279)	-	(5,279)
	<u>46,850</u>	<u>972,786</u>	<u>1,019,635</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2020 £	Incoming resources 2020 £	Outgoing resources 2020 £	Transfers in the year 2020 £	Closing balance 2020 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Access fund	3,734	-	(430)	-	3,304
Staff fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Spear fund	-	7,616	(7,616)	-	-
Love Your Neighbour fund	-	9,240	(8,778)	-	462
Retreat fund	-	1,944	-	-	1,944
Hardship fund	-	1,413	(1,413)	-	-
Other small funds	583	1,844	(826)	(690)	911
	<u>975,946</u>	<u>27,057</u>	<u>(24,063)</u>	<u>(690)</u>	<u>978,250</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,214	970,000	971,214
Debtors	2,067	3,815	5,882
Cash at bank and in hand	31,344	15,808	47,152
Creditors falling due within one year	(6,789)	(11,373)	(18,162)
	<u>27,836</u>	<u>978,250</u>	<u>1,006,086</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

15 Restricted funds continued

The **Church Hall** fund is in respect of the church hall at Warner Place. The custodian trustee is the London Diocesan Fund and the PCC cannot sell the property without the consent of the London Diocesan Fund.

The **Organ** fund was created from grants and donations received for the church organ.

The **Access** fund was created, principally, from grants and donations received to improve disabled access to the church site.

The **Staff** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of employing staff.

The **Spear** fund was created from grants and donations received to help fund the work of Bethnal Green Spear Trust.

The **Love Your Neighbour** fund was created from a grant received from the Church Revitalisation Trust to help provide essential services to vulnerable people. 95% of the amount received has been distributed as grants to organisations that provide these essential services. These organisations are St Matthews (which runs the Bethnal Green Food Bank), St John's Hoxton (which runs a Debt Advice Centre) and Spear Bethnal Green (which offers employment coaching for young people).

The **Retreat** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of a church retreat.

The **Hardship** fund was created from grants received to help individuals experiencing financial hardship.

The **Culture Recovery** fund was created from a grant received from the Heritage fund to help the PCC during the pandemic and specifically to help the PCC pay some operating expenses and undertake repairs to church property.

The **Other** fund was created by a number of small grants and donations given for a variety of different projects.

16 Transactions with related parties

During the year the PCC received grants totalling £7,280 (2020: £15,973) from the Henry Fawcett Fund, a registered charity established for the relief of poverty in the parish. The vicar and the PCC's two church wardens serve as trustees of the Henry Fawcett Fund and the Henry Fawcett Fund is regarded as being a related party.

During the year the charity received donations totalling £13,210 (2020: £14,655) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking duties associated with serving as clergy, no expenses were paid to (or for) members of the PCC.

17 Common fund contribution

In some previous years the PCC has been unable to pay in full the common fund contribution it had offered to the Diocese. The shortfall, which for accounting purposes is not a liability, amounts to £65,000. If the PCC's finances improve, then there may come a time when the PCC would consider making additional payments to the Diocese to make good some, or all, of the shortfall.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and legacies	3	90,651	89,518	180,169	94,313	27,057	121,370
Charitable activities	4	8,233	-	8,233	929	-	929
Other trading activities	5	30,011	-	30,011	24,218	-	24,218
Other income		-	-	-	2,366	-	2,366
Total income and endowments		128,895	89,518	218,413	121,826	27,057	148,884
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable activities:	6	111,066	91,248	202,313	93,512	24,063	117,575
Raising funds	7	2,550	-	2,550	6,120	-	6,120
Total Expenditure		113,616	91,248	204,863	99,632	24,063	123,695
Net income/(expenditure)		15,279	(1,730)	13,549	22,194	2,994	25,188
Transfers between funds	15	3,734	(3,734)	-	690	(690)	-
Net movement in funds		19,013	(5,464)	13,549	22,884	2,304	25,188
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		27,836	978,250	1,006,086	4,952	975,946	980,898
Total funds carried forward	15	46,850	972,786	1,019,635	27,836	978,250	1,006,086

ST PETER'S BETHNAL GREEN

England & Wales - Charity number 1154668

Accounts



St Peter with St Thomas Bethnal Green

Annual Report and Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Part 1

Sections 1-6: The Vicar's Report

1. Reference information

Members of the PCC are elected as Trustees on an annual basis at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Vicar: The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Chair

Wardens: 1. Maria Wyard 2. Andy Walton (resigned March 2020 and position now vacant)

Representative on the Deanery Synod: David Lawrence (Triennium to 2020)

Elected Members: Charlotte Parmiter, Vikki Lovell, Josh Parikh, Tessa Bosworth, Philippa Bannister, Philippa Bosworth (appointed March 2020) Pieter-Bas Spronk (appointed March 2020), David Butler (resigned March 2020), Stephen Tunstall (resigned March 2020)

St Peter's Bethnal Green is a registered charity number 1154668.

St Peter's Bethnal Green uses the banking services of Reliance Bank Ltd at Faith House, 23-24 Lovat Lane, London, EC3R 8EB.

Stewardship (1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB) were re-appointed as the charity's accountants and an employee nominated by Stewardship serves as the charity's independent examiner.

Postal address of the church: St Peter's Bethnal Green, St Peter's Close, London E2 7AE.

Administrative address: The Vicarage, St Peter's Close, London, E2 7AE

2. Structure & Governance

Responsibilities of the PCC

The PCC of St Peter's Bethnal Green has the responsibility, together with the Vicar, the Rev'd Heather Atkinson, to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church. This includes the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical aspects. It is responsible for the maintenance of the buildings of St Peter's Bethnal Green. As a Church of England Parish church, the PCC and Vicar follow requirements of Church of England Canon Law.

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the charity are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules.

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of St Peter's Bethnal Green are to promote in the parish the whole mission of the Church with a focus to worship God, make friends and change the world. Amplification of the vision of St Peter's is on the website and available in other papers.

The 2020 electoral roll had 117 registered members at the APCM. Those on the Electoral roll are able to nominate candidates for the PCC. The PCC and Church Wardens are elected annually at the APCM. The PCC organises itself to carry out its aims and objectives by having regular meetings and various sub-committees. The PCC held five formal meetings over the year and two standing meetings regarding the hall.

The PCC's Finance Team prepares information for explanation and decision making for the PCC and takes forward management matters with the Vicar. Day-to-day management of the church is delegated to the Vicar, Rev'd Heather Atkinson and her staff team. An Executive Group operating as a Standing Committee was not formed this year.

Public Benefit

The PCC members confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. St Peter's Bethnal Green works alongside a number of organisations as partners in undertaking mercy, justice and evangelism. We support these practically, financially and in encouraging people to volunteer and we receive support from them in fulfilling our calling as a local church.

These include: Bethnal Green Spear Trust, Resurgo, Tower Hamlets, Bow and Bethnal Green Foodbanks, The Bethnal Green and Hoxton Community Hub, Columbia Road Traders Association, The Mission Practice, Oaklands School, The Arch (formerly Arch 76), The Tower Hamlets Healing Prayer School, and other local churches, individual ministries and social enterprises.

The church of St Peter's Bethnal Green benefits the community by the activities described in the section entitled 'Change the World', notably through outreach and supporting others through our volunteer programme, prayer and financial input.

