

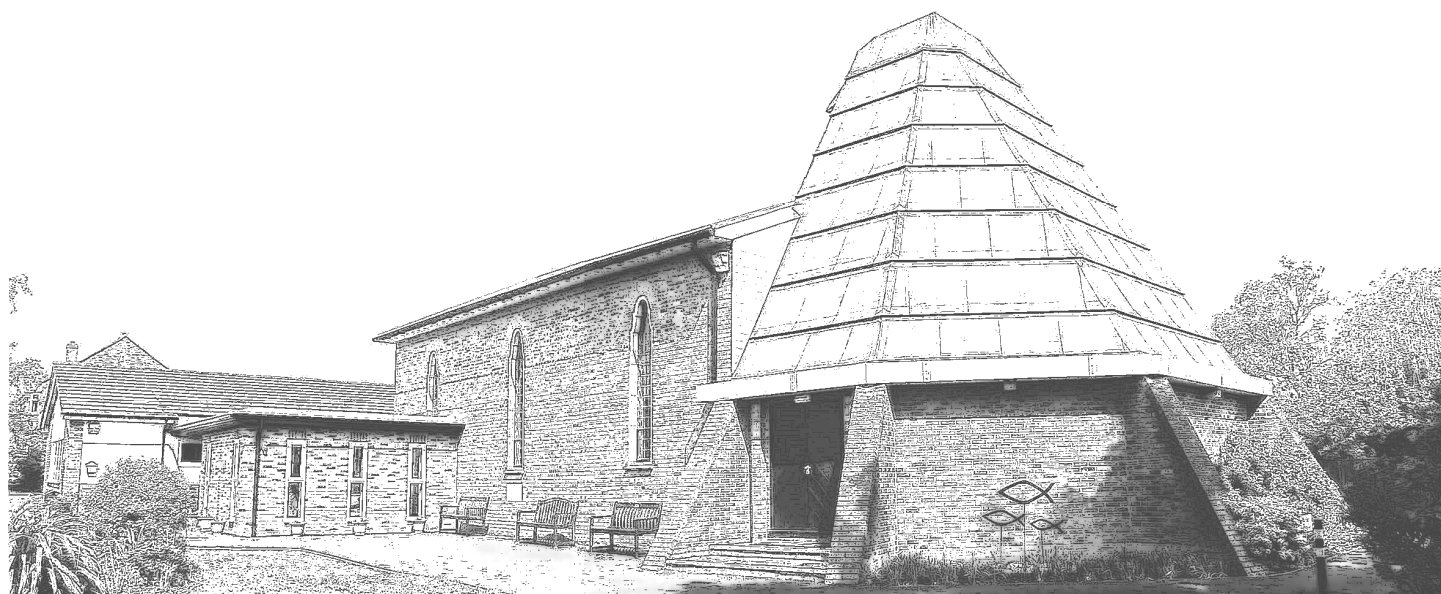
The Parish of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

(Registered Charity 1155524)

for the year ended 31st December 2023

**Vicar - Rev Jackie Fountain
(from 28th November 2023)**



Bank

Nat West Reading Oracle
Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Independent Examiner

Mr David Marett FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close, Tutts Clump, RG7 6JZ

And minutes

Of the meeting of Parishioners held on 23rd April 2023
Of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 23rd April 2023

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

AIMS AND PURPOSE

Our parish purpose is 'To worship God and show Jesus' love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring.'

The PCC is responsible, together with the appointed vicar, for the vision and mission of our church, To do this we seek God's will, ensure we operate within a legal framework and take responsibility for the financial stability of the church, all under God's authority.

BACKGROUND

During 2023, the parish was for the most part in vacancy following the retirement of the previous incumbent, Gill Rowell, on 30th November 2022. A significant activity, with the support of the diocese, was therefore the process to appoint a new vicar, including a listening exercise to discern what church members and the community were looking for, reassessing our vision, producing the parish profile, and advertising and interviewing. The parish were thrilled to welcome Jackie Fountain as the new vicar on November 28th 2023.

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of church members, together with the support of local clergy, the worship and activities at St Catherine's continued during the vacancy. Indeed many church members grew in their faith and stepped up to take on additional responsibilities.

