



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2024

Period start date To 31st December 2024

Period end date

Charity name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints'
Stock Harvard

Charity registration number: 1158160

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Regular public worship open to all. The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation. Pastoral work including the sick and bereaved. Teaching Christianity through sermons and small groups.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	As above.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	There has been no special notice taken of this guidance.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	

Other		
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The charity has just continued with regular Sunday worship.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity had an income of £120,395 in the year ; Expenses were £317,076. £240,077 was spent on major roof repairs and electrical work.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves at 31 st December 2024 were £110,203. Reserves are held for potential additional building repairs and for 'Mission & Outreach'
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£110,203
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church Stock Harvard
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Act of Parliament
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Church of England
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Elected by those on the electoral role

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints' Stock Harvard
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1158160
Charity's principal address	All SAINTS' Church Stock Road Essex CM49BN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Anthony Barker			
2	Pauline Collier			
3	David Sainsbury	Treasurer		
4	Corrine Duty			
5	Judith Sabine	Church Warden		
6	Margaret King			
7	Martin King			
8	Gerald Scott	Secretary		
9	Alma Clements			
10	Peter Stas			
11	Reverend Maranda Seaman			
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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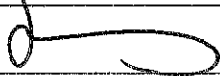
Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

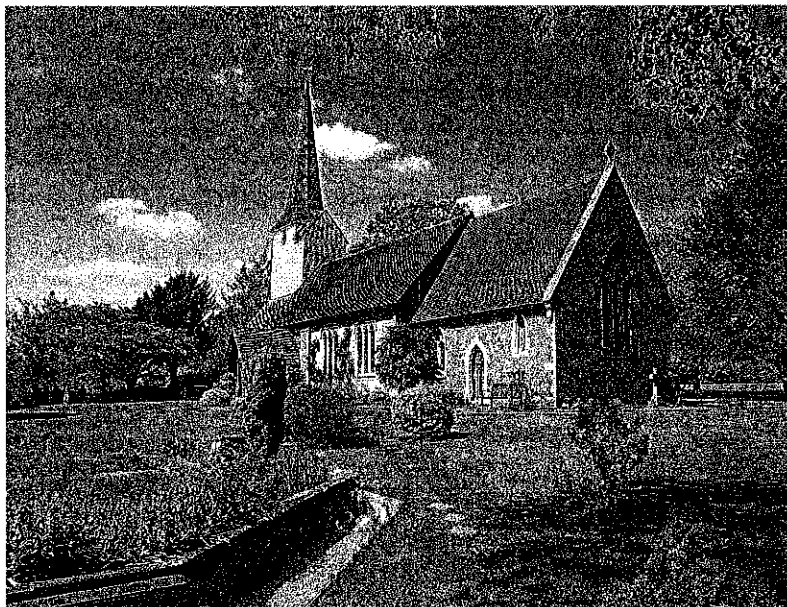
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	David Sainsbury	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	

Date

31st July 2025

All Saints' Church, Stock Harvard.



Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

To be held in Church

On Monday 12 May 2025

at 7:30pm

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

Agenda for the
Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 12 May 2025 @ 7:30pm

Approval of the minutes of 22 April 2024

Election of Churchwarden(s)

Agenda for the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Monday 12 May 2025 @ 7:45pm

Approval of the minutes of 22 April 2024

Main Reports

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Electoral Roll Report | Jane Steel |
| 2) PCC Proceedings Report | Gerry Scott |
| 3) Financial Statement 2024 | Richard Sainsbury |
| 4) Fabric Report | Martin King / Peter Stas |
| 5) Servers | Jane Steel / Rachel Hill |
| 6) Organist & Choir | Gerry Scott |
| 7) Priest-in-charge Report | Rev Jacqui Pearson |

Miscellaneous Reports

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| A) Deanery Synod Representative Report | Pauline Collier |
| B) Unity Committee | Pauline Collier / Jane Steel |
| C) Compass Churches Representative Report | Judith Sabine |
| D) Overseas Mission | Julia Seaman |
| E) Church / School Links | Pauline Collier |
| F) Safeguarding | Judith Sabine |
| G) Sidespeople | Pauline Collier |
| H) Readers | Pauline Collier |

Election of 5 members to the Parochial Church Council
Election of 0 representative for the Deanery Synod
Election of 1 Representative for Compass Group
Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer
Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner
Appointment of Safeguarding Officer

Any other business, discussion or questions.