3. 'Worship God'

Church attendance

Average Sunday attendance in 2020 at St Peter's Bethnal Green (2019-2015 in brackets):

	Q1 (Jan-March)	Q2 (April-June)	Q3 (July-Sept)	Q4 (Oct-Dec)
10am sung Eucharist				
adults	26 (32, 31, 38, 50, 45)	33 (30, 27, 34, 58, 44)	32 (27, 24, 27, 44, 46)	30 (27, 30, 31, 37, 53)
11am service of the Word/Eucharist/All Age Worship				
adults	61 (55, 40, 37, 40, 47)	51 (56, 40, 37, 39, 44)	43 (56, 37, 41, 35, 47)	46 (58, 55, 45, 44, 45)
children	15 (14, 10, 14, 11, 9)	11 (16, 12, 11, 10, 12)	12 (17, 10, 13, 10, 12)	15 (13, 15, 12, 12, 10)
10.30am all-age services				
adults	0 (60, 74, 70, 68, 67)	99 (68, 77, 54, 80, 75)	46 (48, 56, 58, 59, 63)	58 (77, 68, 70, 74, 74)
children	0 (15, 11, 20, 13, 11)	16 (19, 13, 4, 13, 13)	7 (11, 10, 7, 10, 14)	8 (10, 14, 12, 16, 11)
5pm evening service (Not inc Campfire Carols: 42 adults, 39 kids or Carols by Candlelight: 150 adults, 13 kids, or Carols on Columbia Road – approx. 5,000 adults...)				
adults	15 (23, 23, 31, 25, 16)	12 (15, 21, 28, 25, 17)	0 (18, 29, 25, 37, 20)	0 (19, -, 25, 30, 31)
Total number of communicants across all Sunday services				
	336	553	341	483

'A variety of services were held regularly' understates a year of constant change as the pandemic swept the globe and we adapted to each new set of guidelines and enforcements. The table below summarises what we did, but in each case we were balancing the *benefit* of meeting together to worship and find spiritual succour, with the *danger* of an increasing risk of spreading infection. The prohibition on singing, indoors at least, was surely the biggest privation and frustration. Every time the situation changed the new guidelines were absorbed, interpreted and a thorough risk assessment made for every adjustment to public worship. At the same time there was a lot of listening, re-interpreting, communicating and reassuring to be done so that the church and community were confident that our decisions were thought through.

The services themselves were adapted to be slicker and enable engagement. We made mistakes and we got better. We have had to learn to worship through a screen and it hasn't been easy. For most of us it's been a subsistence diet, but the preaching has remained at a good standard and the breakout rooms have been particularly good for breaking up old 'go to' circles of friends and gently enabling us to meet more people.

The table below charts the range of services we have held. The clergy and lay members of St Peter's Bethnal Green led and preached at services. We follow the Church of England lectionary and the rubric of Common Worship. The shaded area indicates where we were legally obliged to close the church building entirely and gathered worship was prohibited. Where 'in person' services were resumed from 5th July, all due precautions were taken to ensure that the risk of infection was reduced as far as possible, including re-arrangement of the church furniture, provision of ventilation, masks, sanitiser etc, as well as strict adherence to guidelines for the distribution of Holy Communion.

Period	Sunday & Weekday Service(s)	Notes
Pre-Pandemic (Jan – Mar)	10am Holy Communion 11am Contemporary Service	With kids groups
Lockdown 1 (Mar – June)	10.30 Zoom with Spiritual Communion	Kids group bi-weekly at 4pm
Tier 2 (July – Sept)	10am Holy Communion 11am Zoom Service One 10.30 Outdoor Holy Communion	Kids group within the service With 'Back to School BBQ'
Tier 4 (Sept – Oct)	10am Holy Communion 11am Outdoor Service with Zoom alternating with a full Zoom Service Daylight Service 11am (Friday)	Sermon recorded Informal Service of the Word
Lockdown 2 (Nov)	10.30 Zoom with Spiritual Communion	Kids group within the service
Tier 4 (Dec)	10am Holy Communion 11am Zoom Service Daylight Service 11am (Friday)	Plus outdoor services: Jesus on the Green and Campfire Carols
Christmas 'Exeat'	Midnight Mass & Christmas Day with Holy Communion in person & on zoom.	

A new midweek, informal Service of the Word was introduced in October, attracting senior citizens who are otherwise isolated. It is designed to be very accessible to those without a history of regular church-going. Our rhythm of The Tuesday Early Prayer Meeting and Wednesday Morning Prayer, along with the monthly Prayer and Worship Night began well, but the pandemic ended the option of singing and gathering. Those who generally attended one of the two morning options stepped up to meet on zoom, where a liturgical format works as a cradle for intercession for the church, the community and the world.

At the start of the pandemic, we recognised that a number of worshipers would not easily have access to the internet. Where possible younger people have connected with older people to help them buy smart phones or learn how to use zoom. Others have been encouraged to phone in to the services. The daily lectionary readings have been printed out with weekly collects and distributed regularly by George to those who appreciate them, along with encouragements to watch Songs of Praise and call the Church of England 'Daily Hopeline' for daily readings and prayers.

Occasional Services, Seasonal Services and Service to the Wider Church.

In a year when tight restrictions surrounded occasional offices it was particularly poignant that 1 infant baptism and 1 wedding were nonetheless officiated at St Peter's Bethnal Green in 2020. To our joy, and although delayed and scaled down by government restrictions, the wedding of former staff members, Olly and Katie, was celebrated at St Peter's under Common Licence in July and Micah was baptized a few weeks later. 2 sets of Banns were read for marriages that were then postponed. At cemeteries the Vicar undertook more funerals than usual for members of the parish,

as well as preaching at Wycliffe Hall Theological College and undertaking duties as an Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, as a Trustee of the Simeon's Patronage Trust and The Arch, and as a Stepney Area Deliverance Ministry Advisor. Other services included:

- Ash Wednesday – Holy Communion with ashing (in person)
- Mothering Sunday – A zoom service (Daffodils delivered to all the senior members of the church)
- Maundy Thursday – A zoom service during which we ate supper 'separately but together'.
- Good Friday – A zoom service of passion readings and Spiritual Communion
- Easter Sunday – an all age zoom service in which we all built our own caves to emerge from
- Ascension Day – an evening zoom service with Spiritual Communion
- Harvest Festival – A joint all age service in the church garden, with Holy Communion
- All Saints – an in person Holy Communion
- Remembrance Sunday – A zoom service featuring an Act of Remembrance and a film of memories from our most senior members of wartime experiences
- Christingle – An outdoor all age service
- 'Jesus on the Green' – Taking carols out to the community as a sign of hope
- Campfire Carols – Two outdoor carol services featuring a nativity trail in the crypt
- Midnight Mass – An 'in person or zoom' Christmas Eve Eucharist with a socially distanced choir
- Christmas Day – An 'in person or zoom' all age service with live music, music from the wider church and a rare moment of connection pulling crackers.

Children's Church

Until the pandemic the children's work during the 11am service took place in Room 1, a 0-4s crèche in Room 2 and the 5-11s in Room 1 (used by Spear midweek as the training room). The children would be in the worship space for the beginning of the 11am service before leaving for groups and have craft-based activities at 10.30 services. Once we were not permitted to gather, the families took even greater responsibility for nurturing their children in faith. They were supported by the creation of a families WhatsApp group and the creation of a 'Voyagers Online' zoom meeting in the afternoons which was later replaced by a kids break out room during the service, led by a team of volunteers, with a special mention to David & Jess for all their extra input.

Worship Music

It has been a tough year for sung worship. Lydia and Alastair led worship nights in January and February; Dan continued playing at the Early Prayer Breakfast; Naomi and Maria Wyard played the organ or keys at the 10am service, as well as leadership at the 11am from others. But beyond this the pandemic precluded singing. In addition, a number of our worship leaders are in changed circumstances that make the big commitment of leading worship difficult to fulfil while others have moved out of London during the year.

However, the remaining team worked incredibly hard to produce a library of videos for use in online worship and we have been blessed with the gift of help from other sources. Hence we have been able to use high quality videos made available by other churches and at Christmas our regular Midnight Mass organist, Nick, literally pulled out all the stops to ensure there was a small, socially distanced choir for Christmas Eve.

Nick was also a great help to our neighbour, Filip, who volunteered his time to do some vital repairs on the church organ. (The work needed to fully restore the organ was originally quoted to us by Manders for a cost of £22k) Filip is setting himself up as an independent organ builder and will be using our organ as his showpiece. We are deeply grateful to him for long hours of awkward, unpaid work that have resulted in a much better sound. There is more to do, when time allows, but Filip and Nick were able to ensure especially uplifting music for Christmas.