WORSHIP

The PCC, whilst recognising that the service structure might benefit from a review, determined to continue with the existing pattern of Holy Communion, All Age Worship (followed by short spoken Communion), Family Communion and Word and Worship (followed by short spoken Communion) through the four Sundays in the month, with the opportunity to do something different on any fifth Sunday in the month. Any review of the service structure was left until after the appointment of the new vicar. Additionally, a weekly Wednesday Holy Communion service was held.

In 2023 the services largely followed the lectionary. This was all possible thanks to the tremendous support provided not only by our own leadership team but also by local clergy and musicians. Church members benefitted from a rich variety of teaching provided by the different clergy and lay preachers. Attendance at these services remained similar to 2022, with a small increase in numbers, and services continued to be live streamed for the benefit of those unable to attend in person.

During July and August, the Sunday services as in recent years were held outdoors under the Oak Tree. The theme of Kings was adopted, studying selected Kings from both the Old and New Testament. The disappointing weather rendered the holding of outdoor services a significant challenge, and many had to be held indoors.

The Easter Services included both a Good Friday family activity service and a meditation service.

Christmas was a busy time with not only a 10am Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service, but also a Christingle, community Carols under the Oak Tree attended by well over a hundred, 9 Lessons and Carols and a Nativity Service. Special services included a Shoebox Appeal, a Coronation service including a scouts parade, a Leprosy Mission service, a Harvest festival and a service based on Thy Kingdom Come material.

Friday Tots Praise has continued during term time thanks to our faithful volunteers.

rites of passage

Two funerals were held in church, including that of Beryl Nunn, a much-loved member of the congregation. No crematorium only services were held.

One marriage service of two church members took place in October.

Three baptisms took place.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 3)

PRAYER

Prayer has continued to be a key activity as we seek to discern and follow God's direction. The following specific prayer activities have taken place, in addition to the inclusion of prayer in our services and meetings:

The prayer ministry team continued to offer prayer to individuals after the Sunday service

Weekly community prayer meetings take place every Thursday

A monthly early morning prayer meeting, started in 2022, continued to be held every 3rd Sunday in the month, each meeting focussing on two selected church activities, one of the four missions supported, and one UK/global topic

The monthly Calcot prayer walk and litter pick has been ongoing despite limited attendance as we continue to seek God's direction on our Calcot activities.

THE CENTRE

The centre, including the café and church hall are a great blessing and an amazing place to share God's love and hospitality both in and outside the worshipping community. They offer a place of safety and for friendships to thrive as well as a space for holding community events - all made possible by our hard working café manager, centre manager and volunteers. During the year, we were sad to see our café manager leave, resulting in a reduced café menu for a few months and more work for our hard-pressed volunteers! A new café manager was welcomed in September.

Church hall bookings remained steady and have in part mitigated the loss of income from the demise of the pre-school in December 2022.

LIFEGROUPS

The seven Lifegroups, coordinated by the Lifegroup co-ordinator and attended by some 50 people, have continued to meet regularly, either weekly or fortnightly, offering fellowship, mutual support and the opportunity to grow in faith. The weekly sermon notes produced by the Sunday preacher provides common discussion material for all groups. These groups have also provided a mechanism to provide pastoral care for those church members who do not attend a Lifegroup. We would love to see more people join these Lifegroups.

ACTIVITIES

The church fellowship organise a wide range of activities, much appreciated by those who attend – space does not allow them all to be listed. Tuesday Get Together and Friday Friends provides friendship for the older age group, whilst Toddlers 0-5s is for the younger age range. There are many other specific groups such as Book Club, Crafty Space, and Bowls, whilst the gardening and building maintenance teams do wonders in providing a well-kept welcoming space for us all. Sadly Pick N Mix closed in the autumn as some moved on, leaving too few for the viability of the group.