NB After the meeting the members of the new PCC should meet to elect the Vice Chair, Treasurer, 'Sidespersons' (or Assistants to the Churchwardens), Secretary and officers for the coming year and to fix the date of the first meeting.

(The suggested maximum number of members is 15 (incl Priest-in-charge & C/W's). This is in accordance with the CofE guidelines and evaluated upon the number of those on the ER)

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

Chair (Priest in charge)

Rev. Jacqui Pearson

Vice Chair

Assistant Priest

Rev Miranda Seaman

Churchwarden(s)

Deanery Synod

Pauline Collier [until 2027]

Elected

Corrinne Duty [until 2025]

Richard Sainsbury (Treasurer) [until 2025]

Peter Stas [until 2025]

Margaret King [until 2026]

Jane Steel [until 2026]

Anthony Barker [until 2027]

Martin King [until 2027]

Michael McGeachie [until 2027]

Alma Clements-Scott [until 2027]

Gerry Scott (Secretary) [until 2027]

Safeguarding Officer

Compass Churches Rep

Electoral Roll Officer

Jane Steel [until 2027]

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

1) Electoral Roll

As at 31.12.2024 there were 95 people on the electoral roll consisting of 48 resident in the Parish and 47 non-resident. There were 2 additions to the roll during 2024.

As required by the Church Representation Rules in 2025 we will be preparing a new Electoral roll and this will be effective from 1st May 2025 and put on display in church for inspection.

2) Review of the Year 2024 (Jan-Dec)

The PCC met on 8 occasions last Church year (viz. 30.01.24; 27.03.24; 22.04.24; 03.06.24; 04.07.24; 23.07.24; 24.09.24; 20.11.24) when the following main topics were discussed:

a) Finance

For full details please refer to financial reports later in this document.

b) Clergy

We are grateful for the time and ministry provided by both our Priest-in-charge (Rev. Jacqui Pearson) and our Associate Priest (Rev. Miranda Seaman).

c) Card Machine

We researched, purchased and installed a card machine to collect payments since it is difficult to handle and bank cash.

d) Mass Booklets

These are awaiting final 'tweaks' and approval by Rev Jacqui.

e) Bollards in Car Park

We are in discussion with the Parish Council with a view to getting these re-sited / positioned

f) Fabric

Please see report(s) submitted by Martin King and Peter Stas

g) Wedding, Funeral and Organist Fees

The annual review of these fees took place and recommendations implemented.

h) Pastoral Care

It was a concern that we need to address certain issues. Rev Jacqui is aware and will report back.

i) School Governor

A resignation and subsequent appointment was agreed.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

j) Safeguarding

The Diocesan safeguarding policy was reviewed and implemented. No major issues were identified during the year.

Secretary
Gerald Scott

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

3) Finance Report 2024

In 2024 we spent £112,189 on roof repairs and £127,888 on re-wiring, new lighting and heaters. We received a VAT grant of £39,088 relating to this expenditure. Therefore the net cost of these two projects was £200,989. Back in 2022/23 we received £245,291 from the Diocese for the Rectory Hall and a Special Fund was created from this money to initially be used on these repair projects.

Excluding the major repair transactions, unrestricted income for 2024 was £74,397 and expenditure £75,519; so breakeven.

The main focus of the year was the repair work so there was no other abnormal expenditure. The Flower Festival did take place and made a profit of £6,004. The £37,410 Parish Share was paid in full.

In the year The Overseas Mission committee donated £2,730 to various international Christian charities and The Friends' of All Saints' raised just over £5,400 for the Church building.

At the end of the year the general unrestricted fund held £52,424; the unrestricted Special Fund (relating the Rectory Hall monies) £28,940; The Friends of All Saints' Church £24,486; The Overseas Mission Committee £767; and the Special Objects Fund £3,586.

