

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST. MARY MAGDALEN AND ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA

England & Wales · Charity number 1170031

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2016-11-04

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Christ Church St. Mary Magdalen
2 Christ Church Courtyard
London Road
St. Leonards-On-Sea
TN37 6GL

Phone 01424447784

Email christchurchstleonards@hotmail.co.uk

Website www.christchurchstleonards.co.uk

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

Activities: Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community, Teaching, baptising and confirming new and existing believers; Maintaining an overview of worship involving the many groups that exist within the parish; Providing assistance to the poor and needy together with pastoral care for all people within the parish. Maintaining the fabric of the church.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£174,434	£224,973	-	-
2023-12-31	£329,117	£377,522	-	-
2022-12-31	£293,114	£382,451	-	-
2021-12-31	£279,942	£392,567	-	-
2020-12-31	£100,753	£162,717	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Elizabeth Hanney		2023-03-26
David Mark Smith		2019-04-02
ELIZABETH JOAN MACKAY		2018-04-29
Harry Walsgrove		2025-05-14
JANE ELIZABETH READ		2023-03-26
JULIE ANNE GIDLOW BA		2023-03-26
LESLEY JANE HART		2019-04-02
MAUREEN ELIZABETH HARMAN		2011-04-10
MICHAEL JOHN HART		2019-04-02
Rev RICHARD GALE RALPH		2025-05-25
Rev THOMAS PHILIP VALENTINE CROWLEY		2021-09-14
SUSAN ANN SHAW		2007-03-25
TREVOR ANTHONY DAVIES		2018-09-18
Verity Dutton		2025-05-14
WILLIAM STEPHEN BAKER		2023-03-26

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church with St
Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards on Sea**

Registered Charity No. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Christ Church St Leonards

Annual Report 2024

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1. Aims & Purpose

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship;
- The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, on a daily basis at Christ Church; baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- ~~Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;~~
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
 - Visiting the sick;
 - Administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship, to the sick and dying;
 - Supporting pastoral work;
 - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
 - Supporting the work of other local charities.

Achieving our charitable objectives

- When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.
- In 2024/5 we have continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church. The Church is now open from 7.30 – 7pm every day, except in exceptional circumstances.

Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community;

Teaching, baptizing and confirming new and existing believers;

Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;

Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;

Offering worship and prayer

Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;

Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish;

Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

The Rector, Wardens and PCC are committed to developing a long term Action Plan for the next five years.

Christ Church remains open daily for private prayer and public worship: there are is a Daily Low Mass offered either in the daytime (1030am) or evening (7pm) to allow both retired and working people to attend. On Sundays, there is a Low Mass at 8am, followed by a time of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer at 915. The main Sunday Sung Mass then follows at 1030, which is supplemented by Sunday School. There are also occasional seasonal evening services, usually Evensong, offered by either our choir, a visiting choir or a combination of the two.

As well as the continued offering of the daily Mass, additional opportunities for worship include the Rosary led by the Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham, the celebrations of major feasts and solemnities and – since Lent 2024 – the reintroduction of public daily Morning & Evening Prayer. Christ Church now offers 11 hours of regular public worship per week, 572 hours per year – the equivalent of almost 24 solid days! This doesn't include additional major feasts and solemnities, or the extra programmes of worship offered over Advent, Christmas, Lent & Easter. We can see this has borne fruit as our ASA (Average Sunday Attendance) excluding Christmas & Easter is 100.

Baptisms continue to be celebrated throughout the year plus confirmations. We conduct a small number of funerals, mainly of former parishioners.

Christian teaching occurs weekly in the preaching at weekday and Sunday Masses, as well as in Lent & Advent Courses from the Rector. Visiting clergy have also come to speak and teach on particular topics. There have also been courses over the past year to allow parishioners to explore their faith and what happens at Christ Church..

The Rector also leads Christian worship at Christ Church Academy at least every week, as well as other additional seasonal services and continues to develop a growing programme of visits from the school and to the school in conjunction with the staff and governors.

Pastoral care is offered to members of our parish and congregation not just by the clergy (both stipendiary and retired) but also by the Eucharistic Ministers of the church, in the form of home visits, home communions and pastoral calls.

Christ Church continues to grow its wider ministry and visibility in the local community as well in a variety of ways including hosting concerts and events.

2. Serving the Community.

This year we have continued, as much as we can, to continue looking outward in our mission and outreach.

The church is open daily for members of the public to come and pray, light a candle, reflect and find peace. It continues to be used regularly by members of the public in this respect and we are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity.

We have still been able to support the local community in these ways:

- The Seaview Project (for the poor and needy) providing items of requirement when needed.
- Serving as local governors at our parish school.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), Sarah Brisco Trust and the St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as Board members of Christ Church House Improvement Society Ltd
- Installing a Defibrillator on London Road entrance to the Courtyard
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.
- Members of the sewing group has been contributing knitted items of clothing to charities such as Surviving the Streets and Warming Up The Homeless.
 - Regular contact and support is maintained with Surviving the Streets and some funding has been given to them via the Sarah Brisco charity and weekly food contributions from the congregation.

Other Initiatives

The food bank continues to serve the local community and is in regular use. This is run by Surviving the Streets.

Cosy Crypt continues on Thursdays. It has been a great success, open from 10am to 4pm and staffed by Christ Church Volunteers. There has been a constant good foot fall. Cosy Crypt offers a warm safe space, friendly faces and an opportunity to chat, rest and have hot drinks and snacks.

A representative from Citizen's Advice Bureau is in regular attendance to give advice.

Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local Scout Group and serve as members of the Scout Group Committee

The Parish Hall and Crypt have continued to be used by vulnerable groups such as AA and a variety of exercise and well being groups. and both rooms are open to the wider public for bookings.