HAVING FUN

There was plenty of opportunity for the church membership and the community to have fun – with funds for the church raised at some events. The events included a celebration of the coronation in sunny weather with a wide range of fun activities such as consuming delicious homemade cakes, children's crafts and activities, quizzes, a treasure hunt, country dancing, selfie opportunities with a life-size King and Queen look alike as well as the unveiling of a crafted wooden throne complete with Stone of Scone! Other opportunities included a sell-out Quiz night, as well as the ever popular Spring and Autumn fairs.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 4)

INTO THE FUTURE

As we look back on 2023, a year (less 2 days!) of vacancy, we are encouraged not only by the way God moulded us all into a team to work together to his glory, blessed by the support of some seventeen visiting clergy, and a church community that stepped up and worked together in love to keep the church not only going but moving forward but also by His bringing of our new vicar to us. And so we look forward in anticipation and excitement to see what God has in store for us in 2024 with Jackie Fountain, our new vicar, steering us as we go forward. We are hopeful that we will all grow in our faith and our outreach, and that God will continue to direct us as we reach out to our community with a focus on youth.

Lynn Stevens and Caroline Heron (Churchwardens)

February 2024

PCC Members

The names of the members of the Council who have served since the commencement of the 2023 financial year and until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Incumbent	Rev Jackie Fountain (as from 28th November 2023)
LLM's	Mr Tony Bartlett (also elected as PCC secretary)
	Mr Mike Heather
Deanery Synod rep.	Mr Richard Canning
Churchwardens	Ms Caroline Heron
	Mrs Lynn Stevens (also Deanery Synod rep)

Elected Members

Mrs Heather Addison (from 2023 APCM)
Mrs Jean Almond (from 2023 APCM)
Mrs Ella Robles Canning (also Deanery Synod rep)
Mrs Emma Deacon
Mrs Joanne Freeman (appointed as Treasurer by PCC)
Mrs Sonia Ludford (also Centre Manager)
Mr Stuart Poore (also Parish Administrator)
Mrs Stephanie Walklate
Mrs Katrina Yates (until APCM 2023)
Mr Richard Yates (resigned 1st November 2023)

Minute taker to the PCC

Mr Tony Bartlett

Bankers

Nat West Reading Oracle Branch, Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Vicar
Rev Jackie Fountain

Churchwarden
Ms Caroline Heron



C. Heron

The Financial Report for 2023

Receipts

In 2023 our planned giving was similar to that received in 2022. In Lent we had a special Lenten appeal for funds towards St Catherine's which raised £3,126, so thank you to everyone who so generously donated. However, it would be nice if we did not have to resort to special annual appeals for funds, so please can you all consider the amount of your regular giving to St Catherine's. We also received some generous one-off donations during the year, those that were put in the plate are recorded in the **Collections at services**, those that were online donations are included in **All other giving voluntary receipts**. The **All other giving ...** also includes the Lenten appeal funds.

In 2023 we held two fetes; Summer (£1,444) and Christmas (£1,540) – so £984 more than the budgeted amount. We also held two special events – an Italian evening (£868) and a quiz night (£801). These events not only provided some much-needed additional income but they were all very enjoyable and attracted people from outside the church community.

Unfortunately, in December 2022 St Catherine's Preschool had to close. The loss of this regular rent left a gap in our income. Despite the hard work that was put into getting new users of the centre during the day, the Centre lettings were £7,500 less in 2023 than they had been in 2022.

The miscellaneous refund of £1,018 related to insurance claims being made to repair both accessible toilets.

Payments

In 2023 the Diocese of Oxford introduced a 10% discount on the Parish Share for parishes in vacancy. This resulted in a total saving of £5,554 over the year.

We also had 7 weeks between our Café Managers which resulted in a saving of £1,000 in wages.

As expected, the cost for both electricity and gas were more than last year; in both cases by around £1,000.

Last year the maintenance costs were allocated to the church; this year it was decided that when the maintenance service affected both the church and the hall, such as work on the boiler, the cost would be split 50:50 between the church and the hall. Hence the increase in hall running costs.

During the first eleven months of 2023 we were in a vacancy. We were blessed with many visiting clergy over this period. Clergy with Permission to Officiate who took services were entitled to be paid £43 per service taken. The PCC pay this money straight after these services and then reclaim the money back from the Diocese monthly. All visiting clergy are entitled to claim travelling expenses which is paid by the PCC. There were also some costs associated with seeking a new vicar.

During the year the PCC decided to open two more bank accounts.

An Instant Access Business Reserve account with Nat West. This will enable the PCC to get interest on money not currently needed to pay the regular bills. The current balance is £5,000.

