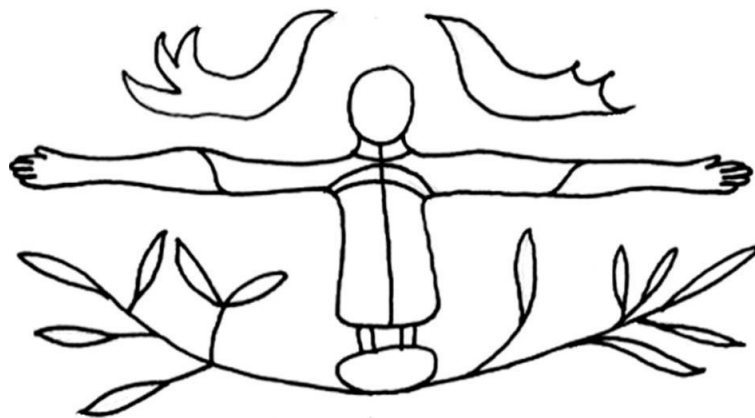


Diocese of Salisbury

# *The Parish Church of Saint Mary the Virgin*

Gillingham, Dorset



*'Open to God, Open to Gillingham'*

Agenda for the Annual Meetings and Annual Reports  
for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023  
Thursday 4 April 2024

Registered Charity Number 1158272

The Annual Report for the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Accounts for St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham.

### **Data Protection Notice**

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) came into force in May 2018. As with all organisations, whether large businesses or small charities like ourselves, we must conform. We can advise that the only data we hold in confidence on any person within the parish is: -

- contact details that we use solely for communications with yourselves
- planned giving details that you choose to provide and held in total confidence on encrypted, password protected systems shared only with HMRC.
- contact and other details for baptisms, marriages and funerals for contact purposes and as required in law for the registers.

We do NOT share this information with any other outside bodies.

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**The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham**  
**‘Open to God, Open to Gillingham’**

**Agenda for the Annual Meetings to be held on**  
**Thursday, 4 April 2024, at 7.30pm in St Mary’s Church**

1. Welcome and opening prayers
2. Apologies

**Annual Parish Meeting**

1. Election of Churchwardens
2. Close of Meeting

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. Minutes of last meeting – Tuesday 21 February 2023
2. Matters Arising
3. Address - Revd. Canon Tim Heaton
4. Elections
  - Parochial Church Council Members - 12 places, 5 to be elected
  - Deanery Synod - 3 places, 1 to be elected
5. Appointments
  - a. Independent Examiner
6. Reports
  - a. Electoral Roll Report
  - b. Presentation of the Annual Report
  - c. Presentation of the Financial Report
  - d. Fabric Report
  - e. Presentation of the Inventory
  - f. Deanery Synod Report
  - g. Safeguarding Report
  - h. Reports of Church Groups

**First PCC Meeting**

1. Appointment of Officers
2. Date of next PCC meeting

Closing Prayer

**The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham**  
**‘Open to God, Open to Gillingham’**

**Minutes for the Annual Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**  
**held on Tuesday, 21 February, 2023 at 7.30pm in the VSR**

**Present:** Revd Canon Peter Greenwood (**Chair**), Revd Eve Pegler, Revd Angus Mayhew, Charlotte Armstrong, Martyn Sanger, Sarah Sanger, Susan Bailey, Meriol Cottrell, Richard Cowell, Teresa Goatham, Jeffrey and Carol Hall, Gillian Harding, Jean Harding, Linda and Alan Jeffs, Jennifer Light, Helen Long, Eileen Piper, Margaret Porter, Mary and Mike Sargent, Philippa Sargent, Sarah Snook, Lois and David Wardle, and Tom Wickson.

Apologies were received from Maureen Atkinson, Margaret Cowell, Margaret Grant, Colin and Anne Marsh, Jerome Pegler, Allen Walker and Cate Wickson

**Minutes of The Annual Vestry Meeting**

The Rev Canon Peter Greenwood opened the meeting with a welcome, a reading from Acts 2 and the Lord's Prayer. Peter talked about how many good things the early church celebrated, and how many good things we can celebrate looking back over the course of 2022. He reminded us that at an annual meeting it is sometimes easy to focus on the things which are lacking. Actually the picture is much more balanced there are many things to celebrate as well as things that may ask questions of us. Thus encouraged we went on with the meeting.

**Election of Church Wardens**

Nominations were received from Charlotte Armstrong and Martyn Sanger. There was therefore no need for an election and both were appointed as Church Wardens.

Charlotte and Martyn are both employed and are not free to devote as much time to warden duties as has been possible for past wardens who have enjoyed this post whilst being retired. It has been suggested that it might be helpful to have a group of six to eight people who might act as Warden Assistants to carry out duties such as opening the church, fulfilling warden duties on a Sunday morning, meeting builders etc. very occasionally and from time to time.

Richard Cowell, Margaret Cowell, Sarah Snook, David Wardle, Lois Wardle, and Tom Wickson volunteered to act in this capacity:

The Meeting closed and was followed immediately by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

**Minutes for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 February, 2022.**

The Minutes had been circulated before the meeting. There were no corrections to be made and their acceptance was proposed by Charlotte Armstrong and seconded by Sarah Snook. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes

### 3. Elections for new PCC Members

Teresa Goatham and Meriol Cottrell both agreed to stand for another term of office and Sarah Sanger was proposed by Mary Sargent and seconded by Helen Long. She was elected to the PCC for the three year term of office.

### Election of Synod Representatives

Cate Wickson and Sarah Snook agreed to continue as Representatives

### 4. Appointments

#### Independent Examiner for Accounts.

John Bartlett, a volunteer from Probus, has agreed to examine the Accounts for 2022. His acceptance was proposed by Mike Sargent and seconded by Sue Bailey. The proposal passed unanimously. Mike was thanked for his efforts to find an examiner.

### 5. Reports

a. Electoral Roll Report. The number on the Roll as at 21 February 2023 was 145. (For details see the pamphlet for 2023).

b. Presentation of the Annual Report by Revd Canon Peter Greenwood.

Peter spoke of all the good things that have been achieved by the church during the year. There is much to celebrate. He reminded us that the church is open every day of the year and large numbers of people come to services and for private prayer.

The church also plays an active part in the life of St Mary the Virgin School. Open the Book takes place regularly and new Foundation Governors are being appointed. Large numbers of children from the school visited the church during the year and the Christmas Service was very well attended.

The Vicarage School Room (VSR) is used for a variety of functions. Messy Church offers fun activities and worship for younger children and their parents. The weekly Friday Free Breakfast is a popular event for several families. Other members of the community can attend activities at the VSR which range from meditation to arts and crafts. The Eden Café provides a warm, comfortable and friendly meeting place twice a week.

c. Presentation of the Financial Report by the Treasurer, Michael Sargent.

Mike reported a significant deficit this year, although there had been generous legacies and donations. Planned Giving was down 3% on last year and out goings up 2%. Mike's projections suggest that our reserves will be gone by 2025. When asked for information about the Share in future years, Mike said he expected further increases as costs rise and congregations diminish.