Treasurer
Richard Sainsbury

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiners 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 PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with s. 130 of the Charities 2011 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Peter John Bentley
10 Myln Meadow Stock
May 2025

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	<u>Total Funds</u>	
					2024 £	2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>	2(a)	42,523	6,876	-	49,399	48,910
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>	2(b)	39,088	-	-	39,088	2,000
<i>Incoming resources from operating activities</i>						
- to further the Council's objects	2(c)	7,031		-	7,031	9,749
- to generate funds	2(d)	19,928	-	-	19,928	57,156
<i>Income from investments</i>	2(e)	4,915	34	-	4,949	4,351
Total Incoming Resources		113,485	6,910	-	120,395	122,166
<i>Cost of generating funds</i>	3(d)	13,658	-	-	13,658	15,004
<i>Grants</i>	3(a)	-	1,480	-	1,480	2,300
<i>Activities directly relating to the work of the church</i>	3(b)					
- normal running costs		61,811	-	-	61,811	58,069
- major repairs		240,077	-	-	240,077	-
<i>Church management and administration</i>		50	-	-	50	-
Total resources Used		315,596	1,480	-	317,076	75,373
		-	-	-	-	-
Net Movement In Funds		(202,111)	5,430	-	(196,681)	46,793
<i>Balances Brought Forward at 1st January</i>		283,475	23,409	-	306,884	260,091
Balances Carried Forward at 31st December		81,364	28,839	-	110,203	306,884

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	0	0
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	31,094	9,308
Short term deposits		15,565	155,530
Cash at bank and in hand		84,359	150,702
		<u>131,018</u>	<u>315,540</u>
LIABILITIES:			
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Creditors		20,815	8,656
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>110,203</u>	<u>306,884</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>110,203</u>	<u>306,884</u>
FUNDS	6		
Unrestricted – general fund		52,424	53,546
Restricted		28,839	23,409
Unrestricted – special fund		28,940	229,929
		<u>110,203</u>	<u>306,884</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 26th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Jacqui Pearson (*Chair*) **Judith Sabine** (*Churchwarden*) **Gerald Scott** (*Secretary*)

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these accounts

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of freehold land and buildings, which are shown at the 2001 valuation.

Since Total Incoming Resources have exceeded £100,000 the PCC are obliged to prepare "Accrual Accounts". This means that the Accounts include a full Balance Sheet and that the income and expenses of the various funds for which the PCC is responsible are consolidated into one Statement of Financial Activities. (SOFA).

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The accounts include the all the transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. 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.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its undisputed legal entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised by the Flower Festival and similar events are accounted for gross. Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

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

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable, if any, on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Resources used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that Award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan quota or Parish Share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed assets

Rectory Hall. Until 1st December 2022 the PCC insured the Rectory Hall at a replacement value of £320,000 as they were acting as custodian for the Diocese. On 1st December 2022 the Diocesan Board of Finance paid the PCC £210,000 to purchase the asset.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment historically used by the PCC is held at a residual value of £0. It and other purchases will be depreciated on a straight-line basis over 4 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £ 1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees and other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

2	<i>INCOMING RESOURCES</i>	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	
		Funds	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£	£
2(a)	<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>					
	Planned giving					
	- Gift Aid Donations	28,043	2,905	-	30,948	30,780
	- Income tax recoverable	8,035	780	-	8,815	9,167
	- Other Planned Giving	-	-	-	-	-
	Collections (open plate) at all services	5,621	205	-	5,826	4,873
	Gift Day	-	-	-	-	-
	Sundry donations	824	2,986	-	3,810	4,090
		42,523	6,876	-	49,399	48,910
2(b)	<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>					
	Grant:	-	-	-	-	-
	Grant: Listed Places of Worship reclaimed VAT	39,088	-	-	39,088	-
	Legacy	-	-	-	-	2,000
		39,088	-	-	39,088	2,000
2(c)	<i>Incoming resources from operating activities - to further the Council's objects</i>					
		-	-	-	-	-
	Bookstall and sundry sales	79	-	-	79	55
	Patronal Supper	-	-	-	-	-
	Fees (weddings and funerals)	6,952	-	-	6,952	9,694
		7,031	-	-	7,031	9,749
2(d)	<i>Incoming resources from operating activities - to generate funds</i>					
	Proceeds from the sale of The Rectory Hall	-	-	-	-	35,291
	Flower Festival	19,212	-	-	19,212	21,010
	Fund raising events	716	-	-	716	128
	Shopping evening	-	-	-	-	727
		19,928	-	-	19,928	57,156
2(e)	<i>Income from investments</i>					
	Interest received	4,915	34	-	4,949	4,351
2(f)	<i>Income from insurance claims</i>					
	Insurance receipts	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	113,485	6,910	-	120,395	122,166