The AV team was active in the early part of the year and were grateful for some team training from John, the worship leader at St John's Hoxton. His observation that the AV operator is part of the third part of a key leadership triangle in any service was borne out when the pandemic struck and Alastair took on the task of enabling worship services by attending weekly planning meetings and seeing to all the technical aspects of each service, whether in church or on zoom. Online church simply could not have happened without him. We are deeply grateful for his commitment and generous contribution of time but recognize that a new team will need to be recruited for the future.

Prayer and Bible Study

Prayer is foundational to all the work we do. Any visible action and growth are built on the unseen life of prayer and the chancel remains a dedicated space for prayer and 24/7 prayer weeks. A week of prayer was held in January with individuals booking slots and with resource materials provided by Tessa Bosworth.

In order to connect with one another and fuel faith in the pandemic, Dave Cokayne co-ordinated the delivery of 3 months of daily devotional videos, recorded by members of the congregation and edited professionally by Hannah. These videos were an important part of helping the church manage the transition into lockdown and the loneliness, stress and anxiety that it induced.

Another key innovation in 2020 was The Prayer Garden Podcast, written and produced mainly by Dan, with additional material from Hannah and Tessa Bosworth. This beautifully produced podcast was named in response to the increased ministry of the St Peter's garden and the desire to continue, on a less intense basis, the valuable work of the Daily Devotional videos. Using music, spacious reflection and ancient prayers, the podcast has been a gift into the wider community and has been appreciated internationally, even being valued by an underground church in Turkey.

A small but committed number of the congregation meet weekly to pray for the life of the church, adding to the prayers of the PCC, the staff and those who pray for the ministry of St Peter's at home. The intercessions in our services are often led by volunteers, bringing a wide range of voices and approaches.

The 'say one for me' cards available in the church porch are prayed over by those who attend Early Prayer and Morning Prayer. They are stored in the aumbry, with the reserved sacrament, and are burnt at the Easter Morning Vigil. We can see from the handwriting that some people are confident enough in the kindness of the church to use this gift regularly. However, the enforced closure of the church doors during lockdown has reduced the number of people using this opportunity. We expect numbers to pick up again and during Lockdown 2, the church was allowed to open for Private Prayer. Volunteers ensured that this could happen almost every day and each time visitors appreciated the warm space of welcome and beauty. Some visited simply to appreciate the building, others clearly came to pray.

The preaching programme started with a study of the whole letter to the Ephesians, looking at how the church is a source of strength and opportunity for blessing. We plundered lectionary readings through the Easter Season for a series aptly entitled 'Faith on (the) line' and then looked at a number of Old Testament characters whose notable strength reflected God's character. The 'Finding Strength' series was followed through high summer with a series of films we made using the *lectio divina* mode to read and reflect slowly on a longer passage of scripture. The rich chapters of Isaiah 49-61 gave way to gospel readings as we explored our identity and call again and then, as the cold weather and isolation set in, we sat with just a few verses from Romans 8 for several weeks, in order to understand more deeply that '*nothing can separate us from the love of God which is ours in Christ Jesus*'. In line with the Church of England our Advent theme was 'Comfort and Joy'.

We welcomed Dr Stephen Backhouse and the Archdeacon of Charing Cross as visiting preachers and benefited from a 'Lent Tent' on the subject of *What is the Church?* The moment that Stephen had preached on the three gifts of the church (forgiveness, open-handedness and speaking truth to power) we found ourselves lamenting the loss of cosy church as we knew it. Later in the year, recorded interviews with high profile Christian leaders (Bob Goff, Francis Chan, Danielle Strickland, Jo Saxton and Nicky Gumbel) were shown at online services.

4. 'Make Friends'

'Making friends' is about discipleship and community for ourselves and for others.

Welcome & Hospitality

This section is usually within our 'Worship God' section. This year, despite hospitality still being an act of worship, our shift in activity helps it sit also under the banner of 'Make Friends'. The twin tasks of Welcome and Hospitality belong to the whole church and everyone is encouraged to help newcomers stay and develop friendships. However, in normal circumstances the particular practicalities fall on four smiling teams who started the year under the leadership of Tessa Bosworth and who all rely on Angela, Lorraine and George who were on site very early each week to ensure there are lights, neat pews, refreshments and prayer before our pre-Covid 'in person' services.

This year our practice and understanding of hospitality has morphed and widened. We have used break out rooms at the end of services to catch up with one another and because they are randomly assigned, we have found ourselves nudged into getting to know different people in the church. It has been good to disperse in this way and closer friendships have been fostered in other groups such as life groups. It has been a slower process for newcomers to integrate into the church and we have needed to be more deliberate and patient about this, with zoom 1:1 meetings and walks proving a more realistic approach. Using the 'chat' facility in Zoom has enabled us to add a link to our 'Hello' pro-forma on our website and the extroverts have done a great job in welcoming newcomers in the random break out rooms.

Initially there was concern over 'zoom bombing' but although we have had many guests joining us, from all over the world, everyone has behaved well. As a safeguarding precaution we have created a Zoom Waiting Room with a safeguarding notice and appointed a 'Doorkeeper' for each service – a role sometimes carried out by one of the staff team or, more often, by Bethia who has been keeping the service counts and entering them in the service register on behalf of Steve & Andrea who took care of the count until the pandemic. Bethia has also taken responsibility to ensure a warm welcome and the observance of Covid protocols at all the 'in person' services, making a vital contribution to the smooth running of services this year.

One of the upsides has been the accessibility of St Peter's worship to some who are no longer in London and we have enjoyed the sense of an international community when we have been joined by friends from Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Portugal, Australia, Hong Kong and the US.

Tessa Bosworth has maintained the website very efficiently, managing to relay all the changes swiftly so that our information output is never (or rarely!) out of date. We are very thankful to Tessa for managing all our social media since Dave Cokayne was ordained in the summer to his Title Post at St Stephen's Twickenham. Our online media have been a vital part of staying connected with our community and offering good hospitality to those who are reaching out to the church. We are regularly complimented by professionals 'with an eye' on the quality of our website and this is another way in which we extend welcome.

A more old-fashioned approach has been to update regularly the temporary notices and banners on the railings around the church. One such poster explained what Good Friday in an 18 word 'sermon' with Christ on the cross drawn as if he was dying of Covid; another poster was a simple invitation to '*Come on in and smell the roses*' put up in late May. The effect was phenomenal and the church garden quickly became a place of respite, play and renewal.

Life Groups

Life Groups are the midweek meetings designed to be at the heart of the church at St Peter's Bethnal Green. Through 2020 four groups continued: 'Daylight' led by Pam and Joy; 'Basement' led by Nigel and Charlotte; 'Canada' led by David and Joseph; and the Men's Bible Study led by Steve. The groups have adapted to changed circumstances and held a balance between the need for connection and support and a general tiredness with zoom contact. All the life groups took the opportunity to use the garden to meet at different points and have been a focus for prayer, bible study and mutual support. While there are a number of people who are not yet in a life group, other informal prayer groups also flourish and a knitting group, led by Andrea was flourishing until the pandemic.

It was particularly good to see the Daylight group and their friends reach out to another local network based around the Zander Court Lunch Club and invite them to use the marquee in the garden as an alternative meeting place. Anne and Pam secured local funding for refreshments and worked hard with George to provide Covid-secure coffee mornings.

In order to 'make friends', both with God, with one another and with people who need the friendship of God, we strongly encourage everyone to belong to something, to remain outwardly focused in their life groups and to serve on a team.

Nurturing Faith in Children & Youth

The old African wisdom that 'it takes a village to raise a child' usually resonates in a church such as ours. I am deeply aware that many of the parents have carried a particularly heavy load during 2020 with home-schooling on top of being much less able to share the task of handing on faith with the rest of 'the village'.

St Peter's has aimed to ensure that all the children on our roll feel loved and valued, even if they have had less direct experience of worship, teaching and fellowship. Hence the church also sent all the children gifts through the post in the summer holidays, (because what child doesn't want to receive a surprise parcel through the letterbox?) This was repeated at Christmas, with an Advent Pack of learning resources and fun activities from *GodVenture* and *The Bible Society*.