Angus mentioned Anna Hardy's positive approach to fund raising from the wider community. Mike mentioned a possible central fund to which Dioceses could apply. **For the full report see the booklet entitled 'Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022'** Peter thanked Mike for his hard work and continuing investigations into St Mary's finances.

d. Presentation of the Inventory

Charlotte reported that there have been no additions or removals from the Inventory during the year. The Saxon Cross was on loan to a Museum but is still on St Mary's Inventory.

e. Fabric Report

It was reported that scaffolding would have to be used to investigate the leaks in the church roof. The guttering has been cleared of vegetation.

f. Deanery Synod Report by Cate Wickson

Four meetings had been scheduled for the year but one had been cancelled because of the Queen's death. The previous meeting had been an unsatisfactory Zoom one due to problems with both sound and vision systems. However, the meeting which dealt with Lay Ministry had been interesting and well presented.

g. Safeguarding Report by Carol Hall (Benefice Safeguarding Officer)

There have been changes in the Safeguarding Team at the diocese reflecting the introduction of a new computer system. This is to bring it in line with the national church.

It has not been a very busy year in the Benefice. I have been asked to verify two DBS applications, but Wendy Braithwaite from Milton has also verified several applications. Jeffrey attended a 'Safeguarding Leadership Pathway' course in March. As the PCC is a registered Charity, all its members are Trustees and therefore require DBS Certificates. On 1 December the PCC adopted the House of Bishop's Safeguarding Policy (Promoting a Safer Church). One issue concerning safeguarding arose and was dealt with by the clergy. No other issues have been brought to my attention.

h. Reports of Church Groups

Mothers' Union Report by Revd Jeffrey Hall

The MU is part of the world-wide fellowship within the Anglican Communion with more than three million members. We are but a small group, known as a Prayer and Fellowship group, one of only two in the Blackmore Vale Deanery.

We meet in the Vicarage School Room on the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of January and August. We plan our own programme which ranges from friendly social events to Bible studies, with speakers usually from within our own members. Our current membership is 10, but this is often boosted by others from the congregation.

In September we had a birthday celebration as Janet Botterill was 80 in August and I was 80 on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The following day I was admitted to Salisbury Hospital for 6 days and I had to take a 'back seat' for that part of the year.

Our meetings always begin with prayer and hymn singing with music, usually provided by David and Janet Botterill, for which we are very grateful. Anyone is always welcome to join us, whether as a member or just when the programme is of interest.

In April, Anne Kings will be speaking on Dementia Awareness.

### Bell Ringers' Report by Alan Jeffs

There are 9 regular ringers, with several more registered. Usually, all 8 bells are rung but sometimes only the lighter ones can be managed. (The largest bell weighs as much as 2½ 'mini' cars). Ringing is good fun and supports the church. More ringers would be welcome. The bells were rung for the Platinum Jubilee and also for the Queen's funeral, when they were muffled. They will ring again for the Coronation of Charles III.

### Messy church Report by Cate Wickson

Sessions are now held every month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, in the afternoon. There are usually 4 activities, one of which is always origami. Parents are becoming more involved with the activities. 36 families are on the role and each receives information about the next meeting. Average attendance is about 40, though the Christmas session hosted 66 people. The average age of the children is between 4 and 5 years old.

At the end of last year, a donation plate was introduced and the money collected covers the cost of the food and drink at tea time.

Planning meetings are held two weeks ahead of each session. Several people regularly bake cakes or biscuits and donate them.

### St Mary the Virgin School Report presented by Tom Wickson

Governors' meetings were reported to be good. It is easier to get into the School now that the Covid epidemic is under control. Tom mentioned the wide range of subjects on offer to the children. An unannounced Inspection by Ofsted took place recently. The full report should be available on the school website soon.

### Open the Book Report

These sessions started again in September. Years 1 and 2 are grouped together and enjoy the presentations, which happen twice a term at present. More readers/actors would be welcome. The School inspector seemed pleased with the production he saw.

## 6. Any Other Business

### Appointment of Sidespeople.

Charlotte proposed and Meriol seconded the re-appointment of Helen and Jeremy, Lois and David, Val and Bob, Meriol and Jennifer, Christine and Katherine, and Richard and Margaret as sidespeople. The proposal was accepted. All the sidespeople were thanked for their help. Charlotte also thanked the retired clergy, who do so much to help with the smooth running of St Mary's Church. She thanked Mike for the service he gives as sacristan and Carole in her vital role as Parish Secretary.

### Churches Together

There was a Walk of Witness this year and continual prayers for the unity of Christians. There will be no Churches Together activities during Lent but monthly lunches for ministers will resume after Easter.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the Month Services

These stopped during the Covid outbreak and have not started again. The School is still planning the use of their Hall.

### Thanking of Helpers

Peter thanked the named and un-named helpers who contribute so much to the life of the Church. Angus was welcomed and thanked for his participation in Church activities. Carole was thanked for carrying out her important role as Parish Secretary with great efficiency.

Philippa was thanked for setting up a new website using 'A Church Near You'.

Sue Bailey thanked the Choir and Organist.

Margaret Porter expressed her appreciation of the move to the VSR for Sunday Services, finding it easier to hear the choir and congregational responses. Mike pointed out that the transport of books, altar items and other equipment needed for the service from the church had been difficult.

The meeting closed and was followed immediately by a meeting of the newly elected PCC.

### **Minutes of the PCC meeting held on 21 February, 2023**

#### Election of Officers.

The proposal that Mike Sargent continue as Treasurer was put forward by Meriol and seconded by Martyn. The proposal passed unanimously.

Meriol was asked to continue as Secretary until a replacement was found.

**Date of the next PCC Meeting: Wednesday, 3 May 2023 at 7.30pm in the VSR.**

The meeting ended at 8.45pm with a reading from Acts 2 v.43-47 and The Grace.

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### **Statement of Accounts year ending 31 December 2023**

Please see separate booklet

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## **Reports and Information for the 2024 Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

### **Electoral Roll Report for APCM to be held on 4 April 2024**

The number on the Roll as at 31 December 2023 totalled 139.

### **Names added during 2023**

Kathryn Joy, Helen Saxton, Richard Cowell and Margaret Cowell.

### **Names removed during 2023**

Ray & Joan Palmer (moved), Lavinia Skevington (moved), David Grundy (moved) Susan Cooke (RIP), Thomas Brain (RIP), Joyce Rainey (RIP), Steve Young (RIP), Anne May (RIP)

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **Administrative Information**

Saint Mary the Virgin Church is situated in Queen Street, Gillingham, Dorset. It is part of the Benefice of Gillingham, Milton on Stour and Silton in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is c/o The Rectory, High Street, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4AJ.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC, Church Representation Rules 2020) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

PCC members that have served since 21 February 2023 until the date this report was approved are: -

Incumbent (Chairman): Vacant, previously Revd Canon Peter Greenwood (ex-officio)  
(left October 2023)

Pioneer Priest: Vacant, previously Revd Eve Pegler (ex-officio) (left July 2023)

Benefice Curate half time: Revd Angus Mayhew (ex-officio)

Churchwardens: Mrs Charlotte Armstrong (resigned June 2023)  
Mr Martyn Sanger (resigned May 2023)  
Mrs Helen Long (elected October 2023)  
Mr Tom Wickson (elected October 2023)

Deanery Synod Reps: Mrs Sarah Snook (to APCM 2026)  
Mrs Kate Wickson (to APCM 2026)