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

3 RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	<u>Total Funds</u>	
				2024 £	2023 £
3(a) Grants - Missionary and charitable giving:					
Church overseas:					
- Missionary societies	-	1,100	-	1,100	1,400
- Relief and development agencies	-	380	-	380	900
Home missions and other Church Societies	-	-	-	-	-
	-	1,480	-	1,480	2,300

The Overseas Mission Committee donated £1,100 to USPG, £300 to The Convent of the Sacred Passion (Kwa Mkono Polio Hostel), £300 to Let the Children Live, £530 to Holy Child Program; and £500 to UK for UNHCR.

3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church.

Ministry: - Parish Share	37,410	-	-	37,410	36,646
- Ministry expenses	-	-	-	-	-
- Cost of services	2,714	-	-	2,714	2,150
Church - running expenses	5,284	-	-	5,284	3,506
Church maintenance	3,398	-	-	3,398	2,014
Church roof repairs	112,189	-	-	112,189	4,025
Church electrical & heating repairs	127,888	-	-	127,888	-
Other Parish expenses	654	-	-	654	1,078
Salary of the organist(s)	6,260	-	-	6,260	4,786
Fees paid to the Diocese	2,107	-	-	2,107	3,027
Costs of Patronal Supper	-	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of churchyard and glebe	3,984	-	-	3,984	2,278
Rectory Hall costs	-	-	-	-	(1,441)
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
Outgoings from Special Objects Fund	-	-	-	-	-
	301,888	-	-	301,888	58,069

3(c) Church management and administration

Church office & administration	50	-	-	50	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
	50	-	-	50	-

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

Cost of generating funds

3(d)	Costs of Flower Festival	13,208	-	-	13,208	14,357
	Costs of fund raising events	-	-	-	-	-
	Costs of Pancake Supper	450	-	-	450	400
	Costs of fund raising events	-	-	-	-	-
	Costs of Spring Lunch	-	-	-	-	-
	Other costs including envelope schemes.	-	-	-	-	67
		13,658	-	-	13,658	15,004
	TOTAL RESOURCES USED	315,596	1,480	-	317,076	75,373

4.	<i>STAFF COSTS</i>	2024	2023
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	6,005	4,886

Gerry Scott received an organist salary of £6,005 in the year; Gerry Scott is a member of the PCC. No individual earned £40,000 p.a. or more.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC - <i>Tangible fixed assets</i>		Freehold land & buildings £	Church Equipment £	Total £
GROSS BOOK VALUE	At 1 January 2024	-	2,356	2,356
	Disposal	-	-	-
DEPRECIATION	At 31 December 2024	-	2,356	2,356
	At 1 January 2024	-	2,356	2,356
	Depreciation written back	-	-	-
	At 31 December 2024	-	2,356	2,356
NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2024	-	-	-
	At 31 December 2023	-	-	-

The freehold land and buildings comprising the Rectory Hall were sold to the Diocese on 1st December 2023.

