

St Michael and All Angels, Somerton

Annual Report and Accounts
of the
Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2024

Priest in Charge

Revd Judith Swan

Registered Charity no 1168799

2024 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Somerton

Aims and Purposes

St Michael's Parochial Church Council (PCC) primary purpose is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The highlight of the year was the licensing of Judith Swan as the Priest in Charge for the Benefice of Somerton, Kingsdon, Pitney, the Charltons and Long Sutton with Long Load. The PCC has the responsibility to work with the Priest in Charge in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the use and maintenance of the parish Church and its environs. The PCC is also responsible for making known and putting in to effect any provisions made by Diocesan or Deanery Synod and bringing to those synods notice any matters or advice which the council deems necessary.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to become Disciples of Christ and join our church family at St Michaels. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

- Worship and prayer
- The provision of pastoral support for people living in the parish
- Children and Young People's work
- Specific outreach activities.
- Church Refurbishment
- Ecumenical relationships
- Charitable giving

Achievements and performance

Although the Vacancy continued until July, a full schedule of services and meetings was held, led by a combination of retired clergy, visiting clergy and lay worship assistants.. Somerton is now part of a wider Benefice with the addition of Pitney and Long Sutton with Long Load and discussions have commenced with the additional Parishes on how to work effectively as an enlarged Benefice.

Worship and Prayer

We try to offer a range of services each month on both Sundays and weekdays which benefit our community and provide spiritual input.

The Sunday service consisted of a mixture of Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic worship at 11am. During the week we again hold a mixture of Communion and Worship services. During the Saturday morning prayer meetings, a group meets together to pray for the needs of the parish and the world. We also held fellowship groups which met regularly and provides bible study, teaching, prayer and discussion to build up our faith. A Prayer Circle is made up of 60 members from the Congregation, Benefice and the town. Urgent requests are circulated to these members requesting Prayer for needy individuals and their friends and families.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 111 Parishioners on the Church electoral roll. In the last year 3 have joined but we have lost 1. The average weekly attendance counted through October was 64 an increase on the previous year and the membership has also increased to 74.

As well as our regular services we like to enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for a life now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 8 baptisms, 0 weddings, and supported families through 21 funerals during 2024..

Pastoral Care

There is a team from the Benefice who help prepare families for Baptism and Weddings. Our retired clergy support the Bereaved. We also have the Caring Hands group who provide lifts to medical appointments or other needs and the Shepherding Scheme which provides pastoral care for those on the electoral roll. We run tea and chat sessions in conjunction with the other churches in the Benefice for those who find it difficult to get out.

Children and Young People's Work

We work regularly with the King Ina C of E Academy, who are now firmly established in their single building. We provide collective worship through the clergy and the Open the Book Team. Foundation directors sit on the Academy's board. We were again pleased to welcome the Academy into church for their Christmas carol and Easter services.

Specific outreach activities

During the year the Saturday coffee mornings on the first Saturday of the month continued, providing both a source of revenue and fellowship for people in the town and Benefice.. The Church hosted concerts to raise revenue and entertain people in the town.

Church Refurbishment

During the second half of the year major repairs to the masonry of the tower were completed to rectify the issues identified in the Quinquennial report.

Ecumenical Relationships

The Church is part of Churches Together in Somerton whose regular activities include joint Lent groups, a walk of witness on Good Friday, a Dawn service on Easter Sunday, a Carol concert, collecting during Christian Aid week, services during the week of prayer for Christian Unity and Worship services at Wessex House. Joint Benefice services are held on the fifth Sunday of each month.

Charitable Giving

During 2024 we have supported Churches Together in Somerton, the people of Ukraine, the Salvation Army and Arc. We have strong connections with our link Parish of Chibondo in Zambia. Members of the congregation funded an ablution block for benefit of the congregation in Chibondo..