Lay Vice Chair: Mr Alan Jeffs (to APCM 2025)

Treasurer: Mr Michael Sargent (to APCM 2025)

Secretary: (Minutes) Miss Miriam Light (co-opted member July 2023)

Elected Members: Mrs Susan Bailey (to APCM 2026)  
Mrs Meriol Cottrell (resigned with effect from APCM 2024)  
Mr Richard Cowell (to APCM 2025)  
Mr Michael Giddings (to APCM 2025)  
Dr Teresa Goatham (to APCM 2026)  
Miss Jennifer Light (to APCM 2025)  
Mr Colin Marsh (resigned May 2023)  
Mrs Sarah Sanger (resigned October 2023)  
Mr Steve Young (RIP)

Parish Administrator & Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs Carole Blackmore

Gillingham Churches Together Representatives: Revd Canon Peter Greenwood – until October but now vacant

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Carol Hall and Mrs Sarah Snook

### **Aims and Purposes**

Every Church of England Church has the same aim: “To promote the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical”.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Members of the PCC are either elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules, or act ex officio. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

### **Objectives and Activities**

St. Mary's PCC as trustees have the responsibility of co-operating and working with the incumbent in the ecclesiastical parish of Gillingham, sharing in the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of Saint Mary the Virgin and the Vicarage School Room in Queen Street, Gillingham.

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **Church Attendance**

St Mary's Church was open for public worship throughout 2023 always in accordance with the guidance given by the Church of England. Sunday attendance averaged 65 with larger congregations at festivals such as Easter and Christmas and other special occasions. The midweek communion service regularly numbers 12.

We marked the coronation of His Majesty King Charles with Holy Communion 'A Celebration of the King's Coronation' on Sunday 7 May. We participated fully in the civic ceremonies held in our town. We celebrated the major festivals including Advent Carol Service, Burning of Ashes on Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Eve, School Leavers Service, Remembrance Sunday, Christingle, Crib Service, Christmas Midnight Mass and Christmas Day.

## **Statistics of Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms and Confirmations**

Baptisms	16
Weddings	1
Funerals at St Mary's	13
Funerals at Crematorium	14
Burial of ashes	6

## **Regular Services**

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday weekly	10.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday mornings	10.30am	Holy Communion
Thursday evenings fortnightly	7.15pm	Meditation
Saturday mornings fortnightly	10.30am	Meditation
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	3.30pm	Messy Church

Services were held for all significant festivals.

St Mary's Church is open daily between 10am and 4pm for quiet prayer and reflection.

## **REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2023**

During the year 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 the PCC met on six occasions with the Standing Committee meeting occasionally on a casual basis. The PCC continued using the 'Build' committee which looks after finance, housekeeping and buildings. The Christian Action Committee was reformed and the Grow Committee currently operates as part of Messy Church.

The Annual Parish and Annual Parochial Church Meetings were held on 21 February 2023.

We thanked and said goodbye to Revd Eve Pegler in July and Revd Canon Peter Greenwood in October.

In June the Revd. Angus Mayhew was ordained priest at Salisbury Cathedral supported by parishioners from both this benefice and Marnhull (who share his curacy).

During the course of the year our churchwardens Charlotte Armstrong and Martyn Sanger resigned. In October Helen Long and Tom Wickson were elected Churchwardens in their place.

Eden Café, opens twice weekly in the Vicarage School Room, enabling fellowship and service to the local community at the same time as contributing significantly to our fund raising. Recycling continued alongside Eden although there may be some changes to what is collected in 2024 (December minutes).

The meditation group continues to thrive.

Messy Church met on a monthly basis when possible throughout 2023 and new families were regularly welcomed. The church's work with local schools continues through the work of governors, collective worship, and Open the Book.

Our annual stewardship appeal was launched as usual on Passion Sunday and again resulted with individual increases to planned giving. However, with deaths and moves out of the area we have seen a decrease in planned giving and overall income.

The PCC continues to manage the maintenance of the church.

The Key Holder List is regularly updated.

Risk Assessments are routine and various policy documents are available.

## **FINANCE REPORT SUMMARY**

Please see separate booklet

## **RESERVES POLICY**

It is current PCC policy to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds that equates to three months outgoings in order to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. With finances such as they are and to ensure that these reserves can be maintained into the future the PCC approved the treasurer's suggestion to cancel the Direct Debit for the Diocesan Share by the end of 2023 so that the PCC pays only what our finances allow.

## **FABRIC REPORT**

The fabric of St Mary's continues to cause concern, especially as there are still areas where the rain can be driven in, depending upon the direction of the weather. The repairs to the northwest nave aisle roof carried out by Ellis of Shepton Mallet under the wardenship of our predecessors have been valuable and successful, though the water staining on the paintwork on the northeast section of the tower (facing into the nave) remains unsightly. We are advised to wait two years to allow the stones to dry out fully before repainting.

The church architect we have employed for a number of years has left the practice for which he worked and set up on his own account. The PCC decided it would prefer to remain with the larger organisation and we have appointed Tomas Griffin of b2 Architects of Wedmore to be our architect. He is on the diocesan list of approved architects. This is a Quinquennial Inspection year for St Mary's and at the time of writing May 7<sup>th</sup> has been pencilled in as the date for Mr Griffin to come and look over the building in detail. On an acquainting visit, we drew his attention to what concerns us, particularly the roofs.

We have received a complaint from a couple who recently moved into St Mary's Court that the bells ring loudly on Sundays and at practice on Mondays and that the clock chimes keep them awake at night. The Ringing Coordinator, Alan Jeffs, has been in touch with Smiths of Derby who maintain the clock. They have quoted a figure of approximately £2,500 plus VAT to install a mechanism to allow the chimes to be turned off at night.

The sound system has been augmented with a Bluetooth device to allow music to be played from mobile phones, iPads, etc. This is used chiefly at funerals. The whole sound system keeps working but is old and fussy in its habits. We have been quoted £11,700 (including VAT) to replace it and at this time of financial stringency we do not feel able to go ahead with such a large investment. We also feel that it would be reasonable to wait until a new rector is appointed and canvas their ideas on the subject.

The Town Council has considered in the recent past rebuilding the churchyard wall nearest Spring Corner and re-doing the churchyard paths and the steps leading towards the Parish Office. They too are feeling the limiting effects of inflation and economic stagnation, so there is no progress to report at this time.

The Vicarage School Room is busier than ever, having taken on a number of bookings from the now closed Methodist Church hall. Perhaps most important of these is the Gillingham Community Cinema. The Methodists very kindly allocated funds from their closing accounts to pay for moving the screen, projector, sound system, etc to the VSR. We hope that this may add to Eden Café as one of our major fund-raising initiatives.

*Helen Long and Tom Wickson, Churchwardens*

### **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT**

We have two synod members, Kate Wickson and Sarah Snook. I was at two of the last three meetings.

In May we met in Shillingstone church for a presentation on Giving and Fundraising by Anna Hardy. As suggested at this meeting, we now have a bank card reader in church. We then had a meeting at Stalbridge primary school where we discussed finances and the new Deanery Plan. We were asked to take this away to consider.

Our most recent meeting was here in St Mary's VSR, on January 16<sup>th</sup>. We looked at the final, and adopted, Deanery Plan, and considered in groups how we might be able to implement actions to respond to it in our parishes.