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

6(a) <i>by asset class</i>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	<u>Total Funds</u>	
				2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Current Assets	102,179	28,839	-	131,017	315,540
Current Liabilities	(20,815)	-	-	(20,185)	(8,656)
Fund balance	81,364	28,839	-	110,203	306,884
6(b) <i>by fund</i>					
General fund	75,364	3,584*	-	78,948	281,855
Endowment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Friends of All Saints'	-	24,487	-	24,487	18,375
Upkeep of the Churchyard (Legacy)	-	-	-	-	-
Overseas Mission	-	768	-	768	1,654
Organ Fund (Designated)	6,000	-	-	6,000	5,000
Fund balance	81,364	28,839	-	110,203	306,884

* This represents the Special Objects Fund under the direction of the Rector.

7. DEBTORS	2024 £	2023 £
Income tax recoverable (Gift Aid)	8,814	9,167
Other debtors	22,280	141
	<u>31,094</u>	<u>9,308</u>

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

4) Fabric report for the year 2024 (Report by Martin King and Peter Stas)

We are thankful for our long-term church architect Rod Shelton for his patient and determined diligence - particularly in guiding us through the Diocesan Advisory Committee's directions over the lighting and also over the bat issues.

ROOF REPAIRS UP TO JUNE 2024

Work on reroofing the Nave and Chancel roofs started at the end of 2023 but only made significant progress from the start of 2024 even though the wettest February on record led to extensive delays.

Starting with the Chancel, roofs were stripped in turn. Main faults from the post-war repairs were the widespread absence of felt, use of battens that had not been tanalised and nails that were not stainless. All these issues were corrected.

Several mandatory bat surveys concluded there was little evidence of bats apart from the tower. But we still had to argue hard to avoid including bat slots in the roof and allowing us to avoid the surveyor's preference of felt (bitumastic rather than the modern breathable equivalent). The compromise is significant for all church roofs; we simply agreed to place six bat boxes on elm trees in the lower graveyard.

The main roofing jobs included replacing all the major end beams and bargeboards and bolstering the gully. We also added additional external leading to tackle internal damp patches particularly above the pulpit, the statue of Mary and the font. Guttering on the Nave's south face was also in a worse condition than expected, but thanks to the Friends' assistance we were able to install aluminium replacements.

One surprise was how much detritus had been left in the void above the ceiling, comprising war-damaged tiles and even old metal fittings and a bookcase. All this had to be removed and the area left spotlessly clean.

Only about 40 per cent of the original tiles were re-usable. Fortunately our contractors found an excellent match of secondhand tiles that were in a reasonable condition and should last many decades.

Finally the external toilets block also needed reroofing and the work included replacing some of the side woodwork and guttering. (For interest, completion of this final job was delayed for several weeks to avoid disturbing a blue tit family that had moved into one corner. Access was maintained when the roof was complete.)

In short we are grateful to contractors Robbie Wilks of R.M. Wilks Ltd and his partner Matthew Day of W&D Roofing for achieving what was described by one passing retired roofer as amazing job - replacing roofing on a Grade 1 listed building to such a high standard but in such a way that no passer-by now needs to be aware of all that went on to make it fit for many more years.

ELECTRICAL WORKS FROM MAY TO DECEMBER 2024

Paul Peacock of Peacock Electrical Services commenced in mid-May of 2024 on our major project of rewiring and/or upgrading every electrical item in the Nave, North Aisle and the Tower. We knew there were problems but the number of major faults was literally shocking - with widespread safety issues across lighting, heating, cabling and switchboards.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

We are grateful for the depths of Paul's expertise, and also for his willingness to share it and to review details continually as we made refinements. Above all we thank him for his endless patience over delays as we waited for various permissions.

All work has been completed to the latest standards with, for instance, RCD protection on every connection and ARC protection on all relevant systems. In addition we upgraded the heating (losing the red glow) and installed a modern lighting system that simplifies the controls while significantly reducing power consumption.

The lighting system was supplied by Clarity Sound, Light and Vision of Braintree at a separate cost of £22,228 plus VAT and installed by Mr Peacock. The Nave and North Aisle heaters, also installed by Mr Peacock, were supplied by Infrared Heating Products Ltd of Burton on Trent at a cost of £12,253 plus VAT and have a 10-year warranty.

