

Parish of Bewsborough



Loving God,
loving our communities,
growing disciples.

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31st December 2023**

Incumbent
Rev. Sean Sheffield

Bank
Santander UK plc
Bridle Road
Bootle
Merseyside L30 4GB

Independent Examiner
R F Bavington-Jones, FCA
13 Park Avenue
Dover
Kent CT16 1ES

Charity Number 116 8561

PARISH OF BEWSBOROUGH
Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2023
Charity Number 116 8561

Administration Information

The Parish of Bewsborough is the representative body of the following churches:

St Nicholas, Barfreestone
St Pancras, Coldred
St Peter and St Paul, Eythorne and Elvington
St Andrews, Shepherdswell
St Peters, Whitfield
St Martin's, Guston (from August 2023 but remaining financially independent until January 2024)

The Parish of Bewsborough falls within the Deanery of Dover and is part of the Diocese of Canterbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is 2 New Purchase Cottages, Old Farmhouse Lane, Pike Road, Eythorne, CT15 4DJ.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006). The Parish has achieved charitable status. Individually the churches have been excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members who have served from 28/05/2023 until the date of the report's approval are:

Ex officio members:

Incumbent	Reverend Sean Sheffield
Vice Chairman	John Reynolds
Deanery Synod Representatives	Sarah Hindle
	Jenny Groombridge
CP Co-ordinators	Jenny Groombridge
Parish Disclosure Officer	Jenny Groombridge
AP Co-ordinator	Ann Welti

Appointed Members

Mary Fagg	Secretary
John Reynolds	Treasurer
Jonathan Bates	
Karen Brown	
Sarah Hindle	
Jenny Hunt	
Christina Parson	
Richard Bates	
Jane Hartridge	
Mike Pascal	
Glynis Farthing	

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At the Bewsborough Parish the membership of the PCC consists of elected members of the five churches seconded to the PCC.

The Local Church Council (LCC) of each church is responsible for making decisions on all matters appertaining to their maintenance and management and funding.

The PCC is responsible for overseeing each LCC and to seek a healthy balance between the identity of each district church and the unity between the churches as one body, to the end:

- (a) that people, clergy and laity alike, may best be enabled to grow in personal faith in the setting of the fellowship, and
- (b) that the solidarity between the churches may present the most effective witness, ministry, and mission in relation to the whole communities of Whitfield, Shepherdswell, Eythorne, Elvington, Waldershare, Coldred and Barfrestone; and in covenant with the Canterbury & East Kent Methodist Circuit; and in cooperation with the churches of other denominations.

This would be worked out in:

- Worship** By respecting the particular traditions of each worshipping community. And offering vibrant, varied worship as we both celebrate the traditions of the church but explore other opportunities for worship.
- Ministry** By Recognising that in addition to the shared ministry of the clergy, readers and authorized lay ministers and all members of the body of Christ are potential ministers. Their gifts should be discovered, developed and shared. Pastoral ministry needs to be exercised by lay people where they live, work and/or according to their particular giftings.
- Finance** By sharing the costs of joint projects (where these have been agreed by the LCC and the PCC), clergy expenses and such resources of paid workers or equipment should be held in common, and by encouraging each church to administer its own finances.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to encourage and nurture the Christian faith across the Parish communities. By enabling as many people as possible to be part of the parish communities of each church, and to put faith into practice through prayer, worship, study, and sacrament. and to offer mission and ministry and partnerships within our village communities. The PCC is committed to the creation and offering of places where people can belong and be nurtured, creating, and sustaining community connections and relationships.

When planning activities, the Incumbent and PCC have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and, in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Some of the specific areas aimed at encouraging people to live out their faith as part of

the parish community are:

- To increase the regular worshipping congregations.
- To achieve greater active involvement of all church members in ministry; and to explore and encourage opportunities for accredited and authorized ministries, lay and ordained.
- To offer opportunities to grow in spirituality and understanding of the Christian faith.
- To plant new congregations in growing parts of the Parish, such as Whitfield, offering alternative forms and expressions of worship.
- To be inviting, welcoming and inclusive Churches.
- To demonstrate compassion and care for one another and promote the healing ministry of the church.
- To underpin all our work with a spirit of generosity, good organisation and sound financial management.