Financial Review

2024 has again been a difficult year financially, our regular income has again fallen by 4.34%.. We are grateful to the congregation who continued throughout 2024 to maintain their regular giving. In the Summer the PCC took the decision that the Parish Share could no longer be paid each month. Payments were restarted in November. The unrestricted 2024 receipts were £86,009 against payments of £82,618 meaning that we have a 2024 unrestricted surplus of £3,391. Discussions are on-going with the Diocese on the level of our monthly payments. The major concern is how our income can be increased to meet the level of expenditure.

We are also extremely fortunate to have Church Lands Trust who for 2024 covered payments such as insurance/energy/repairs and maintenance to a total of £21,748.

Reserves Policy

Our current reserves policy aligns with the Diocese view that reserves should be set at 3 months expenditure. From our 2024 accounts that figure will be £20,655. Our unrestricted balance sheet reserves are at £12,977.

Risk Management

Potential Risks to the Charity have been identified as: -

1. Damage to the Building

The building is insured, and there are other potential halls for hire in the vicinity to enable worship to continue whilst repairs are carried out.

2. Less Funding – fewer public donations

We are holding a regular giving review encouraging members to review their giving, we also hold regular fund raising events to support income.

3. Damage to Charity's reputation

We attempt to build our reputation by the excellence of service to our community, by advertising our activities and by ensuring thought is given to avoiding all potential safeguarding risks.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard in so many different ways to make our Church community, the exciting and welcoming place it is.

Structure Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Measure.

The church is a charity and registered with the Charity Commission, our charity number is 1168799.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church representation rules. At St Michaels the membership of the PCC consists of our Priest in Charge, the churchwardens and members who are elected by those who are on the electoral roll of the church. Other licensed clergy and our benefice reader are also entitled to attend and if they do so, have full voting rights. All those who attend church or are linked in some way to the church are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be used.

The full PCC met 6 times during the calendar year with an average attendance of 83%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees which deal with particular aspects of church life. These committees are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly. The Committees are:

- Worship which supports the Incumbent in reflecting upon worship services held and helping to plan those in the future
- Social who are responsible for planning and organising social events for fellowship.

During the year we have increased our safeguarding procedures to protect the vulnerable members of our society.

Administrative Information

St Michael and All Angels Church is situated in the Market Square Somerton. It is part of the Benefice of Somerton, the Charltons, Pitney, Long Sutton with Long Load and Kingsdon, the deanery of Ivelchester, the archdeaconry of Wells and the Diocese of Bath and Wells within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Church, Market Place, Somerton TA11 7NB.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2024 until 31st December 2024,

Ex Officio members: -

Priest in Charge: Rev Judith Swan (from 25th July)

Wardens: Mrs MaryAnn Pike

Mr Rodger Calderwood

Synod Members

Mr James Turner (Deanery Synod and Vice Chairman)

Elected Members

Mrs Patricia Allen

Mr Geoff Bryant

Mrs Hilde Buckell (from 4th November)

Mrs Jacky Calderwood (until 13th May)

Mr David Harrison (from 13th May)

Mrs Beth Hutchings (from 4th November)

Mrs Joy Rattenbury (until 13th May)

Mr John Saunders

Mrs Pauline Saunders

Mr David Speed (PCC secretary)

Mrs Irene Stone (Treasurer)

Mr Graham Taylor

Mrs Jan Turner (until 13th May)

Mrs Rowena Wallace (until 13th May)

Also entitled to attend.

Reader: Mrs Jenny Gollop

Approved by the PCC on 20th May 2025

and signed on their behalf by the Judith Swan (PCC Chairman)

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, SOMERTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the year ending 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	TOTAL 2024
INCOMING RESOURCES		£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income					
Activities for generating funds	2a	£ 73,303	£ 1,250	£ 250	£ 74,803
Income from Investments	2b	£ 6,424	-	£ 102	£ 6,526
Church Activities	2c	£ 541	£ 227	-	£ 768
Rounding	2d	£ 5,742	-	-	£ 5,742
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		£ 86,009	£ 1,477	£ 352	£ 87,838