A 180 day investment account with United Trust Bank to hold money that will only be needed in an emergency. The current balance is £10,000.

End of year thoughts

The good news is that there was a surplus of £7,447 at the end of the year. But it must be remembered that without the Parish Share 10% discount from the Diocese of £5,554, the Parish Share rebate of £1,777, a saving of £1,000 in Café Manager wages and no Quinquennial costs we would have made a loss.

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 6)

Pages 14 and 15 show the actual totals at 31st December 2023 alongside their budgeted totals. On the far-right hand side you will see the budget that has in faith been set for 2024. Please note the final two lines on page 14 in the section headed **RECEIPTS** - namely:- **'Fund Raising / Stewardship' (£3,000)** and **Reserves/Donations (£6,900)**. So, once again it is hoped that we will be able to have extra fund-raising events to help fill a predicted shortfall. However, after thoughtful consideration it was decided that asking for more than £3,000 in this way was not feasible and so felt the need to show that the only way we may be able to achieve a balance was to use our reserves. As a community we have either to increase our income or reduce our spend or use a combination of both, because if we do not our reserves will continually be depleted.

Of particular note requiring each of us to consider carefully if we need to take action is the Planned Giving figure at the top of page 9 which remains similar to that in 2022. This consists of a combination of giving using the Parish Giving scheme and by Standing Orders. Please, please can we all prayerfully consider what our monthly contribution to St Catherine's should be. This does of course include volunteering around the church thus saving us from needing to employ someone say to mow the lawns or tend the flowers or sort out any issues inside the buildings.

There are also plans for various fund raisers – please join in and help, if you have any ideas of any other fundraising ideas, please speak to one of the church wardens.

Finally, as this is my last APCM as Treasurer I would like to thank everyone who has helped me over the past 13 years with counting, banking, sorting out the Gift Aid claims, invoicing our hirers and generally being very supportive. I am sure that you will now support and help Sean East who has now taken over from me as Treasurer.

Reserves policy

Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) recommend that the PCC's reserves should be an amount equal to three months average spend. For us this would equate to £26,000. The current figure held is £15,000 – which equates to about one and three-quarter months cover.

If you have any questions on this report please get in touch with the Treasurer, preferably a couple of days before the APCM.

The following will help you understand Pages 9 to 15

Unrestricted funds contain money that the PCC can use for its general purposes.

Designated funds contain money from unrestricted funds that the PCC has chosen to put aside for a particular purpose. The PCC can also decide to return any or all of this money to unrestricted funds.

Restricted funds contain money that is received for a specific use such as donations to named charities.

Endowment funds contain money that is a special form of restricted funds; in our case it refers to the money the PCC received after St Birinus was sold and is expendable and can be used to fund activities relating to mission in Calcot such as the weekly taxi service to and from the 10.00 am service at St Catherine's when required.

The totals from the 2022 report are there for comparison purposes. The figures in the report are required to be shown to the nearest pound. Pages 9 & 10 are a legal requirement, all the other pages are provided to give more details.

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 7)

Page 9 – Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

This page lists the receipts and payments for the year under categories that are required in the annual report to the Church of England. The fees for wedding and funerals, though they are not reported in this annual return do go through the PCC's bank account, hence the need for a separate line on this page so that the bank balances at the start and the end of the year balance correctly.

Page 10– Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Cash funds shows how the total funds of the PCC were held in our three Nat West bank accounts.

Other monetary assets are money due to the PCC from activities in 2023 but not received / banked until 2024.

Liabilities this is money in the PCC bank account for either, services they received in 2023 (such as gas) but will not pay for until 2024 or, money they received for other organisations such as charities, that will not be paid out until 2024.

Note 2 shows the movements in the Designated Maintenance Reserves and the various categories of restricted funds during the year.

Page 11 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Payments – note 3 d)

Church & Centre utility bills comprise of Electricity, Gas, Waste disposal and network costs.

Mission and evangelism consist of Tots Praise, DBS checks, 0 – 5 Toddlers, Training and Outreach.

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Mission Giving – note 3 f)

The PCC has agreed to support our four named charities by giving a regular monthly amount with any underpayment of the 6% commitment being paid out at the start of the following year.