Until stepping down at Easter, Rach gave a morning a week as Children's Team Leader and gave the team great encouragement. She and Maria P have sorted through all the children's toys and resources. Rach has produced an excellent Children at St Peter's Handbook which will be revised and published in 2021 as new circumstances dictate. As well as training and supporting the team she developed good practice in the children's groups, welcomed newcomers and led activities for children at events. Her impact showed how clearly we need a Children & Church Growth Pastor on staff. Kathy remains as Children's Champion and has helped to fill the gap left by Rach by keeping an eye out for materials and resources. I am so grateful for these individuals and the whole team's prayer and care of the children.

At the end of the year a new Youth Group for those in Year 6, 7 and 8 was launched by Stephen and Lara, and David and Jess, with a highly successful, Covid-secure 'Covid Sucks Party'.

St Peter's has also facilitated the ministry of part-time staff member, Dumaeza, who runs a weekly conversation group for local young people. They meet him mainly through the Spear programme and opt to attend the group in order to have meaningful, often spiritual conversations inspired by contemporary music, culture and events. This group, known as Re:verb, has struggled with the implications of being an online gathering, but Dumaeza has endeavoured to maintain relationships and supported young people through a particularly difficult period.

Discovering God

Danny and Helen, with Heather Atkinson, attended the London Alpha Conference and reviewed the strategy for running Alpha, preparing for a course running in early 2021.

Maria Wyard ran a Discovery Bible Study in the garden over the summer that was greatly appreciated by attendees.

Relationship building and sharing

A number of our traditional events, outings and parties were unable to happen due to the pandemic or a tightened budget. In the light of the 'Rule of 6', the Petertide Summer BBQ became dispersed Petertide Picnics and the Back-to-School BBQ was a rare moment of social connection despite being subject to a simple, reduced menu and social-distancing.

Many members missed the visits to and from the Beane Valley Benefice, where urban/rural friendship of over 40 years have been nurtured. It was therefore a particular joy to welcome George and Angela and Martin from Hertfordshire to some of our Zoom services. Our traditional joint Harvest Festival giving with the Beane Valley Benefice was replaced by a joint donation to Bethnal Green Foodbank. Using a match-funding opportunity with the food donation platform 'Bankuet', we were able to raise almost £1,000 at a time when many locally are experiencing food deprivation for the first time as the pandemic impacted jobs and the economy.

5. 'Change the world'

Pastoral Care and Relationships

Supporting and caring for others bridges the call to make friends and change the world. As soon as the pandemic struck, we were guided by God's example 'He sets the lonely in families' (Psalm 68:6) and aimed to get all those who were isolated by lockdown to have a network of people

around them who would reach out regularly, meeting practical and emotional needs. So many of us quietly got on with this vital work, making phone calls, doing shopping and delivering meals within our community. You know who you are.

Others volunteered readily with organisations such as Mutual Aid, Council organized relief work and the Love Your Neighbour initiative. Our 'Love Christmas' campaign ensured that 45 St Peter's Christmas mini-hampers were delivered to vulnerable adults and Christmas meals were cooked for those alone on Christmas Day. At the same time many of the congregation were on 'the front line' serving in schools, shops and the NHS, while others were working flat out 'behind the lines' in a range of industries.

There has been an increased need for sustained pastoral care of those who have noticed their mental health deteriorating and as a community we have gained a fresh awareness of how mental health needs relate to community decisions. It is good that people have been honest about their needs (I need to be with people more/I need to withdraw/I am stressed because this is happening and I don't know if I can join in) and for the leadership team to be honest that we cannot easily meet every need in such circumstances, but that listening and responding creatively and diligently is central to our practice.

As part of encouraging one another to invest in relationships and use lockdown well, we ran The Marriage Course online over 7 weeks. 8 couples, including guests from the Good Shepherd Mission Church in Bethnal Green, were able to invest in their marriages and reported some great conversations and shifts.

Social Action

In order to provide a more joined up response to the increasing social needs locally, and to access government funding, David Bishop was asked to facilitate and drive a new initiative to co-ordinate and develop the work already going on locally at St Peter's and elsewhere. We reached out to St Matthews, running Bethnal Green Food Bank, and to St John's Hoxton, forming a Debt Advice Centre, so that, along with our ongoing employment coaching work through Spear, *The Bethnal Green and Hoxton Community Hub* is now a focus for provision for those facing poverty in this area, in partnership with the Church Revitalisation Trust's initiative, #LoveYourNeighbour.

Spear Bethnal Green, which runs employment coaching for NEET young people aged 16 – 25 continued, the 7th year of operation. Bethnal Green Spear Trust is a separate charity but St Peter's offers office space and training facilities gratis. Spear Bethnal Green coaches are part of the St Peter's staff team by extension. Most of the gathered events, such as Mock Interview Day, are held at St Peter's in the church or Mission Hall. The celebrations, when a cohort finish their intensive coaching, last about 90 minutes in total and offer a great opportunity for the rest of the church to show their support of the project in an easy, heart-warming way.

Most of the Trustees are members of the church operating in an executive capacity and we are especially grateful to them for an immense amount of hard work and prayer which has enabled the charity to keep going. Please pray for the chair, Rebecca, and all the trustees as well as supporting the trust financially as part of your giving to St Peter's. Other income is derived from grant-making bodies (though this is a precarious and time-consuming model) and we are pleased that Spear is a popular charity locally, supported in recent years by members of the local community, including the Columbia Road Traders Association. However, the link was weakened this year when the pandemic regulations prevented us from our usual carol singing at the Columbia Road Christmas market.

After two very strong cohorts completing the course in the first three months of 2020, the Spear staff were furloughed and the on-going mentoring passed into the hands of volunteers. In response to the growing employment needs in London, our Centre Manager, Tim, was later seconded to Resurgo, Spear's umbrella organization, to develop Spear Online and Re:work, a new programme aimed at helping people beyond the 16-24 age bracket find work. Tim also offered an informal online gathering, 'Spear Nation' for trainees who wanted to be in touch for support while volunteers from St Peter's and our wider network took on the mentoring of trainees. Our online course was launched in November and members of St Peter's were invited to support it by giving mock interviews and being visiting speakers.

St Peter's staff and congregation are encouraged to be involved in management and governance of ministries, projects and institutions. We seek to support and champion everyone's weekday activities, by counting what we do for 'the other six days' as the mission of the church, whether what we do is paid or unpaid. Our regular 'This Time Tomorrow' slot in the 11am service highlights the lives and impact of individuals, with the aim of being known, being commissioned and being prayed for. In 2020 the work of The Arch, a local charity building friendship with vulnerable women, whose board of trustees and volunteer base includes several members of St Peter's, has been an important partner in a difficult season.

Church members made around 95 phone calls a week to vulnerable people and Spear trainees; delivered 100s of food parcels each week, volunteered with a range of social enterprises; shopped regularly for isolated individuals; provided hot food for neighbours and met (safely) with isolated, elderly people for company. In addition we gave away 30kg flour; sent flowers and care parcels to children; handmade & distributed around 155 face masks; raised funds for overseas charities undertaking pandemic relief; gave time and effort in charity governance; offered many hours of pro bono work and worked in frontline jobs in the NHS and from the Cabinet Office to Refuse Collection... and that's just the stuff we uncovered...

The Church Garden

The garden at St Peter's has taken on a new lease of life this year. After the investment of careful maintenance of the shrubs and beds from our groundsman, Colin, the diligent clearing of leaves by George and the planting done by Les, as well as the work quietly done on the vine and roses by Adam, the garden has been a source of beauty and peace for the many locals who now spend time there. Les covered Colin's work while he was recovering from surgery and has planted over 300 bulbs so that next Spring we should see a third bed of tulips followed by alliums, with a bed of bluebells that will naturalise under the trees either side of the front door over the next few years.

New local connections have been formed and over the summer the garden became an informal co-working space. It has also hosted coffee mornings, a wedding reception, a baptism reception and Michelle's 90th birthday party. The young people have gathered there for 'Re:verb', as have the life groups and staff holding 1:1 meetings.