One major challenge that was uncovered during the project concerned the aged power supply to the organ. The cabling was woefully inadequate and had obviously been running at a dangerously high temperature within the organ housing. All aspects of the supply were upgraded and a separate switchboard installed. This enabled us to run two permanent low-wattage downlights under the organ loft.

New lights were installed in the tower. For the first time the Green Man in the high beams can be seen clearly. Modern replacements were also installed externally for the corner downward floodlights over the footpath.

ADDENDUM: While the annual report above covers only work carried out in 2024, the following items have already been tackled for 2025 and will be listed again in the 2025 Fabric Report next year:

1. Mandatory safety lighting has been added within the church and includes a new fitment in the porch. Safety lights are also being installed for accessing the bell loft.
2. Tower heating. We had hoped to continue with the existing tower heaters but they were found to be unsafe, with original metal outer cases running live. We replaced them with smaller versions of the IHP heaters (again with 10-year warranties) and these have been supplied and the total cost is c. £3,000 plus VAT. There was a delay while awaiting funds but Mr Peacock was due to complete the work before the APM at which this report is to be presented.
3. Final labelling, testing, tidying etc

CONCLUSION

We have striven throughout these projects not only to make the church a safer and better place to be, but also to enhance flexibility both in the church and tower. We have already one concert and another is imminent and we have plans to use the tower in new ways for the community.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

5) Servers (Report by Jane Steel)

Our team consists of only 4 servers consisting of myself, Rachel Hill, Daniel McGuinness and Mike McGeachie.

For most services, we have only had 3 servers due to Mike being unavailable after knee surgery, and sometimes only 2. This is challenging at times, but we have managed.

Additional duties undertaken away from the weekly services include the ordering of candles, communion wafers, wine etc., and Rachel takes care of this, whereas I look after the laundering of the altar linen. Rachel and I both change the altar frontals as and when required.

A big thank you to the team for your hard work and dedication! – I know the work we do is very much appreciated by the Clergy and the congregation.

We really need to expand the team and would welcome anyone who would like to join us. Full training will be given!

6) Organist & Choirmaster Report

Regular Sunday Masses and Weddings have been well attended by our robed Choir and simple anthems are performed when possible. More members are required and always welcomed.

During this year, with electrical works being carried out, the Tower has been out of use for the Choir to use as gown storage and robing room. This has proved a challenge having to squeeze into the Vestry together with other equipment being stored. Thanks are extended to the choir (and servers) for their understanding and flexibility – just as well we are not in the height of a pandemic.

A service of Nine Lessons and Carols in December 2024 was well supported at which we were fortunate to have some additional help from a few members of the Writtle Singers.

Vestry and Church piano's receive regular tuning albeit that the one in the Church is subject to huge fluctuations in temperature and humidity.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

7) Report from the Priest-in-charge - Rev Jacqui Pearson

This year much of our time, energy, and money, have been focused on our building, with the two significant projects of the roof and the electrics. The church building is now much safer from potential water and fire damage, and we are hopefully a little warmer and a lot less red!

A huge thank you must go to Martin King, Peter Stas and Graham Clark, who have put in many hours of voluntary labour helping Paul Peacock (our Electrician), in order to keep costs down and the projects on schedule. Thanks must also go to Judith Sabine, Richard Sainsbury and the whole PCC.

We also have our new giving device, awarded to the church in the summer following our application to the Diocese Giving Initiative. This will hopefully enable more people to give using their debit and credit cards and bringing in some vital income, especially from services such as weddings, Christenings and at the Flower Festival.

Of course, the vital heart beat of regular services and events has continued alongside the building works. The school has been in church several times over the course of 2024, and I would like to say 'thank you' to Pauline Collier and Rachel Hill for all their hard work in maintaining and improving the vital link with our church school, and to Leigh Mayhook for joining the Governor body.

We had our Flower Festival, celebrating the life and works of Roald Dahl. Thank you to Jill and Peter, and to all of the Flower Festival Committee, and thank you to Margaret Odden and all the Flower Arrangers, who did such a wonderful job, even amongst the grief of Christine Makings' passing.