Joanne Freeman
Treasurer to the PCC
6th February 2024

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31 December 2023

Receipts and Payment Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving		39,766			39,766	39,069
Collections at services		4,179			4,179	2,564
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3 a)	8,149	1,150	0	9,299	12,025
Gift Aid recovered		9,551			9,551	8,736
		<u>61,645</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>62,795</u>	<u>62,394</u>
Activities for generating funds	3 b)	4,970	217		5,187	4,622
Investment income		26			26	0
Church activities	3 c)	44,818	1,018		45,836	51,399
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Total receipts		111,459	2,385	0	113,844	118,415
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan parish share		54,428			54,428	58,826
Clergy and staffing costs		2,596	38		2,634	2,625
Church running expenses	3 d)	20,127	261	523	20,911	25,687
Hall running costs		11,097	1,018		12,115	8,489
Café running costs		12,577	122		12,699	14,249
Mission giving and donations	3 f)	3,026	1,119		4,145	5,338
Costs of generating funds		161	216		377	158
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Total payments		104,012	2,774	523	107,309	115,372
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		16,314	5,481	2,598	24,393	21,852
Funds transfers	2		-306			
Excess of receipts over payments as above		7,447	-389	-523	6,535	3,043
Fees - funerals and locums surplus / deficit see Note 3 e)			242		242	-502
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		24,067	5,028	2,075	31,170	24,393

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Assets					
Cash Funds					
Nat West Bank Accounts	17,267	2,928	975	21,170	24,393
Investments	6,800	2,100	1,100	10,000	0
	<u>24,067</u>	<u>5,028</u>	<u>2,075</u>	<u>31,170</u>	<u>24,393</u>
Other monetary assets					
Parish Share rebate for previous year	1,515			1,515	1,777
Cost of Locums during vacancy	0			0	166
Gift Aid recoverable for previous year	304			304	324
Hall rent due for previous year	3,523			3,523	2,419
	<u>5,342</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,342</u>	<u>4,686</u>
Liabilities					
Electricity and Gas	1,476			1,476	929
Optimal-test of fire alarm system				0	312
Select Waste Disposal	156			156	146
0 - 5s rent	330			330	129
Coffee money				0	306
Mission giving due for previous year	304			304	64
Ripple Effect		414		414	755
	<u>2,266</u>	<u>414</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,680</u>	<u>2,641</u>

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:-

	Bal b/fwd 01/01/2023	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd 31/12/2023
Designated					
Maintenance Reserves	11,215	1,777			12,992
Restricted					
Maintenance Reserves	1,800	300			2,100
Café	58	10	68		0
Cornwell 0 to 5 s	1,265		196		1,069
Donations to charities	1,125	786	1,119	-306	486
Specials	1,399	1,289	1,392		1,296
Totals without ODBF funds	<u>5,647</u>	<u>2,385</u>	<u>2,775</u>	<u>-306</u>	<u>4,951</u>
ODBF balancing figure	<u>-166</u>	<u>2,634</u>	<u>2,392</u>		<u>76</u>
	<u>5,481</u>	<u>5,019</u>	<u>5,167</u>	<u>-306</u>	<u>5,027</u>

ODBF - Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance

The donations to charities and specials funds are the result of donations given to specific appeals

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Receipts					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts					
Donations	8,149	1,150	0	9,299	12,025
	<u>8,149</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,299</u>	<u>12,025</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Parish magazine - advertising	317			317	73
Summer and Christmas fetes	2,984	217		3,201	3,735
Special events	1,669			1,669	814
	<u>4,970</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,187</u>	<u>4,622</u>
c) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	460			460	66
Parish magazine - sales	620			620	586
Centre lettings	20,408			20,408	27,975
Café income	16,297			16,297	15,756
Tuesday Get Together	740			740	502
Friday Friends	1,140			1,140	1,312
Cornwell 0 - 5 s	3,376			3,376	2,800
Parish Share rebate	1,777			1,777	1,783
Misc refunds		1,018		1,018	619
	<u>44,818</u>	<u>1,018</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>45,836</u>	<u>51,399</u>
Payments					
d) Church running expenses					
Centre utility bills	8,523			8,523	6,431
Insurance	1,849			1,849	1,691
Hospitality	24			24	95
Equipment	0	65		65	1,190
Magazine	1,352			1,352	1,339
Stationery	1,242			1,242	1,162
Centre maintenance	2,821			2,821	5,099
Upkeep of church grounds	0			0	3,462
Upkeep of services	1,351			1,351	1,180
Mission and evangelism costs	2,486	196	523	3,205	3,598
Administration	359			359	320
Independent Examiner	120			120	120
	<u>20,127</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>20,911</u>	<u>25,687</u>