This has been made possible by the purchase of 3 sturdy new benches (funded by a local charitable trust) and by erecting a marquee. We are grateful to the site team and the Men's Bible Study group for their help in construction and deconstruction at various points. In order to ensure that infection control was maximised, the site team were fully trained in hygiene control and George was responsible for sanitizing all the gates and door handles every evening, as well as hosing down the benches.

Tessa Bosworth sprayed flower symbols on the concrete to indicate social distancing expectations and this enabled outdoor services to remain considerate. The availability of fire pits and plenty of firewood enabled a number of small groups to meet safely in the Autumn and for the Campfire Carols to attract so many visitors that we had to put on a second service.

6. Management & Administration

Mission Hall

At our last report we were almost ready, after a very slow response from the Diocesan solicitors to amend the title deeds to a recognizable repository, to sign a deal with Kido, a nursery education provider who would take a lease on the mission hall in order to renovate and repurpose it for the next decade, giving the building a new lease of life. Two weeks later the terms were agreed verbally, including an £80k up front premium that would enable us to start our development project. Two and a half weeks later – while the paperwork was being prepared – Covid 19 became a reality in the UK and everything was put on hold while Kido looked at the impact on their business. We could do nothing else but agree to return to the deal ‘on the other side’.

Conversations resumed briefly in September and November, but at that point Kido, seeing a glut of available properties on the market, told us their offer of a premium was no longer viable. They insist they are still interested, but would not, when asked, put any form of down payment on the hall as a mark of good faith. While we acknowledge the difficulties that nursery education providers have encountered in the past year, we are deeply frustrated at this stalemate.

As a result we have begun to seek tenants for the side rooms off the main hall, as these are considerably cheaper to heat and maintain. At present Chris is based in the downstairs office for tailoring and alterations, while Japanese drums from a local music group fill the store room. This means that the basic running costs of the hall (insurance, utilities etc) are just about breaking even. Before Chris began to rent there was a break in and damage done to the doors and windows, so it is very good to have someone on site and we are keen to find other tenants for the upstairs office and former kitchen.

Although we were able to update the title deeds successfully, there is still an unsatisfactory state of affairs regarding the ‘flying freehold’ that sits across the spaces which abut the Pebble Centre. When the land adjacent to the hall was sold off 26 years ago, and the Pebble Centre was built with a community room between the two premises, and accessible from both sides, the diocese did not provide adequate paperwork to protect the rights of the PCC to use the space which had been in a ‘gentleman’s agreement’ made under a previous incumbent in the 80s. It has now not been used for about 7 years, since the owners of the Pebble Centre resisted our use of it. However, architecturally the nature of the space looks very shared and there is a further question over a blocked space on the first floor. Although Kido were willing to overlook this anomaly, this legal and spacial blur may prove a sticking point for alternative tenants. We are therefore pleased to have won support from the diocese on this issue and are working with a consultant who we hope will enable us to unpick the legal tangle and re-market the property. The market (and change of use class ratings) have changed significantly in the last year and we will need to adjust our expectations on any future deal. Nonetheless it is a great encouragement that senior guns at the Diocese of London are now behind us and keen to see the Hall spend a season making a commercial income so that we can resume paying our Common Fund contribution in full and look after our church buildings properly.

The Crypt

After about 70 years of leasing the crypt to our neighbours, Mander Organs, for storing their wood, packing materials and archives, we were sad to witness the company's collapse and the end of a mutually convenient arrangement. The crypt is dry, spacious and atmospheric and an asset to the church, but in a year of pandemic it was difficult to see how a new use and income could be generated. However we were approached by a theatre company, Parabolic, seeking a new base, following the sale of the Co Lab Theatre in Southwark, which they had gradually converted into a performance venue when it ceased to be a carpet factory. Parabolic's model of gradual investment while expanding performances made sense, given we were not in a position to spend money on re-purposing the crypt. A partnership was necessary and since Parabolic is a Christian enterprise with proven experience in creating performance spaces and keen to be linked to a church with whom there is already relationship, the option seemed a good one. At present Parabolic are simply storing their props and wardrobe in the crypt under license and a faculty is being sought for it to become a performance space. A new legal entity will be formed that employs Bethia to manage the venue and its trustees will include members of St Peter's as well as Parabolic Theatre Company. This will enable other companies and musicians to hire the space, increasing the potential rental income for St Peter's which will be basic in the first year, but is expected to increase towards a commercial rate beyond that.

Maintenance & Development

During Lockdown 1 we went through a rigorous process to appoint a new architect, who will guide us through both the maintenance and development work, as well as becoming our quinquennial inspector and have appointed Malcolm Fryer (<http://www.mfryer-architects.com/>) as our new architect. This will enable us to tackle the £1.5million worth of work needed to repair, maintain and develop the church so that we have a level floor, decent/disabled loos and a kitchen, and execute a ten-year plan for works that will ensure the building is robust for its future mission.

The following works have been done on site:

- The boiler has been serviced and two of the burners needed to be replaced. The 'frost stat' was adjusted so that our heating bills should be lower but come the winter we will need to monitor how to tweak it to get maximum effect for minimum outlay.
- An electrician has worked on various areas of vulnerability that meant the circuits at the rear of the building kept tripping whenever there was rain.
- The safe light was restored to working order.
- The broken pews have been mended by a craftsman recommended by the diocese – just in time to allow for two different services to use two sets of pews.
- Damage done to the hall window, the fire doors and the side doors at the time of the break in, was repaired and the mess left by the intruders cleared.
- A smart meter for the gas supply was fitted to ensure we are not hit by inflated utility bills and we plan to pursue the same for the electricity.
- On two occasions a small external spotlight on the front steps was stolen and took time (but happily not much money) to replace.
- The leaks in the hall roof have been dealt with by a new contractor, as has the damp patch in Rm 2.
- The South Side Corridor has been re-organised, with tables roped off securely, equipment stored neatly and the walls improved with pictures and the wooden cross which formerly hung in Room 1 but was removed when it became the Spear Training Room.

- The organ cupboard has been cleared of most items to prevent further damage to the organ.
- Storage areas in the vestry and crypt have been de-cluttered, including fire-risks being attended to in the boiler room.
- The door key pads have been serviced.
- Routine testing and fire safety checks have been done in line with regulations.
- In line with fire regulations handrails have been installed for the steps into the crypt drawing down some remaining funding awarded by City Bridge Trust to improve our access.
- Some scrap lead and iron remaining in the crypt has been sold.
- The legal faculty for the pizza oven was applied for and awarded but the pandemic delayed its use and concreting it in fell down the priority list (to be reprioritised in Spring 2021).

Media

A new designer, John Lloyd, produced seasonal images of flowers which have boosted our social media, our service slides and local comms on the church railings. However Christmas designs from the previous year were re-used as they were so good and aptly depicted a dispersed church.

The website has proved pivotal in lockdown and we have noted a gradual change of culture so that the congregation to refer to it more as a central source of information. This is a healthy development which we hope will continue beyond Covid 19 and we are grateful for all the work that Tessa Bosworth has done to keep it up to date, attractive and user-friendly. People outside the church often comment on its high standard.

We no longer use Twitter, but Instagram and Facebook are now our main external reach. Mailchimp emails reach the Electoral Roll and beyond. The WhatsApp group 'St Peter's Alive' has continued to engender a sense of church family which was especially important during lockdowns but is used regularly only by about a third of its members. Smaller groups within the church also have WhatsApp groups and the Life Group leaders and staff will continue to pursue a wise – and no doubt evolving - use of social media to promote both social connection and broadcast information.

Staff

- Our Worship & Teaching Pastor, Olly resigned his post at the end of January 2020 following a 10 month period of sick leave. We were so grateful for all that Olly brought to St Peter's, including the development of a worship team that did sterling work during his absence and beyond. Wishing him well as he turns to academic study and continuing to pray for his healing we now look to God (and the power of advertising) to provide another Worship Leader on the staff team.
- Dave Cokayne completed his placement here as an Ordinand at the end of May and went to serve his title at St Stephen's, Twickenham. We were all sad not to be able to say goodbye to Dave and his family in person, but we were able to celebrate his ministry within a final zoom service and continue to pray for him as a deacon. Dave had worked hard to organize a very promising church weekend away scheduled for May, which sadly the pandemic prevented happening until a later date. As a leader, preacher and pastor he has left a big hole. Rach Cokayne's enormous contribution is noted above.