RESOURCES EXPENDED	3	£ 82,618	£ 31,508	£ 352	£ 114,478
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		£ 82,618	£ 31,508	£ 352	£ 114,478
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		£ 3,391	-£ 30,031	£ -	£ 26,640
GAINS ON INVESTMENTS		£	£ 20,729	£	£ 20,729
Rounding					

NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		£ 3,391	-£ 9,302	£ -	-£ 5,911
Balances b/fwd 1 January 2024					
Rounding		£ 9,586	£ 450,378	£ 3,657	£ 463,621
Balances c/fwd 31 December 2024		£ 12,977	£ 441,076	£ 3,657	£ 457,710

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the year ending 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
	£ 77,300		£ 750	£ 78,050
	£ 6,042			£ 6,042
	£ 1,329	£ 142		£ 1,471
	£ 6,464			£ 6,464
TOTAL	£ 91,135	£ 142	£ 750	£ 92,027

RESOURCES EXPENDED	£ 104,515	£ 130,297	£ 300	£ 235,112
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	£ 104,515	£ 130,297	£ 300	£ 235,112
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)	-£ 13,380	-£ 130,155	£ 450	-£ 143,085
GAINS ON INVESTMENTS		£ 51,925		£ 51,925
Rounding				£ 1
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	-£ 13,380	-£ 78,230	£ 450	-£ 91,159
Balances b/fwd 1 January 2023				
Rounding	£ 22,966	£ 528,607	£ 3,207	£ 554,780
Balances c/fwd 31 December 2023	£ 9,586	£ 450,378	£ 3,657	£ 463,621

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, SOMERTON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	5	£ 426,783	£ 406,054
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		£ 21	£ 36
Debtors	6	£ 12,144	£ 11,649
Short Term Deposits		£ 12,549	£ 12,308
Cash at Bank		£ 8,665	£ 34,658
Cash in Hand		£ -	£ -
		<u>£ 33,379</u>	<u>£ 58,651</u>
LIABILITIES			
Creditors	7	£ 2,452	£ 1,085
		<u>£ 30,927</u>	<u>£ 57,566</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>£ 457,710</u>	<u>£ 463,620</u>
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted		£ 12,977	£ 9,586
Restricted	4	£ 441,076	£ 450,378
Designated	4	£ 3,657	£ 3,657
		<u>£ 457,710</u>	<u>£ 463,620</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 29 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by the Revd Judith Swan.

JM Swan 29/4/25.

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, SOMERTON

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

			Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total	
			2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
2.a	Voluntary income									
	Planned giving:									
	Bank Standing Orders	£	30,057	£ 30,122					£ 30,057	£ 30,122
	Envelopes	£	3,090	£ 4,246					£ 3,090	£ 4,246
	Tax recoverable	£	8,438	£ 8,254	£ 250		£ 50	£ 50	£ 8,738	£ 8,304
	Plate collections	£	4,997	£ 3,674					£ 4,997	£ 3,674
	Wallbox	£	539	£ 794					£ 539	£ 794
	Donations	£	2,434	£ 1,458	£ 1,000		£ 200		£ 3,634	£ 1,458
	Legacies	£	2,000	£ 2,500					£ 2,000	£ 2,500
	Grants from Church Lands Trust	£	21,748	£ 26,253					£ 21,748	£ 26,253
	Ministry							£ 700	£ -	£ 500
	Rounding									
			-£ 1							
			£ 73,303	£ 77,300	£ 1,250	£ -	£ 250	£ 750	£ 74,803	£ 78,050
2.b	Activities for generating funds									
	Events		£ 6,424	£ 6,042			£ 102		£ 6,526	£ 6,042
			£ 6,424	£ 6,042	£ -	£ -	£ 102	£ -	£ 6,526	£ 6,042
2.c	Income from investments									
	Bank interest									
	West Country Savings	£	526	£ 1,321					£ 526	£ 1,321
	CBF Deposit Fund interest				£ 43	£ 34			£ 43	£ 34
	CBF Shares	£	14	£ 8	£ 184	£ 108			£ 198	£ 116
					£ 20,729	£ 51,925			£ 20,729	£ 51,925
			£ 541	£ 1,329	£ 20,956	£ 52,067	£ -	£ -	£ 21,497	£ 53,396
2.d	Income from church activities									
	Fees for weddings & funerals	£	2,318	£ 2,930					£ 2,318	£ 2,930
	Parish magazine sales	£	600	£ 620					£ 600	£ 620
	Benefice contributions	£	1,809	£ 2,754					£ 1,809	£ 2,754
	Hire fees	£	1,015	£ 160					£ 1,015	£ 160
			£ 5,742	£ 6,464	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 5,742	£ 6,464
	Total incoming resources		£ 86,009	£ 91,135	£ 22,206	£ 52,067	£ 352	£ 750	£ 108,567	£ 143,952