It is always very good to meet with people from across the Deanery and discover we all share very similar worries and problems but are all struggling on together.

*Kate Wickson, Deanery Synod Representative*

### **SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

The Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO's) are Sarah Snook and Carol Hall. Some members have completed training and have a DBS. There have been a few safeguarding incidents that have needed to be dealt with over the past year.

PSO Sarah Snook is currently working with the team and Salisbury Safeguarding Team to ensure everyone has a DBS if needed and that they have, or will, undertake the relevant safeguarding training online as soon as possible.

*Sarah Snook, Parish Safeguarding Officer*

### **MESSY CHURCH**

We have now settled into a successful format that we are all happy with and seems to suit our families. We offer Messy Church monthly, usually on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, from 3.30pm to approximately 5pm in the VSR.

We try to stay in step with the church year but have also looked at creation and Baptism, baptising a doll. The children loved this session.

Anne Heywood is our regular worship leader and uses her wonderful ability to connect with the children most effectively. When she was away one time we used a video of her that Sarah Snook and I spoke to. The children really believed she was there and were very keen to find our lost sheep for her.

We have a wonderful team of helpers, always creative and great with the families. I am very grateful for their willingness and enthusiasm.

We have a pretty regular group of families that come. We usually have approximately 30 to 35 people attending, parents and children. And we all sit down to a lovely tea together to end each session.

I am delighted we can offer Messy Church to families in our community.

*Kate Wickson*

### **SMTV SCHOOL REPORT**

The school has had to adapt since September to a new regime of Jen Williamson, previously Deputy Head Teacher as Head of School and Matt Barge as Executive Head. This is a compromise in terms of time as Jen teaches a class two days a week and Matt is only in school two days per week. He is also head of 2 other schools. These arrangements are made by Sherborne Area Schools' Trust (SAST) of which St Mary's is part.

But despite real challenges with staff absence because of sickness last term standards of work in the classroom remain high and the children's behaviour is very good. The children are taught to respect their Christian values, through prayers and reminders in class, and in worship.

Open the Book sessions are seen as part of the school's worship activity. We are still able to send a team in every week to share Bible stories with the children in years R, 1 and 2. Many thanks to those who volunteer for this very worthwhile and enjoyable task.

*Kate Wickson*

### **CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The committee was reformed during the year, but with only 2 members at present we are limited in what we can do. Mostly this involves money raising activities for charities that the church supports, as well as distributing harvest gifts. Some activities that fall under the remit of this committee are (thankfully) done by other members of the congregation, and so do not currently need our active involvement. We have picked up the Church of England Children's Society activities, and thank Janet Botterill for doing this for the last few years, and her continued support. I am currently bringing the church Traidcraft Stall to an end, but will continue to promote Fairtrade. We hope shortly to review our eco church position - are we doing what we should be (for our current award?) and if there more can we do?

More committee members would be welcome - you do not have to be on the PCC.

*Teresa Goatham*

## **BELL RINGERS**

We have managed to ring for the Sunday morning Eucharist services throughout the year, and also for the national event of the coronation of King Charles 111, Remembrance Sunday, and the Town Carol Service.

The regular ringing band is small in number, reduced due to long-term sickness; we are often helped by ringers from other towers, and would welcome a few more recruits (young or not so young) willing to learn to ring on our ring of eight bells. Ringing is good exercise for mind and body, is a service to the church, and good fun as well! Practice night is on Monday evenings (excluding bank holidays).

If any member of the congregation would like to see us 'in action' on a Sunday morning or practice night, we are happy to arrange this.

*Alan Jeffs, Ringing co-ordinator*

## **IMPACT MAGAZINE**

Impact, the parish magazine produced 10 editions this year but regrettably December 2023 was the last issue as no volunteers came forward to act as either editor or advertising administrator.

## **PARISH OFFICE**

Mrs Carole Blackmore looks after the whole benefice dealing with all day to day enquiries, arranging weddings, funerals, baptisms, taking VSR bookings, liaising with all elected parish officers, organising and printing the weekly newsletters, the collating and printing of Impact until publication ceased, and keeping the administration in good order. There is also a pastoral element to her role in the office in listening to and dealing with parishioners queries and supporting the clergy.

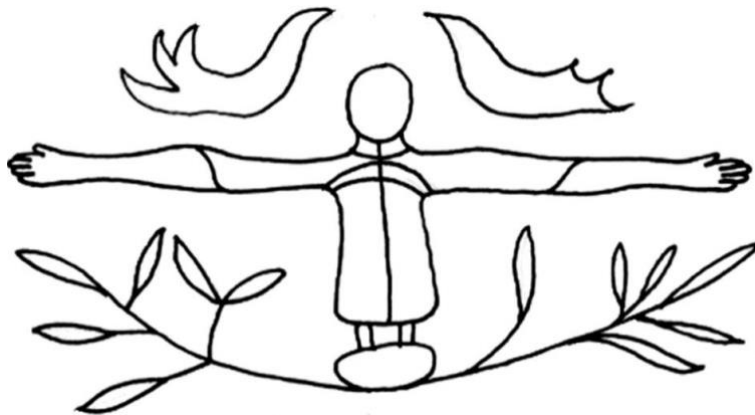
## **THE VICARAGE SCHOOL ROOM (VSR)**

Our church hall has become more and more a community hub. We now have Gillingham Repair Café, country dancing, pilates, the local community cinema, and our community café, Eden café, Friday Breakfast and Board Games Afternoon running from this building. Occasional events include Art and Craft Events, Lent Lunches, various fundraising pop-ups, and it is also popular for hire for children's parties when there is a free slot. A family of Syrian refugees run Syrian Cuisine, their takeaway and restaurant, from these premises on Friday and Saturday evenings. It is the place where St Mary's congregation gather for coffee after Sunday morning Eucharist.

Diocese of Salisbury

# *The Parish Church of Saint Mary the Virgin*

Gillingham, Dorset



*'Open to God, Open to Gillingham'*

Statement of Accounts  
for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Registered Charity Number 1158272



## Overview of Finances as of 31 December 2023

As you can see from the 2023 Statement of Accounts the bottom line has gone from bad at the end of 2022 to worse in 2023 with a new deficit of £29,097, reducing our reserves still further. The bottom line arises from greater expenses of which diocesan share, diocesan fees, energy and insurance alone amounting to £114,617 exceeding our real income – (real income excludes transfers from restricted funds).

Likewise, income is reduced with Planned Giving again down as sadly some of our church family have moved on or have departed this life (RIP) and others, due to cost-of-living impact, are reviewing their giving, mostly downwards. The effect is that Planned Giving has reduced by 4.2% against a previous longer-term trend of 3.3%. However, income for this year only, was boosted by claiming an extra £4,822 Gift Aid (the overall total of £19,239 covered the previous 18 months).

Fees relating to funerals and weddings (both received and paid) reduced significantly in 2023 as there was a weddings bonanza in 2022 following delays caused by Covid.

VSR rental again improved and continues to increase as we pick up bookings from what was the Methodist Hall, but this has consequentially increased running costs and complicates cleaning.

Fund Raising has again provided a most welcome income stream of some £6,250 from Eden, Sunday coffee and Repair Café donations and other events such as the welcome Plant Sale. This was however down against budget as the sale of loose goods ceased early in the year. We must congratulate all involved in fundraising because it was indeed a goodly sum that was raised.