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

	2023	2022
	£	£
e) Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) fee workings		
Receipts		
Funeral fees received by PCC due to others	404	1,699
Locum service fees reimbursed by ODBF	2,230	0
	<u>2,634</u>	<u>1,699</u>
Payments		
funeral fees paid to ODBF	49	1,836
funeral expenses	126	199
wedding expenses	153	0
service fees paid to locums in vacancy	2,064	166
	<u>2,392</u>	<u>2,201</u>
surplus/deficit	242	-502

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

f) Mission Giving

	2023 planned £	2023 extra £	2022 planned £	2022 extra £
Overseas Mission Societies				
Leprosy Mission	750.00		762.50	213.00
Novi Most	750.00		762.50	23.50
	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,525.00</u>	<u>236.50</u>
Relief & Development Agencies				
Ukraine Relief Fund				588.60
Pakistan Flood Relief				390.50
Ripple Effect	1.00	755.00	16.50	683.50
Tear Fund		320.00		240.00
	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1,075.00</u>	<u>16.50</u>	<u>1,902.60</u>
Home Missions				
Berkshire Churches Trust	25.00		25.00	
CCA	750.00		762.50	23.50
Childrens Society	750.00	43.93	762.50	23.50
Faith				60.00
	<u>1,525.00</u>	<u>43.93</u>	<u>1,550.00</u>	<u>107.00</u>
Secular Charities				
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	3,026.00	1,118.93	3,091.50	2,246.10

NB 2022 Planned mission giving includes the £170 owed for 6% planned mission giving for 2021
2023 Planned mission giving includes the £120 owed for 6% planned mission giving for 2022

I have chosen to leave this page of the report showing the pence figures rather than rounding to the nearest pound. This is because most of the figures in 2022 end in 50p and rounding to the nearest pound makes nonsense of the figures.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023 - 52 WEEKS

	ACTUALS	BUDGET	VARIANCE	BUDGET
RECEIPTS	2023	2023	2023	2024
	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts				
Parish Giving scheme GA	31,182	31,500	-318	33,600
Parish Giving scheme NGA	3,855	4,000	-145	3,600
Standing Orders Gift Aided	2,880	3,060	-180	3,000
Standing Orders Non Gift Aided	1,850	2,040	-190	2,000
Tax Rebate - PGS	7,795	7,930	-135	8,400
Tax Rebate - non PGS	1,755	770	985	1,500
Plate	4,179	2,000	2,179	2,500
General Donations	4,009	2,650	1,359	1,500
Coffee Money	484	0	484	500
Donations - SumUp	251	0	251	0
Café donation box	278	0	278	400
Total	58,518	53,950	4,568	57,000
Other receipts				
Magazine Advertising	317	400	-83	400
Fetes	2,984	2,000	984	3,000
Special events	1,669	1,000	669	2,000
Net Fees	460	100	360	100
Interest	26	0	26	0
0-5 s Toddlers	3,376	2,800	576	3,200
Tuesday Get Together	740	700	40	700
Friday Friends	1,140	1,000	140	1,000
Magazine Sales	620	800	-180	800
Centre Lettings	20,408	26,000	-5,592	20,000
Café Sales	16,297	16,000	297	17,000
Parish Share Rebate	1,777	0	1,777	0
Fund raising / Stewardship	3,127	3,320	-193	3,000
Reserves / Donations				6,900
Total	52,941	54,120	-1,179	58,100
TOTAL RECEIPTS	111,459	108,070	3,389	115,100

Excess of receipts over payments				
Church activities	-17,985	-28,610	10,625	-31,000
Other activities	25,432	28,610	-3,178	31,000
All activities	7,447	0	7,447	0
Hall	9,311	18,000	-8,689	12,000
Café	3,720	2,000	1,720	2,000