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

			Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total	
			2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities										
Diocesan parish share		£	36,242	£ 60,945					£ 36,242	£ 60,945
Benefice expenses		£	2,726	£ 3,218					£ 2,726	£ 3,218
Staff costs (2 employees)		£	16,406	£ 14,315					£ 16,406	£ 14,315
Employer Staff Costs		£	483	£ 468					£ 483	£ 468
Gas & Electricity		£	10,884	£ 8,740					£ 10,884	£ 8,740
Insurance		£	3,477	£ 2,851					£ 3,477	£ 2,851
Premises		£	5,918	£ 8,815					£ 5,918	£ 8,815
Churchyard upkeep		£	5,173	£ 3,160					£ 5,173	£ 3,160
Cost of services		£	585	£ 549					£ 585	£ 549
Events		£	140	£ 419					£ 140	£ 419
PCC Costs				£ 175					£ -	£ 175
Bank Charges		£	227	£ 250					£ 227	£ 250
Subscriptions / Professional Fees		£	135	£ 423					£ 135	£ 423
Office/other expenses				£ 121					£ -	£ 121
Christmas Tree / Lights		£	93	£ 68					£ 93	£ 68
Restricted Payments	Chibondo				£ 1,186	£ 428			£ 1,186	£ 428
	Tower Repairs				£ 30,323	£ 129,869			£ 30,323	£ 129,869
	Flower Fund								£ 352	
Delegated Payments							£ 352		£ 352	
Church Guides		£	129					£ 300	£ 129	£ 300
School bibles									£ -	£ -
			£ 82,618	£ 104,515	£ 31,508	£ 130,297	£ 352	£ 300	£ 114,478	£ 235,112

Special collections were taken for the following charities:-

Receipts

Salvation Army	£	471
ARC	£	340
CTIS	£	46
	£	856

4. Movments in Restricted and Designated Funds

RESTRICTED	B/Fwd	Interest Gift Aid	Receipts	Payments	C/Fwd
Church yard	£ 1,033				£ 1,033
Doris Cooper	£ 17,677	£ 175		£ 13,088	£ 4,764
Chibondo	£ 1,278	£ 301	£ 1,000	£ 1,186	£ 1,393
Fabric	£ 4,000				£ 4,000
Ukraine	£ 145				£ 145
Archies Xtra	£ 3				£ 3
	£ 24,136	£ 477	£ 1,000	£ 14,274	£ 11,338

DESIGNATED	B/Fwd	Gift Aid	Receipts	Payments	C/Fwd
Bells/Tower maintenance	£ 2,489				£ 2,489
Music	£ 443				£ 443
Flower Fund	£ 112	£ 50	£ 302	£ 352	£ 112
Ministry	£ 500				£ 500
Christmas Lights	-£ 28				-£ 28
Tea & Chat	£ 140				£ 140
	£ 3,656	£ 50	£ 302	£ 352	£ 3,656

5. Fixed Assets - Ivestments

	Market Value	Purchases	Disposals	Mkt Value Revaluation	Market value
Doris Cooper Bequest	31.01.24	£ -			£ 406,054
CBF Inv Fund Shares	31.12.24			£ 20,729	£ 426,783