Other variances can be seen on examination of the Statement of Accounts.

The deficits of 2022 and 2023 are clearly unsustainable. As things currently stand, with our projected income and including all of our available reserves, we have insufficient funds to pay the 2024 diocesan share in full. With PCC agreement, I have therefore produced a balanced budget for 2024 that will maintain our reserves at their current level into the future. To achieve this, we have cancelled the Direct Debit with Diocese and will use our Diocesan Share contribution as the balancing item which, in 'plain speak', means only paying what our finances allow. This is likely to be just 44% of the £91,544 that diocese have requested for 2024, although it can be adjusted either way depending how our finances develop. The downside of all churches struggling to fully meet their share request is that clergy numbers would likely be affected across the diocese. However, Diocese are changing the way the Share is calculated in 2025 though it is not possible to know quite how that will affect us in the longer term, but it is envisaged that the system will be phased in over 4 years in order to keep the increases for those whose Share will rise to reasonable amounts. Those whose Share will decrease will be pegged at the 2024 share ask for a further 2 years and this will fund the phasing in of the increases. Decreases will be applied in a phased manner in years 3 and 4 of the transition period.

The Fabric Fund remains reasonably healthy with over £35,000 available, which is just as well with a leaking nave roof requiring attention. The Fabric Fund also contributes 50% of the cost of church/VSR insurance which is generally slightly less than its income from investments thus ensuring that the fund is not reduced by this methodology. The Pioneer Fund stands at £34,164 but that is only available for mission related tasks. So, superficially it may appear that there is more money available than the above commentary suggests but all the funds labelled as 'restricted', or 'investment' cannot be used for general purposes.

At this time, it is therefore very appropriate to be thankful for the reserves secured by our forebears without which we would have not met our commitments over the last couple of years.

Mike Sargent - Hon. Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR TO DATE  
GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Budget 2023	Budget to 31/12/2023	Actual 31/12/2023	Whole Year 2022	
	£		£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Incoming resources from donors					
Planned giving	55000	55000	49146	51320.4	
Collections and other giving	5100	5100	7187.83	5566.35	
Tax recovered	15000	15000	19238.75	7959.1	
				75572.58	64845.85
Other voluntary incoming resources					
Legacies	2000	2000	3244.37	8500	
Donations	4025	4025	3508.49	7483.18	
Grants	300	300	793.16	952.4	
				7546.02	16935.58
Income from operating activities to further the work of the church					
Impact magazine	2260	2260	1168	2432	
Rent from VSR	5200	5200	6500	5191.2	
Fundraising	10200	10200	6520.38	9243.81	
Fees	13000	13000	10450	23133.29	
				24638.38	40000.3
Income from investments					
Bank interest	200	200	1436.57	815.92	
Central costs paid by Milton	2450	2450	2294.02	2349.62	
Central costs paid by Silton	2450	2450	2327.92	2306.88	
Transfers from restricted funds	3200	3200	12301	5459.92	
				18359.51	10932.34
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>120385</b>	<b>120385</b>		<b>126116.49</b>	<b>132714.07</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Grants					
Home charities & misc charges, etc.	200	200	1219.41	1786.01	
				1219.41	1786.01
Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Diocesan parish share	88433	88433	88433.4	85857.72	
Church running expenses	16300	16300	17068.71	10380.15	
VSR running expenses	7150	7150	7667.86	3783.68	
Clergy expenses	1000	1000	741.95	929.7	
Cost of services	1040	1040	859.21	1002.53	
Cost of fundraising	150	150	571.67	168.8	
Church capital expenses	3000	3000	7384.71	331.2	
VSR capital expenses	1000	1000	2702.38	3666.08	
Salaries and honoraria	13760	13760	14013.37	15295.33	
Mission and evangelism	1700	1700	908.03	1947.43	
				140351.29	123362.62
Church management and administration					
Office costs	4400	4400	4140.13	4462.17	
Assigned fees	5700	5700	7092.6	11332	
Bank charges	0	0	0	0	
				11232.73	15794.17
Transfers to restricted funds	3900	3900	2410	3960	
				2410	3960
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>147733</b>	<b>147733</b>		<b>155213.43</b>	<b>144902.8</b>
Excess - Gross Receipts minus Gross Payments	-27348	-27348		-29096.94	-12188.73
Total opening funds held				70423.29	82612.02
Total closing funds held				41326.35 Note 1	70423.29
			Checksum	41326.35	
Opening reserved funds available for general use (inc. Legacy Fund)				66517.92	
Closing reserved funds available for general use (inc. Legacy Fund)				37735.51	

Note 1      35410.21 is currently held for singular purposes (includes Misc and Legacy Funds)

GENERAL FUND BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation

DATE: 31/12/2023

LEDGER	C/F from 31.12.22	70423.29
	Plus Receipts YTD	126116.49
	Minus Payments YTD	155213.43
	SO's in bank but outstanding to Ledger	0.00
	Total	41326.35
BANK	Santander current	10824.06
@ 30/09/22	CCLA deposit	30423.17
	Plus cash	393.75
	Flower cash	315.55 Held in Church Safe
	Plus Cheques to be paid in	0.00
	Plus uncleared credits	1160.12
	Minus uncashed cheques	1040.30
	Minus uncleared debits	0.00
		0.00
		0.00
	Gillingham Shaftesbury Show	750.00 Not in Ledger- Non church assets
		0.00
	Total	41326.35

Difference 0.00

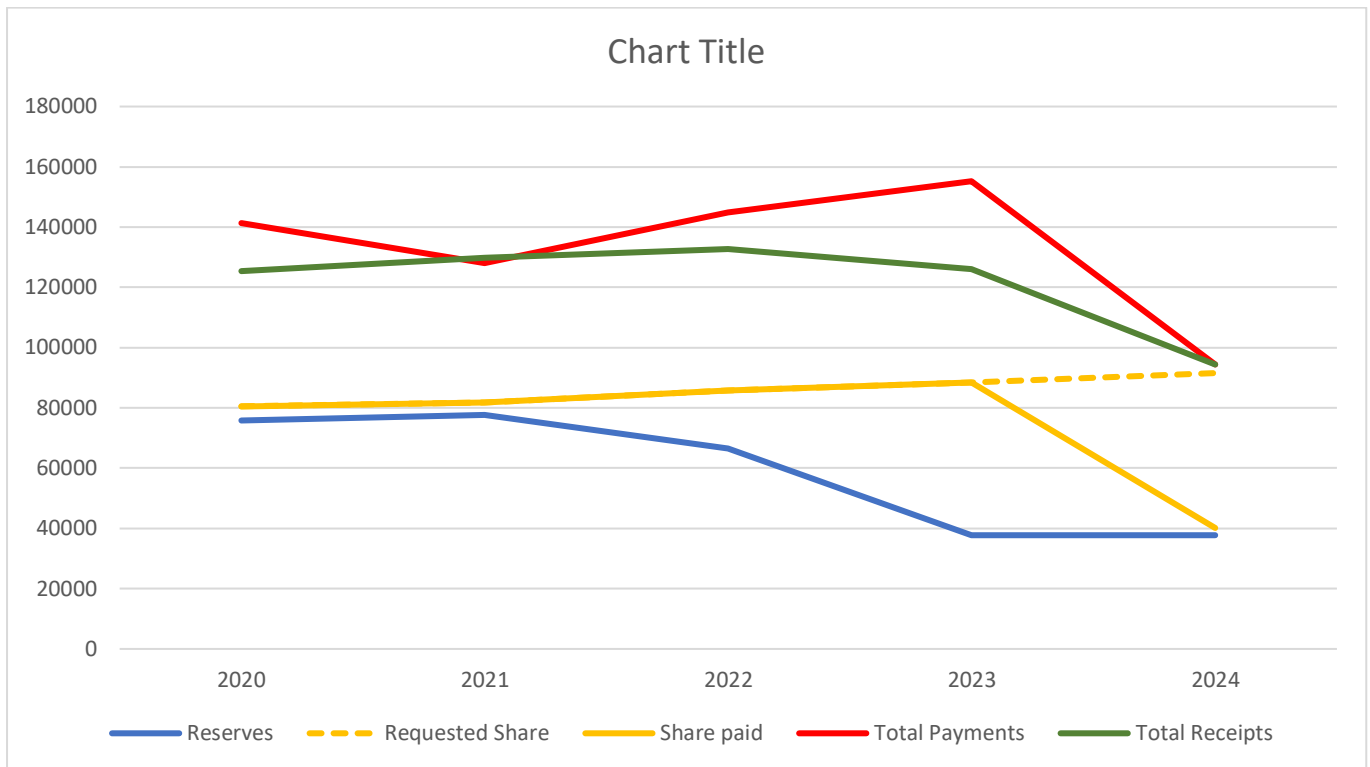
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR 31/12/2023