01/01/2023	balance of reserves	16,314
end of period	plus profit/less deficit	24,067

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023 - 52 WEEKS

PAYMENTS	ACTUALS 2023	BUDGET 2023	VARIANCE 2023	BUDGET 2024
Church running expenses	£	£	£	£
Missions-missionary	1,500	1,590	-90	1,600
Missions-relief	1	0	1	0
Missions-home	1,525	1,620	-95	1,630
Missions-secular	0	0	0	0
Parish Share	54,428	56,000	-1,572	62,000
Minister expenses	286	550	-264	600
Visiting Clergy	206	0	206	0
Cost of New Vicar	904	0	904	0
LLM expenses	0	150	-150	150
Honoraria	1,200	1,200	0	1,200
Training Outreach	3	100	-97	100
Insurance	1,849	1,740	109	2,050
Church maintenance	2,821	2,260	561	2,000
Equipment	0	100	-100	100
Upkeep of services	1,301	900	401	900
Church flowers	50	50	0	50
Hospitality	24	100	-76	100
Upkeep of church grounds	0	100	-100	100
Stationery	1,242	1,200	42	1,500
Administration	359	200	159	400
cost of fetes	161	60	101	200
Independent Examination	120	120	0	120
Electricity	3,691	4,600	-909	6,000
Gas	3,458	8,700	-5,242	6,000
Waste Disposal	858	720	138	800
Wifi	516	500	16	400
Total	76,503	82,560	-6,057	88,000
Other costs				
0 - 5 Toddlers	2,435	2,200	235	2,500
Youth Group	12	50	-38	50
DBS checks	36	60	-24	50
Magazine	1,352	1,200	152	1,500
Hall running costs	11,097	8,000	3,097	8,000
Café running costs	12,577	14,000	-1,423	15,000
Total	27,509	25,510	1,999	27,100
TOTAL PAYMENTS	104,012	108,070	-4,058	115,100

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Church, Tilehurst, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 13

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



David Marett, FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close,
Tutts Clump,
RG7 6JZ
4th April 2024

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners – 23rd April 2023

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church at 11.30am

Present 29 parishioners

1. Caroline Heron welcomed everyone and opening the meeting in prayer. She explained that as we are in an interregnum and without a vicar, she is chairing the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** had been received from: Rita Barrett, Ella Canning, Mary Hudson, Chris Jones, Sonia Ludford, Maureen Norman, Beryl Nunn, Stuart & Val Poore, David Stevens.
3. **The minutes of the Parish Meeting** on 8th May 2022 were approved, proposed Richard Canning, seconded Mike Heather. There were no matters arising.
4. **Election of Churchwardens.** Lynn Stevens outlined her experiences of her first year as Churchwarden. After Rev Gill retired, everyone had pulled together and played their part, it is love that draws us here. 2022 had been designated as a year of Prayer and we had endeavored bring prayer into all our activities. We have tried to reach out more to our local community with the amazing Jubilee Jamboree and this year's Coronation Celebrations to come. It has been a challenging year with the Parish Profile now put together but with ongoing challenges to find cover for weekly services.

With two nominations, both being willing to stand, and no last-minute nominations, Caroline Heron (proposed by Hilary Smee and Seconded by Chris Addison) and Lynn Stevens (proposed by Chris Addison and seconded by Evelyn Bartlett) were duly elected to serve as Churchwardens. Approved by all with applause.

5. **There was no other business** and Richard Yates closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting concluded at 11.41am and we moved on to the Annual Parochial Church meeting

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 23rd April 2023

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church immediately after the meeting for Parishioners
Present 29 Parishioners

1. Welcome & Prayer

By Lynn Stevens

2. Apologies for absence had been received from

Rita Barrett, Ella Canning, Mary Hudson, Chris Jones, Sonia Ludford, Maureen Norman, Beryl Nunn, Stuart & Val Poore, David Stevens.

3. Minutes of the APCM held on 8th May 2022

Were approved, proposed Richard Canning, seconded Sue Burston.

4. Matters arising

None.

5. Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Joanne Freeman went through the report which had been previously distributed.