- Tessa Bosworth is in her third year as an Ordinand at St Mellitus. She serves on the PCC as the Safeguarding Officer and continues to take responsibility for welcome in its changing forms. She has also taken on the social media and maintains the website to a very high standard. Tessa's role is also pivotal to planning and delivering Sunday and midweek services, as a service leader, intercessor or preacher. With the cancellation of residential weekends during the pandemic, Tessa has willingly given her time and skills to St Peter's way beyond her Working Agreement and we are deeply grateful for her service and care amongst us.
- David Bishop continues as our indefatigable Operations Director and added to his role a further half day per week following a grant awarded by the DCMS for him to lead the #Love Your Neighbour Community Hub. In addition he manages all the church finances, oversees the maintenance and development of the buildings, administers the Henry Fawcett Fund and serves Bethnal Green Spear Trust as financial operator, while helping to manage site staff and underpinning it all with prayer.
- Colin is a self-employed gardener who takes care of the grounds for 12 hours per week. He has made a significant impact and the site tells a positive story to our neighbours. He was forced to take 2.5 months sick leave following a serious bike accident. He and his family greatly appreciated our financial support during that time and he has now returned to work.
- Part of the staff team (but employed separately, by the Bethnal Green Spear Trust) were our coaches, Tim (Centre Manager), Alex (Lead Coach) and Kezia (Grad Coach). All were furloughed at the start of the pandemic and only Tim came back. Having both done great work in Bethnal Green, Kezia eventually moved on to a new role at a Job Centre and Alex deservedly won promotion to become the Centre Manager for Spear at St Mark's, Kennington. Jessica then joined the team as Lead Coach and Hannah as Graduate Coach. From home offices in three different counties and two different islands they successfully delivered our first Spear programme online.
- Dumaeza, our Re:verb project leader/'Parish Chaplain' was accepted for ordination training in the summer, on the new 'Peter Stream' of ordinands. This is good news for the Church of England but means he must move on from his work at St Peter's, being based for training at St George in the East. The rector of St George's is kindly allowing him to continue running Re:verb until Easter 2021, at which point new leadership is needed.
- The Rev'd Heather Atkinson remains Vicar of St Peter's and deeply thankful for the privilege of leading this caring, faithful, outward-looking community.

Part 2

Section 7: Treasurer's report

Income to support Church mission

The ministries and activities of St Peter's Bethnal Green are largely funded by three groups of income.

Giving Income in 2020 (funding from the congregation members and friends of St Peter's in the form of standing orders, one-off gifts, regular collections and related gift aid) amounted to **£82,538**. This was a significant decrease from 2019 when giving income totalled £119,461. No 'giving drives' for particular projects were carried out in 2020.

Property Income (the letting and renting of church premises) also accounts for a significant proportion of the church's income, at **£24,218** (2019: £24,278). This was comprised of £1,132 for the hall, £16,902 for the church crypt and £6,184 from a flat.

- Hall

We had expected an increase in hall income in 2020 however contractual negotiations with potential new tenants were put on hold indefinitely at the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) continues to feel that the hall would be best used by a socially conscious commercial venture that can provide market rental price in order to fund other aspects of St Peter's mission and secure a solid long-term financial footing.

- Crypt

Full crypt rent was received from Mander Organs (for storage) until September 2020. However, Manders unfortunately had to close, relinquishing their long-term hire of the crypt. The PCC has considered alternative rental opportunities for the crypt (to be covered in plans for 2021).

Thirdly, **Grant Income** from external bodies, such as the Henry Fawcett Fund (HFF) and the City Bridge Trust (CBT), and the Church Revitalisation Trust (CRT) provided a total of **£38,832**. (The total was £43,126 in 2019). HFF supported some staffing costs while CBT made a generous donation to St Peter's as part of their Covid response. In 2021 most of the grant received from the Church Revitalisation Trust was distributed to other organisations that provide essential services to vulnerable people.

Overall, St Peter's received **£148,883** in 2020, down from £194,320 in 2019.

Expenditure to support Church mission

All expenditure aims to support St Peter's mission to Worship God, Make Friends and Change the World.

Over the course of the year:

Staff costs were **£37,216** (2019: £50,037). Note that we had no worship pastor employed in 2020.

Ministry expenses were **£6,040** (2019: £17,970). The reduction was largely due the cutting back of activities during Covid.

Running cost expenditure totalled **£47,547** in 2020. (2019: £65,304 – high due to the pollarding of the trees surrounding the church building). Key expenditure included a five-yearly electrical inspection, as well as heating and roofing repairs. Also repairing the pews and making good hall door and window frames that were damaged because of a break-in during the year.

Gift Expenditure (including a contribution to the **Diocese Common Fund**) amounted to **£26,086** (significantly down from 2019: £66,053). The Common Fund contribution requested by the Diocese for 2020 was £85,200 (£7,100 per month) but only £15,300 was paid. The decision to continue to contribute at a lower rate than hoped to the Diocese Common Fund was taken after a great deal of thought and prayer by the PCC. It was accepted as necessary to allay fears of running out of cash at key points in the past year with the reduced hall income and other financial constraints. The budget for 2021 slightly increases our payment of Common Fund given the significant needs of the Diocese and our healthier reserves. Gift expenditure also includes grants totalling £8,778 payable out of the money received from the Church Revitalisation Trust.

Development Expenditure totalled **£686** in 2020; (2019: £36,398) This simply covered the hire of a container as temporary storage space. All development works were put on hold due to Covid. Further grants and congregational income will help to fund the most significant building project in the church in a generation, however patience and wisdom will need to be expressed in order to see this happen without straining the finances further.

An assessment by the Diocesan parish property adviser in January 2020 advised that the church building will require between **£750k and £1m spending on the fabric** in the next 10 years (before any re-development of the internal space).

Overall St Peter's spent **£123,695** in 2020, down from £241,883 in 2019, primarily due to the Covid pandemic delaying essential repair and development work and the cash reserves being riskily low (not compliant with the PCC policy on reserves), leading to the PCC's difficult decision to lower Common Fund contributions.

As a result the PCC has reported a surplus this year of **£25,188** (2019: a deficit of £47,562). The PCC's net assets have increased by this amount to £1,006,086; this includes £970,000 in respect of the Church Hall and cash of £47,152, of which £31,344 is unrestricted.

Policy on reserves

The PCC have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £25,000 (which equates to about 3 months' of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year-end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £31,344 and the charity is complying with its reserves policy. We are pleased to have reached this target by the end of 2020, albeit with severe limitations on important expenditure because of the pandemic and loss of hall rental income. Reserves will be continually reviewed by the Finance Working Group and the 2021 budget aims to keep the level of reserves as close to the policy as possible, whilst trying to increase Common Fund contributions and necessarily increasing ministry costs with new staff.

Risk assessment and mitigation

The financial risks which the church faces are considered at least bi-monthly by the church's Finance Working Group, a sub-committee of the PCC, made up of the Incumbent, Church Warden and at least one other member, supported by the Operations Director and the former Treasurer.

Measures are proposed by the Finance Working Group and implemented by the PCC or staff team to ensure that appropriate financial systems, policies and procedures are in place to manage and mitigate financial risks. As an organisation with a low level of reserves, there is a financial risk which is managed by strong financial systems and controls. As a matter of general policy, independent professional advice is taken where appropriate.

Investment and cash flow policy

As mentioned above, the policy of St Peter's has been to minimise reserves and hence it rarely has excess funds to invest. The majority of available cash was transferred to the main bank account in order primarily to control levels of reserves more easily, also to ensure cash flow remains liquid with continuing larger payments expected due to the Development work.