	GENERAL FUND	RESTRICTED FUNDS				INVESTMENT FUNDS		
	SANTANDER 97333084 CCLA 634117003D CB3034452	Fabric Fund CCLA 634117001D CB3034449	Carlton Cross CCLA 634117002D CB3034451	Choir Fund CCLA 634117006D CB3034453	Pioneer Pot CCLA 634117007D CB3034454	Administered by Diocese		
Monetary assets at 31.12.22	70423.29	41119.63	7289.82	1311.24	31563.80	Nurse Reid CCLA 634117001S CB3034450	Church Trust CCLA 134001358S CB3015378-001	Carlton Cross CCLA 134001343S CB3015372-001
						Bid market valuation		
						136779.09	3551.71	12665.94
RECEIPTS								
Net receipts	112378.92							
Donations								
Interest	1436.57	1120.62	333.12	41.27	1025.39			
Income from other CCLA investments		4199.89	283.09					
Investment gain/loss								
Transfers in	12301.00	835.00	0.00	0.00	1575.00			
PAYMENTS								
Net payments	152803.43							
Transfers out	2410.00	12167.00	0.00	134.00	0.00			
Monetary assets at last reconciliation	41326.35	35108.14	7906.03	1218.51	34164.19	149760.11	3888.79	13857.05

Checksum 41326.35

GENERAL FUND APPORTIONMENT  
@ reconciliation

	£	2023	£	2022 (Year end)
NON-SPECIFIC (UNRESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	37942.92			
Receipts	122488.82			
Payments	154515.6			
Funds YTD		5916.14		37942.92
LEGACY FUND (UNRESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	28575			
Receipts	3244.37			
Payments	0			
Funds YTD		31819.37		28575
FREE BREAKFAST FRIDAY (DESIGNATED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	851.92			
Receipts	5.6			
Payments	327.23			
Funds YTD		530.29		851.92
BELL RINGERS (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	2546.5			
Receipts	88.7			
Payments	0			
Funds YTD		2635.2		2546.5
BIBLES for SCHOOLS (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	96.4			
Receipts	209			
Payments	285.6			
Funds YTD		19.8		96.4
MOTHERS UNION (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	90			
Receipts	0			
Payments	0			
Funds YTD		90		90
CHURCH FLOWERS (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	320.55			
Receipts	80			
Payments	85			
Funds YTD		315.55		320.55
TOTAL		41326.35		70423.29
Of which misc funds (inc Legacy Fund)		35410.21		32480.37
Of which misc funds (NOT inc Legacy Fund)		3590.84		3905.37
Total misc receipts		3627.67		
Total misc payments		697.83		
Ecess receipts over payments		2929.84		



The above graph is intended to highlight how we intend to bring our finances firmly under control.

The Green line indicates our projected income.

The Yellow dotted line shows the Share request allocated to St. Mary's, whereas the solid yellow line indicates what we have budgeted to pay.

The consequence of paying this reduced share is that our total expenditure (red line) drops to match our income resulting in the flatlining of our reserves.

All of the above is, of course, based on projected figures and we will monitor income and expenditure throughout the year and make adjustments to maintain a balanced set of accounts.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's  
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical parish of St. Mary's,  
Gillingham, Dorset

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Charity no  
(if any) 1158272

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above  
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation  
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act  
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out  
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I  
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission  
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have  
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with  
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material  
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of  
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and 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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

*John Bartlett*

Date: 14.03.24

Name:

JOHN BARTLETT

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

SHICKOTTS COTTAGE  
MILTON ON STOUR, GILLINGHAM  
DORSET SP8 5QD

## Section B

## Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

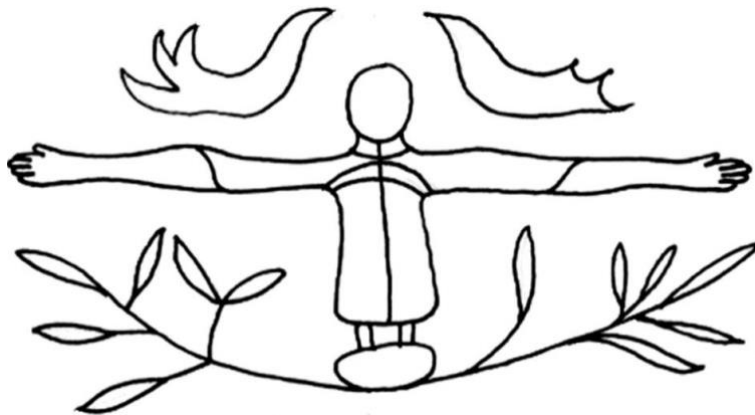
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

<p>14/03/23</p>	<p>Charity name (if any)</p>	<p>On accounts for the year ended</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>Set out on pages</p>
<p>I report in respect of the trustees of the Charity (the Trustees) for the year ended 31/03/23. As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).</p> <p>I report in respect of my examination of the Trustees' accounts called out under section 143 of the Act. I did not in carrying out my examination have followed the applicable provisions given by the Charities Commission under section 143(2)(b) of the Act.</p> <p>I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which have caused me to believe that the accounts are not true and correct in all material respects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 120 of the Act or</li> <li>• The accounts do not accord with the accounting records</li> </ul> <p>I have no comments and have signed reports on other matters if completed with the examination in which attention should be drawn to other matters of concern relating to the accounts for the year.</p> <p>I have signed the report in the booklet if they do not say.</p>		
<p>Date: 14/03/23</p>	<p></p>	<p>Signed:</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>Name:</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>Relaxed professional (profession or body, if any)</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>Address:</p>

Diocese of Salisbury

# *The Parish Church of Saint Mary the Virgin*

Gillingham, Dorset



*'Open to God, Open to Gillingham'*

Statement of Accounts  
for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Registered Charity Number 1158272



## Overview of Finances as of 31 December 2023

As you can see from the 2023 Statement of Accounts the bottom line has gone from bad at the end of 2022 to worse in 2023 with a new deficit of £29,097, reducing our reserves still further. The bottom line arises from greater expenses of which diocesan share, diocesan fees, energy and insurance alone amounting to £114,617 exceeding our real income – (real income excludes transfers from restricted funds).