Pages 5, 6 & 7 were written to explain where the various figures came from, there were no questions. Joanne then went through the following pages:

Page 8; statement by David Marrett the independent examiner

Pages 9 & 10; these are a legal requirement with categories agreed by the Church of England and the Charity Commission. 'Assets' were monies due in 2022 but received in 2023 and 'Liabilities' were Gas and Electricity used but not yet paid for. There were no questions.

Page 11; breaks down income and expenditure into more detail. There were no questions

Page 12; sets out payment received in respect of fees due to the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance for funerals etc. It was questioned why the figures do not balance; this was due to timing issues.

Page 13; missions giving, no questions.

Pages 14 & 15; the budget for 2023. This had been set at the end of November based on knowledge at that time and Joanne went through the various figures explaining the rationale. Closure of the St Catherine's pre-school will result in a substantial loss of income and in addition to funding new hirers for the Church Hall, several fundraising events will be held in 2023.

Fixed price contracts for Gas and Electricity will come to an end, repairs to the Boilers are needed. We do however, get a discount of £500 on the £62K Parish Share for every month we are without a vicar. The Lent appeal raised £3k and it is hoped that we can balance income and expenditure in 2023. Caroline Heron thanked Joanne on behalf of the Parish.

6. Presentation of the Annual Report by the PCC

Pages 1-4 of the booklet is a review of the year and Caroline highlighted a few things.

The monthly pattern of services had been retained, thanks to the Leaders & Preachers team and visiting clergy. Outreach services (outdoors in July & August weather permitting) and Carols Under the Oak Tree had been put on and attracted a large crowd. 2022 was a year of prayer and activities including Thursday Prayer meeting, MU Prayer chain, Prayer Ministry team, continued. There was a 24hour chain of prayer in September and a night vigil.

A 'Third Saturday of the Month' prayer meeting has been introduced, supported by a few people; more would be good. Also, the Calcot Prayer walk & Litter pick. Nurturing our faith; re-invigorating

(Continued on page 19)

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 23rd April 2023

(Continued from page 18)

and expanding the Lifegroups with Emma Deacon coordinating to give everyone the opportunity of joining one with all the benefits of sharing one's faith and encouraging one another. Outreach; café & Centre a central part of this, need to expand and reach out.

Caroline thanked everyone for what they do and pointed out the small green booklet detailing the activities. She highlighted two reports by Richard Canning; Deanery Synod and Buildings. In respect of the latter a huge debt of thanks is due to Richard and Chris Addison for all the work they do. The Quinquennial report suggested that insulating the Sanctuary would reduce heat loss. Caroline also thanked Peter Broomfield in respect of electrical work and advice. Hazel And the team who maintain the grounds.

7. Vicar's address, by Caroline Heron

2022 a year of huge change; Gill's departure the big event with an emotional service. She left us with a commission at that service from Philippians 4:8-9 which was 'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.'

Last year Caroline described the role of the Churchwarden as like oil in a machine and 2022 was the same. She outlined progress in appointing a new vicar; at the 'Section 11' meeting she and Lynn Stevens were appointed as reps for the PCC at an interview, the Parish Profile had been written after a listening exercise among the congregation and a copy had gone to the Diocese for review. The 'section 12' meeting on 9th May is to review and approve it, the advertisement can then go out with interviews hoped for in mid-July, assuming a successful candidate has to give 3 months' notice we could be looking at a new incumbent October/November at the earliest.

8. Electoral roll

Stuart Poore, the Electoral Roll Officer, had reported in the reports booklet but was able to give updated figures. As at the date of the meeting there were 119 names on the role. Since last year 2 had died and 14 were added.

9. Election of PCC members.

Stuart Poore, Richard & Katrina Yates have completed their 3-year term but for continuity Stuart and Richard had agreed to stay on for another term. There were nominations for three new PCC members; Heather Addison, Jean Almond, and Ella Canning. All present were in favour.

10. Election of Deanery Synod members.

Lynn Stevens, Richard & Ella Canning will continue.

11. Appointment of Independent examiner

David Marett is willing to continue; Proposed that he be appointed by Chris Addison, seconded Sue Burston, all in favour.

12. Any other business.

None

The meeting closed at 12.22pm with closing Prayer by Mike Heather