Grants policy

The task of deciding how to distribute grants for mission giving is done by the Incumbent with reference to the PCC standing committee. Grants are awarded to organisations and church members working in mission based on an evaluation of each case. All giving follows St Peter's mission policy of Worship God, Make Friends and Change the World. There are currently no PCC related trusts. There is significant crossover of people and resource in the work of Spear Bethnal Green and the Henry Fawcett Fund, so transactions regarding these organisations will be highlighted in the accounts to ensure transparency. We received grants totalling £15,973 (£13,400 in 2019) from HFF for various social transformation work done by St Peters in its general mission in 2020, specifically helping to fund the operations director and parish chaplain roles.

Health and Safety and Employment Law Policy

The church employs full-time and part-time staff, and the premises are in regular use by several people including children and vulnerable adults. Employment Law and health and safety measures are adhered to, and assistance in these matters is sought from the Diocese of London and independent professional advisors.

Sustainability policy

St Peter's encourages the adoption of sustainable practice in all areas of church life and work, to contribute to the overall reduction in carbon emissions as a means to contributing to the reduction in carbon emissions in dealing with the growing evidence for manmade climate change. Measures taken include: - recycling, energy audits, encouraging the use of public transport, cycling and walking. Energy costs in 2020 were reduced by minimising use of heating, power and lighting during lockdown.

Plans for future periods

We hope that 2021 will see some measure of return to 'normal' ministry of St Peter's Bethnal Green as in-person worship resumes, repairs can be carried out, and we hope and pray, new opportunities for rental income emerge for the crypt and the church hall.

Financing the ministry of St Peter's church in and out, and stewarding our buildings within our 2021 vision of 'Hospitality, Hope and Healing', means providing a warm, welcoming building; people resourced to care for one another and assist God's restoration amongst and through us, and a community resourced to bring and proclaim hope. This looks like:

- 1) Raising income for the church through:
 - a. Congregational giving where possible (sustaining around £90k annual giving through regular and one-off donations). We prioritise this because giving is a blessing - it's good for us!
 - b. Grants: In addition to support from the Henry Fawcett Fund (governed by the Vicar and Churchwardens for the benefit of the parish) (c£20k) and from an anonymous benefactor (£10k), we have been awarded £23.6k from the Cultural Recovery Fund of the National Lottery Heritage Fund. As well as supporting running costs, this funding enables us to address urgent building repairs that were not included in our 2021 budget.
 - c. Hall rental income – we are unlikely to see a significant step up in 2021 (because the market has dipped significantly). We should secure £6,000 from renting the side rooms out, but we pray that we can secure a long-term rental agreement which includes some investment in essential capital investment as well as recurrent income (ideally to the tune of £80k per year from 2022 onwards). The diocese is now helping us sort out the unresolved legal issues remaining from when the adjacent land was sold in the '80s and helping us find a new agent.
 - d. Crypt rental – this will unfortunately be much lower than the fortuitous agreement we had with Mander Organs as direct neighbours. But we hope to raise at least £5,000 over the year and much more in terms of relationships and ministry possibilities through supporting an immersive theatre company who hope to begin performances as soon as Covid allows. If this goes well the income should double in 2022.

2) Spending more on:

- a. Staff: we are unlikely to have a funded ordinand to replace Tessa which means extra capacity for worship, pastoral support, growth and work with children and youth is critical for growing the church's ministry. We aim to spend around £20k on new staff as well as continuing to fund our operations director, David Bishop.
- b. Essential repairs outlined in the Diocesan quinquennial (5 yearly) inspection report, hopefully within £13k, plus additional repairs towards the £1m required if we get funds (including from the Recovery Fund).
- c. Supporting the Diocesan Common Fund which, critically, pays Heather's stipend (salary equivalent) and helps St Peter's with advice on our estate. We aim to spend £24k on this.
- d. We'd like to be able to cover core non-staff related ministry costs too – up to £10k.

3) Spending less on:

- a. Heating
- b. Printing,
- c. Takeaway pizza (for training, for re:verb)
- d. Storage (container hire).

A new budget has been approved for 2021, which requires the expenditure on activities and ministries of St Peter's to be wholly covered by the cash received. It is to be flexed every half-year.

The Finance Working Group notes specifically that a yearly increase in *Giving Income* would not only be gratefully welcomed but would allow for further mission projects and important immediate development work.

The PCC responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

The Rev'd Heather Atkinson, Vicar

Date: 21 October 2021

David Bishop, on behalf of the
Finance Team

Date: 21 October 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
('the Charity')

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 on pages 23 to 31 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 25 and 26.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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.

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

25 October 2021

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	94,313	27,057	121,370	162,587
Charitable activities	4	929	-	929	2,411
Other trading activities	5	24,218	-	24,218	24,278
Other income		2,366	-	2,366	5,044
Total income and endowments		121,826	27,057	148,883	194,320
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	93,512	24,063	117,575	235,763
Raising funds	7	6,120	-	6,120	6,120
Total expenditure		99,632	24,063	123,695	241,883
Net income/(expenditure)		22,194	2,994	25,188	(47,563)
Transfers between funds	15	690	(690)	-	-
Net movement in funds		22,884	2,304	25,188	(47,563)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,952	975,946	980,898	1,028,460
Total funds carried forward	15	27,836	978,250	1,006,086	980,897

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 25 to 31 form part of these accounts.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	1,214	970,000	971,214	971,144
		<u>1,214</u>	<u>970,000</u>	<u>971,214</u>	<u>971,144</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	2,067	3,815	5,882	6,390
Cash at bank and in hand	12	31,344	15,808	47,152	13,493
		<u>33,411</u>	<u>19,623</u>	<u>53,034</u>	<u>19,883</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(6,789)	(11,373)	(18,162)	(10,130)
		<u>(6,789)</u>	<u>(11,373)</u>	<u>(18,162)</u>	<u>(10,130)</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>26,622</u>	<u>8,250</u>	<u>34,872</u>	<u>9,753</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>27,836</u>	<u>978,250</u>	<u>1,006,086</u>	<u>980,898</u>
FUND BALANCES	15				
Unrestricted Funds		27,836	-	27,836	4,952
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>978,250</u>	<u>978,250</u>	<u>975,946</u>
		<u>27,836</u>	<u>978,250</u>	<u>1,006,086</u>	<u>980,898</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Rev Heather Atkinson

Date: 21 October 2021

Charity number: 1154668

The notes on page 25 to 31 form part of these accounts.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter with St Thomas, Bethnal Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body and are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. In making this assessment the trustees have considered how COVID-19 might affect projections.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated goods. Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are recognised as income when receivable at fair value (being an estimate of the amount it would cost to purchase those items). A corresponding expense is recognised when those goods are distributed.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from weddings and funerals and from church events and courses.

Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity and comprises income receivable from letting property.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish quota are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

c) Expenditure continued

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2010 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The trustees used an insurance valuation to help estimate the market value of the charity's freehold property on 1 January 2014 (being the date of transition to FRS102) and, as permitted by FRS102, its estimated market value on that date has been treated as being the property's deemed cost. The members of the PCC consider the residual value of the freehold building to be very high and believe that any provision for depreciation would not be material; consequently no depreciation has been charged in these accounts.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Leased assets

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term (unless another systematic basis is more representative of use).

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, basic financial instruments (which includes cash, debtors and creditors) are measured initially at transaction value and subsequently measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for loans at amortised cost using the effective interest method (i.e. it excludes any interest that may be charged on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 Donations and legacies

	2020	2019
	£	£
Regular giving	63,477	76,206
Ad hoc giving	5,351	14,840
Church collections	893	8,036
Income tax recoverable	12,817	19,903
Grants	38,832	43,126
Donated goods	-	476
	<u>121,370</u>	<u>162,587</u>

The donated goods received in the previous year comprised food and other items collected for the Tower Hamlets and Hackney foodbanks.

