

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WALLASEY ST NICHOLAS WITH ALL SAINTS

Also known as PCC OF ST NICHOLAS WITH ALL SAINTS, WALLASEY

Charity Number – 1155232

Trustee's Annual Report

Principal Office	The Vicarage 22a Groveland Road Wallasey Merseyside CH45 8JY	
Trustees	PCC Members	
Benefice	Rev. Jeffrey J Staples	Vicar in Charge
Ex-Officio members	Mrs Elizabeth Brandwood	Warden & Deanery Synod Representative
	Mrs Julie Piercy	Warden
	Mrs Joyce Boggild	Deanery Synod Representative & Hall Steward
Elected Church Members	Mr Paul Cotton	
	Miss Jill Davies	
	Mrs Vanessa Gaskell	
	Mrs Carol Grey	
	Mrs Carol Hankey	Secretary
	Mr Colin M Hazlehurst	Treasurer
Appointed 14.04.2024	Mrs Gillian Hazlehurst	
	Mrs Elizabeth Phillips	
	Mr Ray Piercy	
	Mrs Jennifer Rowan	
	Mrs Julia Sayle	
	Mrs Barbara Smith	
Independent Examiner	Miss Ann Waldron	

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005. The financial statements have been prepared under the Receipts and Payments basis. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Objectives and Activities

The Primary object of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practices of the Church of England. The PCC of St Nicholas with All Saints has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

There have been no changes in the objectives since the last annual report.

Organisational Structure and Decision Making

The PCC strives to promote its aims through bi-monthly meetings, with the APCM normally held in April. Standing Committee – This is the only committee required by law. It consists of the Vicar, 2 x Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. There is no formal training offered to members of the PCC but guidance can be and is provided by colleagues and the Diocese as required. Currently there is only one sub-committee, whose memberships consist of PCC members, as follows:

1. Events Committee organise fund raising activities.

Quorum for meetings

For a Meeting to take valid decisions, one third of the members must be present and voting.

All members of the PCC give of their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year.

The PCC will also endeavour to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety, and welfare of all members of the congregation, contractors, visitors, and others who may visit the church, its surrounding grounds and any associated buildings.

Financial Review

Church finances improved during 2023 as we put the coronavirus pandemic behind us. Both church congregation attendance and hall users improved. Total income over 2023 rose from £79,425 to £88,346. This was mainly due to increased fund-raising events and hall rental income. General Collections taken across all services improved again for a second year from £7,219 to £8,210. Overall total Giving across all channels is stable. Other voluntary receipts fell as we

received no legacies and general donations were down compared to the previous year. We made great progress increasing income from fund-raising events, which saw a rise of income from £7,746 to £12,275. This is mainly attributable to two pantomimes, one at the beginning of the year and one at the end. The Church Hall had another successful year with a surplus of receipts over expenses of £8,436. Income from hall rental saw strong growth from £20,540 to £27,520. The number of weddings and funerals has seen a sharp decline in 2023 with fee income falling from £5,225 to £2,833. Regrettably this trend is set to continue. Following a general rise in credit interest rates, bank interest received increased from £95 to £872.

The PCC was unable to meet its commitment to pay the full Parish Share of £71,757 to the Diocese of Chester and with their agreement paid £30,000. The PCC has been unable to pay the full Parish Share since 2014. By the end of 2023 this has resulted in a total shortfall of £330,184. It is the commitment of the PCC to reduce the deficit when finances sufficiently improve, unless otherwise agreed by Diocese of Chester.

Total expenditure, excluding Parish Share, increased from £48,490 to £72,605 in 2023, mainly due to a number of one-off repairs and maintenance issues. We are pleased to have made progress increasing our Parish Share from £24,000 to 30,000, although this is still significantly below The Diocese of Chester expectation. Church running costs and Vicarage Expenses remained relatively similar to previous years. In the church we replaced a bell clapper, church carpet, lightning conductor, vestry window and a major repair of church organ. The total expenditure for Church Hall increased from £16,771 to £21,196. The largest repair was to replace a gate post, which cost £2,112, knocked down by a National Blood Service lorry and later reimbursed. The surplus of church hall income over expenditure increased from £5,858 to £8,436 in 2023. There are currently no ongoing concerns at the hall

The PCC own the church hall, known locally as Harrison Memorial Hall, which was donated to the parish in 1932 following fund raising by parishioners. The building and contents are currently insured for the sum of £6,650,000.

As the end of December 2023, the PCC had funds of £48,764 of which £17,867 are restricted funds. At the end of 2023 all the funds are readily available in our Bank Accounts.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of this church to hold in reserve £15,000, to cover three months running costs of the church and hall, and cover emergency work. The funds are not currently held as restricted.