We have had numerous christenings, weddings and funerals; let us continue to pray that people in our community will continue to come to church to mark these significant moments in their lives, and at such services we can provide a place of welcome, a place of prayer, and a place where the Gospel of Jesus is preached and lived out.

For though this beautiful building is a physical building, made of stone, mortar, wood (and now plenty of fire-proof electrical cabling), All Saints' church is much more than a beautiful, ancient building. It is a building that has witness the prayers of countless believers over the centuries, has heard many hymns being sung, and seen many people fed both spiritually and physically by the body and blood of Christ at the Eucharist.

We now need to continue to prayerfully discern how we can best use this building in our mission to share the Gospel and build up the body of Christ - with Jesus firmly at the centre, for he is our cornerstone. In this we need to think creatively. How can we use the gift of our building, and the gifts that each one of us bring, to bring the Good News of Jesus to our village?

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

A) Deanery Report (Report by Pauline Collier)

The Deanery met 4 times during 2024 at the following churches.
Meadgate Church, Chelmsford X 2
St. Michael's Galleywood
All Saints' Church, Writtle

The Standing Committee also meet 4 times during the year at various churches.

At each meeting a welcome to new members and clergy appointments is given; a thanks to departing clergy and the evening always closes with delegates meeting in groups to pray for items discussed, for our parishes and each other.

At the December meeting, we were saddened to say farewell to our Area Dean the Revd. Tim Ball. Tim has retired after many years as a priest. Tim was a great help to our church during our recent interregnum. The Rev'd Simon Pearce, Priest-in-Charge of St. Andrew's Church Chelmsford is to be our next Area Dean.

February Deanery Day – Encouragement.

This day was held at Meadgate Church and the first session was entitled 'Stories of Encouragement'. The following subjects were discussed....Church Growth; Finance & Building; Community Engagement; Youth Work.

Reflecting on the morning's topics the afternoon session involved prayer and mission

B) Unity Committee (Report by Pauline Collier)

Unity among the Three Churches in Stock began this year, the same as in previous years, with the Unity Service in the Village Hall. The service was led by Bishop Thomas McMahon but all three churches were involved with the organising of the event. The service was well attended by members of all the churches plus our local Scout Group.

On Good Friday the churches combined to carry out the Walk of Witness. The Walk, which starts at Our Lady and St. Joseph Church with prayer, is led by a member of the group carrying a wooden cross. The procession proceeds to the High Street and heads towards the Chelmsford end of the village. It then crosses the road and walks to All Saints' Church for prayer and then proceeds to Christ Church for the concluding act of worship. The group then partakes of tea/coffee and hot cross buns.

The Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial is organised by the Unity Committee, in conjunction with the local branch of the Royal British Legion. This year the service at the War Memorial and the following service at the Legion Hall, was led by the Revd. Miranda Seaman of All Saints' Church.

It was decided that due to losing our printing outlet and lack of people to distribute them, Christmas Cards would not be available. Publicity regarding church services was printed on posters and displayed around the village. Year 6 pupils at Stock Church of England Primary School, once again took part in a painting competition and the three winning pictures formed part of the poster.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

Carols at the Hoop was well attended and a great success. The choir from our local school took part and their contribution was greatly received.

The Rt Revd. Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford had been invited to speak to us all in May but due to her being unwell, this event had to be cancelled. She is due to visit the Three Churches on Monday 16th June and her talk will be entitled 'Why I Believe!' The event will be held at Christ Church.

Working with the other two churches in our village is a privilege and is also greatly appreciated by Christ Church and Our Lady and St. Joseph; we thank them both.

Pauline Collier

C) Compass Group (Report by Judith Sabine)

The Compass group of churches met three times over the year. Much of the discussions were about the way the Parish Share is worked out and how the changes affected each of the church's contributions.

A lot of changes were made within the compass group, the main one being the retirement of Terry Brown, fortunately others have come forward to fill any gaps in the administration team.

During the meetings ideas were exchanged on how we can support each other, and also what other churches were doing to encourage participation in church.

D) Overseas Mission (Julia Seaman)

The Overseas Mission Committee started life as the Overseas Guild when all transactions were in pounds, shillings and pence, Banks were in every High Street and anxious to please customers.