Likewise, income is reduced with Planned Giving again down as sadly some of our church family have moved on or have departed this life (RIP) and others, due to cost-of-living impact, are reviewing their giving, mostly downwards. The effect is that Planned Giving has reduced by 4.2% against a previous longer-term trend of 3.3%. However, income for this year only, was boosted by claiming an extra £4,822 Gift Aid (the overall total of £19,239 covered the previous 18 months).

Fees relating to funerals and weddings (both received and paid) reduced significantly in 2023 as there was a weddings bonanza in 2022 following delays caused by Covid.

VSR rental again improved and continues to increase as we pick up bookings from what was the Methodist Hall, but this has consequentially increased running costs and complicates cleaning.

Fund Raising has again provided a most welcome income stream of some £6,250 from Eden, Sunday coffee and Repair Café donations and other events such as the welcome Plant Sale. This was however down against budget as the sale of loose goods ceased early in the year. We must congratulate all involved in fundraising because it was indeed a goodly sum that was raised.

Other variances can be seen on examination of the Statement of Accounts.

The deficits of 2022 and 2023 are clearly unsustainable. As things currently stand, with our projected income and including all of our available reserves, we have insufficient funds to pay the 2024 diocesan share in full. With PCC agreement, I have therefore produced a balanced budget for 2024 that will maintain our reserves at their current level into the future. To achieve this, we have cancelled the Direct Debit with Diocese and will use our Diocesan Share contribution as the balancing item which, in 'plain speak', means only paying what our finances allow. This is likely to be just 44% of the £91,544 that diocese have requested for 2024, although it can be adjusted either way depending how our finances develop. The downside of all churches struggling to fully meet their share request is that clergy numbers would likely be affected across the diocese. However, Diocese are changing the way the Share is calculated in 2025 though it is not possible to know quite how that will affect us in the longer term, but it is envisaged that the system will be phased in over 4 years in order to keep the increases for those whose Share will rise to reasonable amounts. Those whose Share will decrease will be pegged at the 2024 share ask for a further 2 years and this will fund the phasing in of the increases. Decreases will be applied in a phased manner in years 3 and 4 of the transition period.

The Fabric Fund remains reasonably healthy with over £35,000 available, which is just as well with a leaking nave roof requiring attention. The Fabric Fund also contributes 50% of the cost of church/VSR insurance which is generally slightly less than its income from investments thus ensuring that the fund is not reduced by this methodology. The Pioneer Fund stands at £34,164 but that is only available for mission related tasks. So, superficially it may appear that there is more money available than the above commentary suggests but all the funds labelled as 'restricted', or 'investment' cannot be used for general purposes.

At this time, it is therefore very appropriate to be thankful for the reserves secured by our forebears without which we would have not met our commitments over the last couple of years.

Mike Sargent - Hon. Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR TO DATE  
GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Budget 2023	Budget to 31/12/2023	Actual 31/12/2023	Whole Year 2022	
	£		£      £	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Incoming resources from donors					
Planned giving	55000	55000	49146	51320.4	
Collections and other giving	5100	5100	7187.83	5566.35	
Tax recovered	15000	15000	19238.75	7959.1	
				75572.58	64845.85
Other voluntary incoming resources					
Legacies	2000	2000	3244.37	8500	
Donations	4025	4025	3508.49	7483.18	
Grants	300	300	793.16	952.4	
				7546.02	16935.58
Income from operating activities to further the work of the church					
Impact magazine	2260	2260	1168	2432	
Rent from VSR	5200	5200	6500	5191.2	
Fundraising	10200	10200	6520.38	9243.81	
Fees	13000	13000	10450	23133.29	
				24638.38	40000.3
Income from investments					
Bank interest	200	200	1436.57	815.92	
Central costs paid by Milton	2450	2450	2294.02	2349.62	
Central costs paid by Silton	2450	2450	2327.92	2306.88	
Transfers from restricted funds	3200	3200	12301	5459.92	
				18359.51	10932.34
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>120385</b>	<b>120385</b>		<b>126116.49</b>	<b>132714.07</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Grants					
Home charities & misc charges, etc.	200	200	1219.41	1786.01	
				1219.41	1786.01
Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Diocesan parish share	88433	88433	88433.4	85857.72	
Church running expenses	16300	16300	17068.71	10380.15	
VSR running expenses	7150	7150	7667.86	3783.68	
Clergy expenses	1000	1000	741.95	929.7	
Cost of services	1040	1040	859.21	1002.53	
Cost of fundraising	150	150	571.67	168.8	
Church capital expenses	3000	3000	7384.71	331.2	
VSR capital expenses	1000	1000	2702.38	3666.08	
Salaries and honoraria	13760	13760	14013.37	15295.33	
Mission and evangelism	1700	1700	908.03	1947.43	
				140351.29	123362.62
Church management and administration					
Office costs	4400	4400	4140.13	4462.17	
Assigned fees	5700	5700	7092.6	11332	
Bank charges	0	0	0	0	
				11232.73	15794.17
Transfers to restricted funds	3900	3900	2410	3960	
				2410	3960
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>147733</b>	<b>147733</b>		<b>155213.43</b>	<b>144902.8</b>
<b>Excess - Gross Receipts minus Gross Payments</b>	<b>-27348</b>	<b>-27348</b>		<b>-29096.94</b>	<b>-12188.73</b>
Total opening funds held				70423.29	82612.02
Total closing funds held				41326.35 Note 1	70423.29
			Checksum	41326.35	
Opening reserved funds available for general use (inc. Legacy Fund)				66517.92	
Closing reserved funds available for general use (inc. Legacy Fund)				37735.51	

Note 1      35410.21 is currently held for singular purposes (includes Misc and Legacy Funds)

GENERAL FUND BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation

DATE: 31/12/2023

LEDGER	C/F from 31.12.22	70423.29
	Plus Receipts YTD	126116.49
	Minus Payments YTD	155213.43
	SO's in bank but outstanding to Ledger	0.00
	Total	41326.35
BANK	Santander current	10824.06
@ 30/09/22	CCLA deposit	30423.17
	Plus cash	393.75
	Flower cash	315.55 Held in Church Safe
	Plus Cheques to be paid in	0.00
	Plus uncleared credits	1160.12
	Minus uncashed cheques	1040.30
	Minus uncleared debits	0.00
		0.00
		0.00
	Gillingham Shaftesbury Show	750.00 Not in Ledger- Non church assets
		0.00
	Total	41326.35