The Reserve is to be taken as a target to be held and not a minimum which must be held. Necessary expenditure may take reserve below the target level (the reserve is held against the possibility of necessary expenditure). When below target, the PCC will take steps to rebuild reserve. The policy is reviewed annually by the Standing Committee.

Activities

The activities set out below reflect the PCC's aims: promoting Christian religious activities, both for the general public and those more closely associated with the church; making available a building and place, where religious worship and the other services the church offers can take place; and the making of grants and donations to charities and organisations.

Religious activities

Public worship is on each Sunday

- BCP Holy Communion Service at 9am.
- Range of services including Holy Communion, Morning Prayer, and Prayers for Healing at 10pm.

On the other days throughout the year

- Holy Communion Service at 10.30am every Wednesday.
- Additionally, there are services in Holy Week and Festival Days.

Maintaining a listed church building

The last Quinquennial inspection was undertaken in May 2022 by Mark Pearce of Kepczyk Pearce Sanderson Architects & Surveyors. Executive Summary of Condition:

St Nicholas Church Wallasey architecturally is a particularly fine building despite being only Grade II Listed.

It is in an extremely exposed location adjacent to the Irish Sea on the Wirral Peninsula. This exposed location has resulted in extensive erosion of the external masonry. During the last quinquennial one of the liturgical south aisle windows were blown in during a storm and was rebuilt. The south transept window has also been rebuilt due to fears that it may also collapse. The north transept window is also of concern as are the stability of the clerestory and tower windows. In addition to this, the church has also suffered from the theft of lead to parapet gutters and downpipes in the past. Parapet gutters have been relined with bituminous felt and downpipes have been replaced with poor quality aluminium alternatives. The roofs and cast-iron gutters are holding at the present time however, a high-level inspection is recommended to further assess these issues with a view to putting in place a phased approach to attend them. As part of this work debris should be removed from all gutters and slipped / cracked / missing slates refixed / replaced.

The PCC will undertake the recommendations on a phased approach to external fabric repairs to masonry, roofs, guttering and windows. However, all recommended urgent works that required immediate attention have been completed.

Pastoral responsibilities

The pastoral work of visiting the sick, elderly, and bereaved, and of care for the congregation is undertaken by the Vicar and other members of the congregation. This work is overseen by the vicar.

Teaching of the Christian faith

Teaching and interpretation of the Christian faith is conducted in various ways. All Sunday and Wednesday services include a sermon. Regular Bible studies are held and open to all who wish to attend.

Safeguarding

The PCC has adopted its Safeguarding Policy in June 2019, a copy of which is available on the church public website www.stnicholaswallasey.co.uk. The required training has been completed by all PCC members. The Safeguarding Officer works with other groups and church hall users to ensure compliance.

Children and young people

Children and young families are an important part of the worshipping community and provision is made for a Family Service at 10am on the first Sunday of the month. Further children's work is through seasonal children's Craft Days.

Support for local community

The church collects and distributes items for the needy, including Charles Thompson Mission, The Arc and Forum Housing.

Maintaining the PCC's Aims and Financial Position for 2023

There has been encouraging signs of improvement in some of our sources of income. However, the financial situation remains tight with marginal increases in income and rising costs. The pressure to pay a full Parish Share to the Diocese of Chester remains. The PCC is confident that our finances will improve albeit slowly and the improvement in church attendance and increased hall usage is encouraging. The PCC will be looking to improve and promote the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical in the parish next year.

Signed

Rev Jeff Staples, Vicar

Mr Colin Hazlehurst, Treasurer

The PCC of the Parish of St Nicholas with All Saints, Wallasey
Registered Charity Number 1155232
Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts and Payments Account				
Receipts				
Voluntary Receipts				
Planned Giving	20,661	-	20,661	21,647
Collections	8,210	-	8,210	7,219
Income tax Recovered	5,631	-	5,631	6,740
	<u>34,502</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,502</u>	<u>35,606</u>
Other Voluntary Receipts (note 4a)	1,402	1,760	3,162	5,885
Activities for generating Funds (note 4b)	39,950	2,112	42,062	30,523
Receipts from Church Activities (note 4c)	2,833		2,833	5,225
Investment Income (note 4d)	872		872	95
Other Receipts (note 4e)	3,465	1,450	4,915	2,091
	<u>83,024</u>	<u>5,322</u>	<u>88,346</u>	<u>79,425</u>
Payments				
Church Activities				
Diocesan Parish Share	30,000	-	30,000	24,000
Other Payments (note 4f)	57,912	14,693	72,605	48,490
	<u>87,912</u>	<u>14,693</u>	<u>102,605</u>	<u>72,490</u>
Excess/Shortage of Receipts over Payments			- 14,259	6,935
Bank Accounts as at 1 January 2023			63,023	
Bank Accounts as at 31 December 2023			<u>48,764</u>	
Statements of Assets and Liabilities				
			2023	2022
Bank Current & Savings Accounts	30,897	17,867	48,764	63,023
	<u>30,897</u>	<u>17,867</u>	<u>48,764</u>	<u>63,023</u>
Liabilities				
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The attached notes form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on 11 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by
Rev Jeff Staples (PCC Chairman) and Mr Colin Hazlehurst (PCC Treasurer).