The USPG has always been the 'umbrella' Charity which allocates all donations to where it is most needed :we have supported the USPG over many decades, and in addition have supported other charities, three of which were introduced to us by former clergy...Snehasadan in India (Fr.Jeremy Bunting)Kwa Mkono in Tanzania (Fr. Robert Corbin),Holy Child Program in Bethlehem (Fr. Stephen Need) and Let the Children Live! In Colombia.

Snehasadan has vanished from our radar, we have tried to get money to them unsuccessfully, Kwa Mkono is now looked after by three elderly nuns from a flat in Littlehampton who have always been extremely grateful for our donations. (See letter attached). We send the Holy Child Program money by a very convoluted process via a member of the congregation and Let the Children Live! receives a cheque from us yearly but I have not received any news from them for some time. I did warn them last year that I personally would be giving up the Committee work.

I took over from Pat Todd 20 years ago and I feel that now is the time to hand over the Overseas section of the 10% giving to the PCC, given the disappearing Banks, the reluctance to accept cash, and the rise of the international relief agencies who now take control in times of war and natural disaster.

The USPG is our main recipient of funds and they sent a letter of thanks for our donation to their Christmas appeal for healthcare in Bangladesh.

Thanks go to Neville Bull for managing the Gift Aid, to the PCC for their annual donation and most of all to Leigh and Sylvia who with me are the last surviving members of what was once a large Committee.

If any future fund-raising is required we are still willing to assist.

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

E) Stock Church of England School – Links (Report by Pauline Collier)

Church/School Links Team

Alina Clay (Head Teacher) Rev. Jacqui Pearson, Rachel Hill, Pauline Collier.
The Team met three times during the year to plan the following items.

Events

The school have visited the church seven times during the last academic year. Unfortunately, due to the work being carried out in the church, this is less than the previous year.

The visits have included:-

Service for Easter, Year 6 Leavers Farewell Service, Christingle Service, sale of food at the church Harvest Festival, a rehearsal and two performances of KS2 Christmas Carols.

The sale of food at our harvest Festival Service raised £190. This was donated by the school to their charity for the year – Billericay Food Bank,

The Revds. Jacqui and Miranda have visited the school and have taken four Assemblies.

Sadly, due to the maintenance work, we have not be able to have the welcome service for the Reception Class, when each pupil is presented with a bible. This has now been arranged for Wednesday 12th March 2025.

F) Safeguarding (Report by Judith Sabine)

Safeguarding has been in the news a lot just lately but be assured that we take safeguarding very seriously and take every step to ensure the safety of our congregation.

I have been on a couple of courses to keep up to date with the latest safeguarding issues and report any changes to the PCC committee.

Members of the PCC are encouraged to do the basic online safeguarding course.

Everyone is reminded to be aware of any issues that may occur and to talk to someone if they feel something is not right. Posters have been put on display in quiet places (the toilets) giving contact details if they feel they need to talk to someone.

To date we have no safeguarding issues that have been raised.

The PCC adopted the diocesan Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed each year.

G) Sidespeople - 2024 (Report by Pauline Collier)

Our grateful thanks go to the following people for all their support as sidespeople during 2024:

Joyce Bull, Pauline Collier, Leigh Mayhook, Ann Tully, Maisie Tully, Christine Walls, Peter Walls.

We are pleased that they are willing to serve again for the year 2025

Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Parish Church, Stock Harvard

H) Readers – 2024 (Report by Pauline Collier)

The following people have been readers at our Sunday Morning Service for the last year.

Diana Bandy, Nigel Mason, Richard Sainsbury, Jane Steel, Annie Pyle.

In addition to we were pleased to welcome Felicity Duty, Daniel McGuinness and David Gibson to our list.

Diana Bandy has asked to be removed for 2025. We give her a big 'THANK YOU' for her many years of dedicated service.

Although it is not part of the procedure to register them at the Annual Meeting, I thought that we should say a big 'Thank You' to them for their faithfulness and service and for being willing to serve for 2025.