The PCC is represented on the Deanery Synod by three members.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO
THE PCC OF THE PARISH OF BEWSBOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 4 to 7

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As Trustees of the charity, the members of PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

R F Bavington-Jones, FCA
13 Park Avenue
Dover
Kent
CT16 1ES

PARISH OF BEWSBOROUGH

Consolidated Receipts and Payments Account

General Fund Year ended 31st December 2023

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
<u>Receipts</u>				
Voluntary Income :				
Planned Giving	32,700		29,739	
Collections	7,680		8,493	
Income Tax Received	10,892		11,357	
Donations	<u>30,256</u>	81,528	<u>27,621</u>	77,210
Events and Activities:				
Fundraising	1,267		2,995	
Fees and Grants	13,041		12,829	
Other income	<u>14,198</u>	28,506	<u>1,469</u>	17,293
Transfer from fabric Fund		4,078		750
				4,0
Special Collections		34		57
Investment income		<u>2,158</u>		<u>755</u>
		<u>116,304</u>		<u>100,065</u>
<u>Payments :</u>				
Grants to charity		84		5,381
Direct Ministry Expenditure				
Parish share	55,650		44,093	
Clergy Expenses	<u>2,496</u>	58,146	<u>1,813</u>	45,906
Church Running Expenses				
Heat, Light and Water	8,177		8,198	
Insurance	7,569		7,428	
Upkeep of Services	5,679		1,300	
Church Maintenance	9,208		4,650	
Churchyard Maintenance	<u>2,051</u>	32,684	<u>2,160</u>	23,736
Fundraising Costs		-		-
Administration:				
Bank Charges	75		79	
Postage or Statioary	406		312	
Telephone	786		600	
Office Equipment	310		401	
Misc	2,040		3,352	
Media/	<u>5,756</u>	9,373	<u>3,765</u>	8,509
Professional fees		-		<u>2,820</u>
		<u>100,287</u>		<u>86,352</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)for year		16,017		13,713
Transfers to Designated Funds		-		-11,793
Opening Balance at Bank		114,554		112,634

Closing Balance at Bank	<u>130,571</u>	<u>114,554</u>
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PARISH OF BEWSBOROUGH

Consolidated Designated / Restricted Funds

Year ended 31st December 2023

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
<u>Income</u>				
Investment Income	2,533		1,823	
Donations/Subscriptions/Grants	5,465		420	
Tax Refunds	-		-	
Designated Funds	-		-	
Other Income	462		-	
Fund Raising	<u>2,820</u>	11,280	<u>2,671</u>	4,914
Transfers		-		<u>11,043</u>
		11,280		15,957
<u>Payments :</u>				
Donations	2,713		3,071	
Repairs	-		-	
Administration	60		-	
Others	<u>5,028</u>	<u>7,801</u>	<u>3,942</u>	<u>7,013</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,479		8,944
Opening Balance		76,041		47,625
Closing Balance		<u>79,520</u>		<u>56,569</u>

Note: 2023 Opening balance has been adjusted for reintroduction of Barfreestone Friends

PARISH OF BEWSBOROUGH**Statement of Assets**

	<u>Total</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Restrict ed</u>	<u>Designated</u>
Monetary Asset:				
Bank Accounts	95,938	70,552	16,216	9,170
Central Funds	114,153	60,019	39,359	14,775
	<u>210,091</u>	<u>130,571</u>	<u>55,575</u>	<u>23,945</u>
Investments:				
Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance				
Value at 1st January 2023	42,121		42,121	
Increase in value	4,009		4,009	
Value at 31st December 2023	<u>46,130</u>		<u>46,130</u>	
<u>Total Assets</u>				
At 31st December 2023	<u>256,221</u>	<u>130,571</u>	<u>101,705</u>	<u>23,945</u>
At 31st December 2022	<u>232,715</u>	<u>114,554</u>	<u>90,201</u>	<u>27,960</u>

Note: 31st December 2022 balances have been adjusted for the reintroduction of Barfreestone Friends.

Approved by Bewsborough PCC on 30th April 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Reverend Sean Sheffield
Incumbent/Chairman

Mrs Mary Fagg
Secretary

PARISH OF BEWSBOROUGH

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.

Funds

General Funds represent the funds of the PCC and LCCs that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC and LCCs. These include funds restricted by the LCCs as being for particular purposes and are shown as separate Reserves as noted.

The Financial Statements include all monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of Church Groups that owe affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Subject to the above, receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are not recognised nor valued in the Statements of Assets and Liabilities.

- Moveable Church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the LCCs and which require a faculty for disposal.
- Land and buildings held on behalf of the LCCs.
- Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC or LCCs are free to dispose of such assets without such faculty.
- Amounts owing from HM Revenue & Customs where a formal claim has been made.
- Any other amounts owing to the PCC or LCCs including lettings and insurance claims.
- Legacies where formal notification of entitlement and amount have not been received at 31 December 2019 by the LCCs.
- Parish silver plate kept at Victoria and Albert Museum or elsewhere.

Related Parties

No related party to the Council has been paid or is due remuneration or other benefits from Council funds.