4 Income from charitable activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fees for weddings, funerals etc	929	2,411
	<u>929</u>	<u>2,411</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Church hall lettings	1,132	360
Crypt lettings	16,902	21,878
Rents received	6,184	2,040
	<u>24,218</u>	<u>24,278</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

	2020	2019
	£	£
a Costs incurred directly on specific activities		
Ministry expenses		
Diocesan parish quota - common fund	15,300	62,100
Diocesan service fees	-	603
Staff costs	37,216	50,037
Ministry expenses	6,040	16,891
Donated goods distributed	-	476
Church running costs		
Property expenses	28,602	52,483
Insurance	7,954	7,967
Office expenses	7,971	2,606
Depreciation	620	598
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	2,400	1,650
Major project expenditure		
Site development	686	36,398
	<u>106,789</u>	<u>231,810</u>
Grants payable (note 6b)	10,786	3,953
	<u>117,575</u>	<u>235,763</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £2,400 (2019: £1,650 was charged for examining the accounts).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

6b Grants payable

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2020 £
Grants for the relief of poverty	9,070	1,716	10,786
	<u>9,070</u>	<u>1,716</u>	<u>10,786</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2020 £
St Johns Hoxton	8,515
Grants to institutions for less than £1,000 each	555
	<u>9,070</u>

7 Cost of raising funds

	2020 £	2019 £
Rents payable	6,120	6,120
	<u>6,120</u>	<u>6,120</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

	2020 £	2019 £
Gross wages and salaries	35,642	48,531
Social security	305	81
Pension costs	1,269	1,425
	<u>37,216</u>	<u>50,037</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1.7 (2019: 2.7). This equated to 1.3 (2019: 2.2) full time equivalent staff. Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

Rev Heather Atkinson (who is a clergy member of the PCC) receives a stipend from the Diocese and so she is not an employee; some of the Parish Quota paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of this stipend. Rev Heather Atkinson is provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy); the PCC paid expenses totalling £324 (2019: £1,102) in respect of this accommodation.

No member of the PCC received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

9 Acting as agent

The PCC collects rent for the London Diocesan Fund, which it then pays over. As the charity is acting as agent, the rent and the onward payments are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities. During the year this rent and the onward payments amounted to £16,836 (2019: £16,494) and £16,950 (2019: £16,456) respectively. No amounts were owed to the London Diocesan Fund at the year-end (2019: £114).

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Worship and Office Equipment £	Total 2020 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	970,000	3,692	973,692
Additions	-	690	690
At 31 December 2020	<u>970,000</u>	<u>4,382</u>	<u>974,382</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	-	2,548	2,548
Charge for the year	-	620	620
At 31 December 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>3,168</u>	<u>3,168</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	<u>970,000</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>971,214</u>
At 31 december 2019	<u>970,000</u>	<u>1,144</u>	<u>971,144</u>

Freehold property comprises the church hall at Warner Place.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

11 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	2,067	3,180
Prepayments and accrued income	3,815	3,210
	<u>5,882</u>	<u>6,390</u>

12 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2020	2019
	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	47,122	13,463
Petty cash	30	30
	<u>47,152</u>	<u>13,493</u>

13 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other creditors	1,545	5,701
Accrued expenses	3,544	4,429
Parish quota	1,700	-
Grant obligations	8,778	-
Deferred income	2,595	-
	<u>18,162</u>	<u>10,130</u>

Deferred income relates to income received for a church retreat that was due to take place in 2020. Due to COVID-19, this has had to be postponed and is now due to take place in October 2021 when the related income will be recognised.

14 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £1,269 (2019: £1,425) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. No pension contributions were owing at the balance sheet date (2019: £nil).

15 Restricted funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2020 £	Incoming resources 2020 £	Outgoing resources 2020 £	Transfers in the year 2020 £	Closing balance 2020 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Access fund	3,734	-	(430)	-	3,304
Staff fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Spear fund	-	7,616	(7,616)	-	-
Love Your Neighbour fund	-	9,240	(8,778)	-	462
Retreat fund	-	1,944	-	-	1,944
Hardship fund	-	1,413	(1,413)	-	-
Other small funds	583	1,844	(826)	(690)	911
	<u>975,946</u>	<u>27,057</u>	<u>(24,063)</u>	<u>(690)</u>	<u>978,250</u>

During the year the charity purchased fixed assets that satisfied the restriction placed on some of the restricted income received by the PCC and £690 was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds.

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,214	970,000	971,214
Debtors	2,067	3,815	5,882
Cash at bank and in hand	31,344	15,808	47,152
Creditors falling due within one year	(6,789)	(11,373)	(18,162)
	<u>27,836</u>	<u>978,250</u>	<u>1,006,086</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

15 Restricted funds continued

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2019 £	Incoming resources 2019 £	Outgoing resources 2019 £	Transfers in the year 2019 £	Closing balance 2019 £
Church Hall fund	970,000	-	-	-	970,000
Organ fund	1,629	-	-	-	1,629
Access fund	10,633	29,726	(30,690)	(5,935)	3,734
Staff fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Spear fund	(438)	8,400	(7,327)	(635)	-
Other small funds	(160)	1,076	(762)	429	583
	<u>981,664</u>	<u>44,202</u>	<u>(43,779)</u>	<u>(6,141)</u>	<u>975,946</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,144	970,000	971,144
Debtors	6,390	-	6,390
Cash at bank and in hand	7,547	5,946	13,493
Creditors falling due within one year	(10,130)	-	(10,130)
	<u>4,952</u>	<u>975,946</u>	<u>980,898</u>

The **Church Hall** fund is in respect of the church hall at Warner Place. The custodian trustee is the London Diocesan Fund and the PCC cannot sell the property without the consent of the London Diocesan Fund.

The **Organ** fund was created from grants and donations received for the church organ.

The **Access** fund was created, principally, from grants and donations received to improve disabled access to the church site.

The **Staff** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of employing staff.

The **Spear** fund was created from grants and donations received to help fund the work of Bethnal Green Spear Trust.

The **Love Your Neighbour** fund was created from a grant received from the Church Revitalisation Trust to help provide essential services to vulnerable people. Since the year end the charity has received further grants totalling £55,760 making the total amount received £65,000. 95% of the amount received has been distributed as grants to organisations that provide these essential services. These organisations are St Matthews (which runs the Bethnal Green Food Bank), St John's Hoxton (which runs a Debt Advice Centre) and Spear Bethnal Green (which offers employment coaching for young people).

The **Retreat** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of a church retreat.

The **Hardship** fund was created from grants received to help individuals experiencing financial hardship.

The **Other** fund was created by a number of small grants and donations given for a variety of different projects.

16 Transactions with related parties

During the year the PCC received grants totalling £15,973 (2019: £13,400) from the Henry Fawcett Fund, a registered charity established for the relief of poverty in the parish. The vicar and the PCC's two church wardens serve as trustees of the Henry Fawcett Fund and the Henry Fawcett Fund is regarded as being a related party.

During the year the charity received donations totalling £14,655 (2019: £21,887) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking duties associated with serving as clergy, no expenses were paid to (or for) members of the PCC.

17 Common fund contribution

In some previous years the PCC has been unable to pay in full the common fund contribution it had offered to the Diocese. The shortfall, which for accounting purposes is not a liability, amounts to £65,000. If the PCC's finances improve, then there may come a time when the PCC would consider making additional payments to the Diocese to make good some, or all, of the shortfall.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER WITH ST THOMAS BETHNAL GREEN
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Total 2019 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and legacies	3	94,313	27,057	121,370	118,385	44,202	162,587
Charitable activities	4	929	-	929	2,411	-	2,411
Other trading activities	5	24,218	-	24,218	24,278	-	24,278
Other income		2,366	-	2,366	5,044	-	5,044
Total income and endowments		121,826	27,057	148,883	150,119	44,202	194,321
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable activities:	6	93,512	24,063	117,575	191,984	43,779	235,763
Raising funds	7	6,120	-	6,120	6,120	-	6,120
Total Expenditure		99,632	24,063	123,695	198,104	43,779	241,883
Net income/(expenditure)		22,194	2,994	25,188	(47,985)	423	(47,563)
Transfers between funds	15	690	(690)	-	6,141	(6,141)	-
Net movement in funds		22,884	2,304	25,188	(41,844)	(5,718)	(47,563)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		4,952	975,946	980,898	46,796	981,664	1,028,460
Total funds carried forward	15	27,836	978,250	1,006,086	4,952	975,946	980,898