Difference 0.00

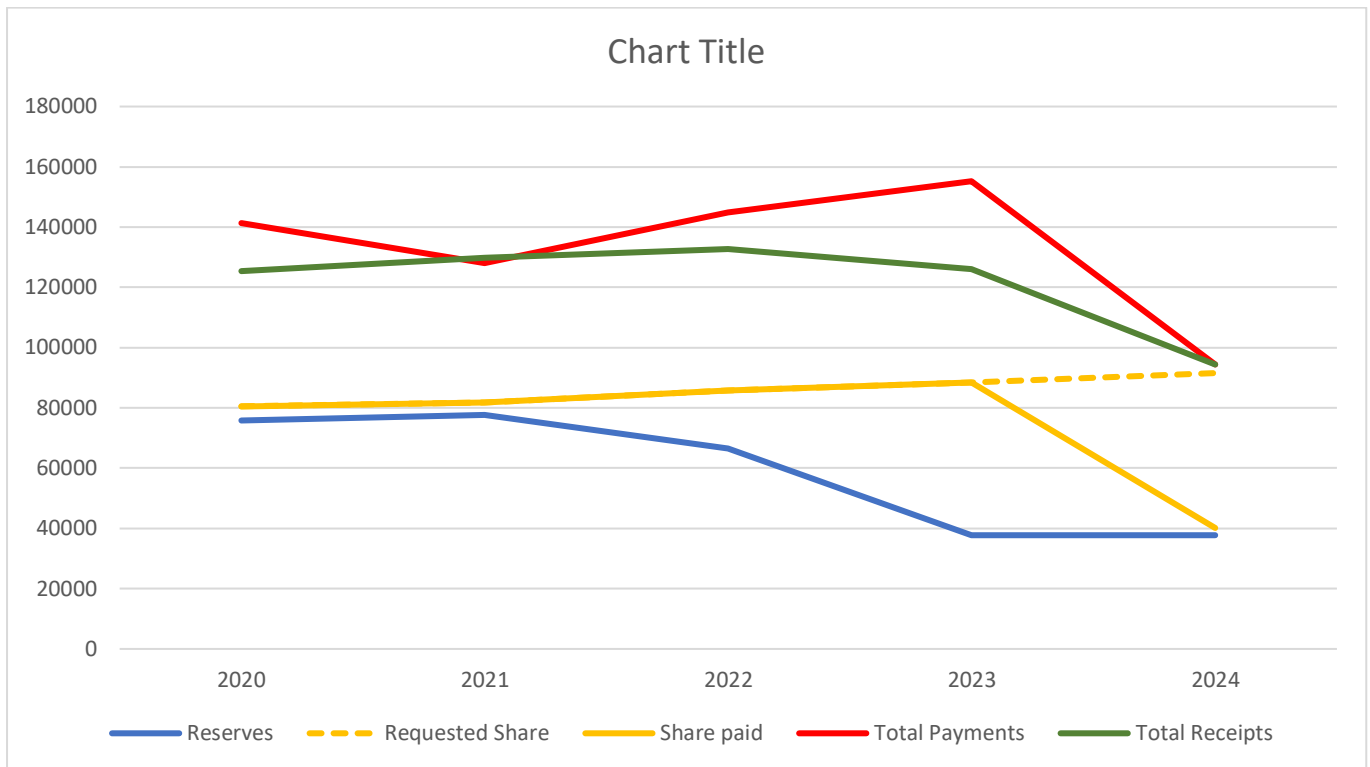
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR 31/12/2023

	GENERAL FUND SANTANDER 97333084 CCLA 634117003D CB3034452	RESTRICTED FUNDS				INVESTMENT FUNDS		
		Fabric Fund CCLA 634117001D CB3034449	Carlton Cross CCLA 634117002D CB3034451	Choir Fund CCLA 634117006D CB3034453	Pioneer Pot CCLA 634117007D CB3034454	Administered by Diocese		
						Nurse Reid CCLA 634117001S CB3034450	Church Trust CCLA 134001358S CB3015378-001	Carlton Cross CCLA 134001343S CB3015372-001
						Bid market valuation		
Monetary assets at 31.12.22	70423.29	41119.63	7289.82	1311.24	31563.80	136779.09	3551.71	12665.94
RECEIPTS								
Net receipts	112378.92							
Donations								
Interest	1436.57	1120.62	333.12	41.27	1025.39			
Income from other CCLA investments		4199.89	283.09					
Investment gain/loss								
Transfers in	12301.00	835.00	0.00	0.00	1575.00			
PAYMENTS								
Net payments	152803.43							
Transfers out	2410.00	12167.00	0.00	134.00	0.00			
Monetary assets at last reconciliation	41326.35	35108.14	7906.03	1218.51	34164.19	149760.11	3888.79	13857.05

Checksum 41326.35

GENERAL FUND APPORTIONMENT  
@ reconciliation

	£	2023	£	2022 (Year end)
NON-SPECIFIC (UNRESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	37942.92			
Receipts	122488.82			
Payments	154515.6			
Funds YTD		5916.14		37942.92
LEGACY FUND (UNRESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	28575			
Receipts	3244.37			
Payments	0			
Funds YTD		31819.37		28575
FREE BREAKFAST FRIDAY (DESIGNATED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	851.92			
Receipts	5.6			
Payments	327.23			
Funds YTD		530.29		851.92
BELL RINGERS (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	2546.5			
Receipts	88.7			
Payments	0			
Funds YTD		2635.2		2546.5
BIBLES for SCHOOLS (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	96.4			
Receipts	209			
Payments	285.6			
Funds YTD		19.8		96.4
MOTHERS UNION (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	90			
Receipts	0			
Payments	0			
Funds YTD		90		90
CHURCH FLOWERS (RESTRICTED)				
Funds at 31.12.22	320.55			
Receipts	80			
Payments	85			
Funds YTD		315.55		320.55
TOTAL		41326.35		70423.29
Of which misc funds (inc Legacy Fund)		35410.21		32480.37
Of which misc funds (NOT inc Legacy Fund)		3590.84		3905.37
Total misc receipts		3627.67		
Total misc payments		697.83		
Ecess receipts over payments		2929.84		



The above graph is intended to highlight how we intend to bring our finances firmly under control.

The Green line indicates our projected income.

The Yellow dotted line shows the Share request allocated to St. Mary's, whereas the solid yellow line indicates what we have budgeted to pay.

The consequence of paying this reduced share is that our total expenditure (red line) drops to match our income resulting in the flatlining of our reserves.

All of the above is, of course, based on projected figures and we will monitor income and expenditure throughout the year and make adjustments to maintain a balanced set of accounts.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's  
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary's,  
Gillingham, Dorset

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Charity no  
(if any) 1158272

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above  
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation  
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act  
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out  
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I  
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission  
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have  
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with  
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material  
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of  
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and 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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

*John Bartlett*

Date: 14.03.24

Name:

JOHN BARTLETT

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

SPICKETTS COTTAGE  
MILTON ON STOUR, GILLINGHAM  
DORSET SP8 5QD

## Disclosure

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

<p>Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.</p>	<p>The following Church of the Evangelical...</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1985-1986</p>	<p>1985-1986</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1987-1988</p>	<p>1987-1988</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1989-1990</p>	<p>1989-1990</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1991-1992</p>	<p>1991-1992</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1993-1994</p>	<p>1993-1994</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1995-1996</p>	<p>1995-1996</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1997-1998</p>	<p>1997-1998</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>1999-2000</p>	<p>1999-2000</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>
<p>2001-2002</p>	<p>2001-2002</p>	<p>Report to the President...</p>