Jeff Staples

Colin Hazlehurst

NOTES

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Assets recognised but not valued in the statements of Assets and Liabilities :-
St Nicholas Hall (also known as Harrison Hall) was donated to the parish in 1932 by members of the Harrison family as a memorial hall. It is currently insured for the sum of £6,650,000.

3. At the start of 2023 Chester DBF made a request for a Parish Share of £71,757. The PCC made contributions totalling £30,000 towards this amount, which left a shortfall of £41,757. This has resulted in a total shortfall since 2014 of £330,184.

4. The movements in restricted funds during the year were:-

	Bal B/Fwd 01.01.2023	Receipts	Payments	Bal C/Fwd 31.12.2023
CBF Grant	254	-	254	-
Donation - Bell Ringers	-	1,200	1,200	-
Donation - Sundries	1,000	1,000	1,717	283
Grant - Guild of Church Ringers	-	250	250	-
Legacies	4,979	-	-	4,979
Lent Lunches	-	760	-	760
Psalm 23 Garden Project	3,055	-	-	3,055
Window Fund	17,950	-	9,160	8,790
	<u>27,238</u>	<u>3,210</u>	<u>12,581</u>	<u>17,867</u>
Flower Fund	1,132	1,285	1,147	1,270
	<u>28,370</u>	<u>4,495</u>	<u>13,728</u>	<u>19,137</u>

4. Receipts and Payments Analysis

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
(a) Other Voluntary Receipts				
Legacies	-	-	-	-
<u>Donations</u>				
Café Caz	100	-	100	200
Lent Lunches	-	760	760	780
Walking Football	-	-	-	110
Sundry Donations	1,302	1,000	2,302	4,795
	<u>1,402</u>	<u>1,760</u>	<u>3,162</u>	<u>5,885</u>
(b) Activities for generating funds - receipts				
<u>Fund Raising Events</u>				
Bowling Afternoon	200	-	200	153
Christmas Concert/Tree Festival	1,570	-	1,570	3,354
Coin Jar	-	-	-	200
Hymn Marathon	-	-	-	2,760
Panto - Snow White	4,161	-	4,161	77
Panto - The Grinch	5,344	-	5,344	325
Poppy Cascade	-	-	-	117
Santa Paws	1,000	-	1,000	760
	<u>12,275</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,275</u>	<u>7,746</u>
Parish Magazine	155	-	155	148
Church Hall	27,520	2,112	29,632	22,629
	<u>39,950</u>	<u>2,112</u>	<u>42,062</u>	<u>30,523</u>
(c) Receipts from Church Activities				
Fees (Weddings & Funerals)	2,833	-	2,833	5,225
	<u>2,833</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,833</u>	<u>5,225</u>
(d) Receipts from Investments				
Bank Interest	872	-	872	95
	<u>872</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>872</u>	<u>95</u>
(e) Other Receipts				
Donation - Bell Ringers	-	1,200	1200	-
Grant - Guild of Church Ringers	-	250	250	-
Grant - CDBF Energy	-	-	-	986
Grant - CoE Church Building Council	-	-	-	500
Grant - DCMS Listed Places of Worship Scheme	3,065	-	3,065	-
United Utilities Water Rebate / Vicarage	-	-	-	5
WBC Grant Garden Project	-	-	-	200
WBC Polling Station Fee	400	-	400	400
	<u>3,465</u>	<u>1,450</u>	<u>4,915</u>	<u>2,091</u>