6. Current Assets - Debtors

	Total	Un Restricted	Restricted
Gift Aid	£ 4,159	£ 4,159	
Church Lands	£ 5,072	£ 5,072	
Mid Wessex Ringers	£ 285	£ 285	
OPUS Gas	£ 2,405	£ 240,538	
SSE	£ 28	£ 28	
CTIS	£ 195		£ 195
	£ 12,144	£ 250,082	£ 195

7. Current liabilities

Creditors	Total	Un Restricted	Restricted
ARC	£ 340		£ 340
DEC	£ 637		£ 637
Church Workers			
Pension Fund	£ 16	£ 16	
Salvation Army	£ 471		£ 471
British Gas	£ 988	£ 988	
	£ 2,452	£ 1,004	£ 1,448

8. Trustee donations

During 2024 the total monies donated by the Trustees (i.e. PCC members) are included in the voluntary income (note 2a) equals £ 6,750 before gift aid.

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, SOMERTON

NOTE 1 TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2024

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102)

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of informal groups or gatherings of church members.

Fund accounting

Restricted Funds comprise revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Expenditure relating to the upkeep and maintenance of the Church building is covered by Church Lands Trust. The Diocesan Head of Finance suggested an alternative way of showing the costs reimbursed by Church Lands. It is the method adopted by the Diocese in their accounts and helps the layperson with the understanding as to what the overall expenditure would be if St Michaels were to cease to receive the Church Lands reimbursement.

St Michaels has elected the Church of England pension scheme Pension Builder 2014.

The pension provider issued a statement For the year ending December 2024 as follows:

Draft FRS102 wording specified the pension costs charges to the SoFA as follows: 2024 £483.30.

These figures represent employers pension contributions of 4% and life cover of death in service of 0.50%.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

Independent Examiner's Certificate for the PCC Accounts

Report to the trustees of:

St. Michael + All Angels Parochial Church Council

On accounts for the year ended:

31. 12. 2024

Charity Number (if applicable):

116 8799

Set out on pages

1 - 7

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of trustees and
examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities 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 the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 trustees 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 matter has come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect,

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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.

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

Signed:

E. J. Short

Date:

15th May 2025

Name:

EDWIN JOHN SHORT

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

Address:

**27 SEVENACRES, SOMERTON
SOMERSET.
TA11 6HF**

PCC Accounts and Returns Checklist

This checklist is designed to enable the PCC Treasurer to ensure all year end responsibilities have been completed.

Accounts have been prepared on:

☐

Receipts & Payments basis

OR

☒

Accruals basis

(If income is greater than £250k, your accounts must be prepared on an accruals basis)

☒

The accounts have been approved prior to the APCM, received at the APCM & signed by the PCC Chairman.

All the following should form part of your accounts pack. Check the box to confirm this.

☒

PCC annual report approved prior to the APCM.

☒

Signed independent examiner's certificate.

Certificate template can be downloaded from

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-examiners-report-template-sorp-frs-102>

☒

Statement of Assets & Liabilities / Balance Sheet as appropriate.

☒

The Return of Parish Finance totals agree with the accounts (submit online)

☒

Is PCC income (total including all restricted funds and excluding transfers between funds) above £100k for the year? (Yes/No)

If YES, the following further confirmation is required:

Either ☒

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission.

The registration number is

☐

PCC accounts and annual return ~~have been filed at the~~ Charity Commission / will be filed before the deadline (31st October).

Or

☐

The PCC is currently applying for registration.

Or

☐

This year is a 'one off' & the PCC has applied to the Charity Commission for dispensation not to register this year.

Please return this checklist with your Year-end Accounts to: pccaccounts@bathwells.anglican.org

Please submit the Return of Parish Finance on <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/> or by email to: returns@bathwells.anglican.org

If you have any queries regarding the completion of your accounts or returns, there is guidance on the Diocesan website www.bathandwells.org.uk and Parish Resources website www.parishresources.org.uk