4. Receipts and Payments Analysis

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
(f) Church Activities - Payments				
Bell Clapper	1,034	1,450	2,484	-
Carpet	3,050	-	3,050	-
Electric, Fire & Gas Service Tests	669	-	669	167
Kitchen Water Heater/Dispenser & Tap	-	-	-	582
Lightning Protection	2,689	-	2,689	354
Organ & Piano Repair/Maintenance	630	1,497	2,127	380
Ramp Consultancy Fees	-	1,253	1,253	1,509
Roof & Gutter Repairs	-	-	-	1,440
Sundry Repair & Maintenance	210	-	210	61
Toilet Floor	1,365	-	1,365	-
Vestry Window	-	7,907	7,907	1,740
Window Perspex Covers	-	-	-	1,182
Window Restoration/Fees	-	-	-	2,131
	<u>9,647</u>	<u>12,107</u>	<u>21,754</u>	<u>9,546</u>
Bank Charges	427	-	427	235
CCLI	366	-	366	667
Church Christmas Tree & Lights	198	-	198	1,020
Church Desk	2,723	-	2,723	-
Church Hall	19,084	2,112	21,196	16,771
Church Running Expenses	12,354	-	12,354	11,132
Cost of Services	2,843	-	2,843	2,502
Defibrillator	1,320	-	1,320	-
Donation to Charity	50	-	50	-
Hand Sanitiser Dispenser & PPE	-	-	-	29
Magazine	150	-	150	98
Panto Expenses	1,492	-	1,492	-
Photocopier	390	-	390	468
Printing & Stationery	765	-	765	592
Sundry Expenses	619	220	839	381
Vicarage Expenses	5,032	-	5,032	4,926
Kitchen Water Boiler	406	-	406	-
Webcam/Laptop & Web Domain	46	254	300	123
	<u>57,912</u>	<u>14,693</u>	<u>72,605</u>	<u>48,490</u>

St Nicholas Hall & Function Suite, Wallasey
Known as Harrison Memorial Hall

Appendix 1

Working account for the year ended 31 December 2023

<u>Receipts</u>	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income</u>				
Bloom Baby	1,504	-	1,504	-
Bloom Toddler	336	-	336	-
Craft Sewing Group	790	-	790	-
Dance Coutour	3,316	-	3,316	4,480
Karate Club	4,752	-	4,752	2,316
Keep Fit	4,444	-	4,444	-
Merseyside Yoga	280	-	280	240
Mini's Messy Play	736	-	736	1,132
National Blood Service	550	-	550	660
Pavilion Choir	450	-	450	444
Pop Cats	972	-	972	830
Singme Merseyside	1,916	-	1,916	2,056
Strive Sport	1,820	-	1,820	1,121
Sundry Lettings	884	-	884	968
Tumble Tots	607	-	607	1,721
Walking Football	220	-	220	421
Wallasey Athletics	1,730	-	1,730	2,037
Wallasey Songbirds	906	-	906	612
Yoga - L Dunning	-	-	-	336
Yoga - H Huszti	1,307	-	1,307	1,166
	<u>27,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,520</u>	<u>20,540</u>
<u>Other Income</u>				
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	1,630
National Blood Service - Gate Post	-	2,112	2,112	-
WBC Wirral Together Fund	-	-	-	459
	<u>27,520</u>	<u>2,112</u>	<u>29,632</u>	<u>22,629</u>

St Nicholas Hall & Function Suite, Wallasey
Known as Harrison Memorial Hall

Appendix 1

Working account for the year ended 31 December 2023

<u>Payments</u>	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Electricity	3,019	-	3,019	2,369
Gas	2,592	-	2,592	2,148
Insurance	2,538	-	2,538	2,312
Office Telephone	769	-	769	892
Water	503	-	503	1,011
Cleaner	2,238	-	2,238	2,020
Hall Secretary	400	-	400	300
<u>Repair & Maintenance</u>				
Boiler Room Sump Pump	110	-	110	-
Electrics/Lighting incl Emergency Lighting	1,528	-	1,528	960
Fire Protection-Alarm/Fire Door/Smoke Detector	591	-	591	554
Gate Post Replacement	-	2,112	2,112	-
Grounds Maintenance	440	-	440	310
Hall Entrance Painted & Plaster Repaired	1,560	-	1,560	-
Kitchenette Painted & New Extractor Fan	850	-	850	-
Main Hall Floor Repair	834	-	834	-
Skip Hire	-	-	-	252
Sundry Repairs including Cleaning Materials	387	-	387	227
Toilet Floor Repair	-	-	-	1,858
Water Heater Replacement	-	-	-	200
<u>Sundry Expenses</u>				
Padlocks & Keys	204	-	204	-
PPL/PRS	209	-	209	1,112
Sundry Expenses	312	-	312	246
	<u>19,084</u>	<u>2,112</u>	<u>21,196</u>	<u>16,771</u>
Total Receipts			29,632	22,629
Total Payments			<u>21,196</u>	<u>16,771</u>
Surplus			<u>8,436</u>	<u>5,858</u>

Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Nicholas with All Saints, Wallasey

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on the pages 1 to 6, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the "Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of the report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given to me by the Charity Commission under s.43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 Edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept in the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not prove all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independents examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which £ to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act ; and
 - to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Ann Waldron
C/O HSBC UK Bank
Runcorn
Cheshire