The 'Book Room' in the Parish Centre is open twice a week and continues to raise a profitable amount of money as well as providing a reading resource for the congregation and wider public.

A good link has been established between the local festival A Town Explores A Book. The church is used as a venue for their events and displays. This is a complete community project involving shops, local open spaces, school and community groups of all ages.

The church continues to host a variety of music concerts run by Hastings Philharmonic and Max Bailey as well as other individual choirs and drama groups. It is also continuing to be used as a rehearsal venue by Hastings Philharmonic choir and their children's choir Songbirds.

3. Fundraising and Fellowship

Apart from the rector Christ Church is run by volunteers.

Without this faithful, diligent band of people it would not run as smoothly.

A massive vote of thanks is extended to all who help in so many ways:

Cleaning team, finance, sacristy, office, web master, sales, coffees and catering, flowers, Cosy Crypt, Sunday School and others that help in many ways. You are all an asset and important to the running of our church.

The Church has been able to continue to host some concerts this year and has a good ongoing relationship with Hastings Philharmonic Choir and Chamber Choir. We have been able to benefit from a variety of recitals by various people in church and several concerts have taken place with full bookings. The concerts run by Hastings Philharmonic have become an extremely well known and popular feature in our outreach to the wider community.

The children's choir group, Songbirds, set up by Hastings Philharmonic Choir is continuing to take place in church.

The church has also been used by other musical and arts groups which have put on performances for the public and catering for a wide range of ages.

A good relationship continues with Citizens Advice Bureau housed in Christ Church Old Buildings Trust in the courtyard.

The church became involved in the St Leonards on Sea community Frost Fair and parade with participants dressing up as angels and promoting Christmas activities in the church as part of our general outreach.

Open days and guided tours continue to be held and are popular with members of the public.

Monthly Sales act as an important point of interaction with the local community.

4. Financial Review

Throughout 2024 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. Whilst there was no specific Stewardship campaign this year the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) was promoted, enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid from givers, thus helping with our cash flow. Although this brought about a small uptake in numbers of givers, the overall level of regular giving has not increased, since some givers continue to be lost.

Throughout the year Christ Church continued to engage the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional support to advise on capital campaigns to raise the sums required to take our Tower and Clock plans forward.

The urgent fabric restoration repairs to the external fabric were finally completed in 2024. Although subject to a grant by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which has covered a large part of the costs, but has still required us to utilise over £44,500 of our reserves. As the NLHF require ongoing Interpretation as part of their award this increased costs, but has provided much improvement to the welcome to visitors and Parishioners including the Tours of the Church as mentioned elsewhere. Additionally the gas boilers in the Parish Centre had to be replaced at a cost of £8,250 partially covered by a grant.

During 2024 donation income was £5,100 greater than in 2023. However this disguises a reduction in Planned Giving of more than £1,000, with the majority of the increase in income arising from Monthly Table Sales income, and a one-off Gift Aid receipt. Income from the use of the Church Hall and Crypt together with concerts in the Church, was £3,200 greater than in 2023, with the income from Concerts in the Church being the majority of this and a valuable contribution to Church funds. The PCC continue, where possible, to keep expenditure under tight control. However the day-to-day deficit, although continuing to benefit from the negotiated 3 year reduction in our Parish Share payments to the Diocese, was £1,710. The value of our investment holdings, in line with market trends in 2024, increased by £7,566. The overall effect has been to decrease our Reserves by £42,973.

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a five-year period. It has not been possible during 2024 to make the progress desired, and it remains essential that we make further progress on increasing our Income in 2025.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.
- In 2024 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £49,000 before the exceptional increase in the value of our Investments is taken into Account, the majority of which relates to fabric costs.
- The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church, the largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst the reduction in Parish Share for the next two years helps address this, there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000 before the special short-term reduction in Parish Share costs), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

5. Structure Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Rector

The Rev'd Thomas Crowley

Assistant Curate:

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (Stipendiary, NSM and voluntary)

Authorised Lay Ministers

Jane Hart

Julie Gidlow

Wardens:

Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*

Maureen Harman

Elected Members:

William Baker

Jane Read

David Smith

Liz Mackay

Anne Hanney

Julie Gidlow

Jack Carwardine

Deanery Synod Representatives

Julie Gidlow

Anne Hanney

Elizabeth Mackay.

6. Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors is chaired by the Rector. The other Directors are, Sue Parsons, Heidi Ralph and Melanie Clark. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2024, the Board of Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, with flat improvements being made to existing tenants also. Costs continue to increase, and after a gap of three years rents had to be increased. This still did not eliminate the deficit. Whilst the Society has ample reserves to meet this, it remains necessary to address this and Tenants were advised that rents will be increased again in April 2025, but still to a level well below current market rentals. This will also help fund the 5 year plan of improvements with the replacement of all windows one floor at a time, that began in 2024 and also with building now more than 70 years old Pointing replacement. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

7. St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. Other areas where this Charity could offer support are being examined. The Trustees are chaired by the Rector. There are 4 other Trustees including Michael Hart a member of the PCC and Trevor Davies as Treasurer.

8. Sarah Brisco Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are The Rector and the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2024 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy school-children's Walsingham Pilgrimage, as well as a further contribution to Surviving The Streets for their provision to the needy, and urgent small grants to three other families in need.

9. Christ Church St. Leonards Old Building Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (1087321)

The Trust owns and manages the buildings parallel to Christ Church known as the Old School Buildings and the land upon which the Christ Church CE Primary and Nursery Academy stands.

The objects of the Trust are:

1. The advancement and promotion of theological education and training for lay and ordained persons in the Church of England.
2. Meeting rooms for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea.
3. Accommodation for clergy and their families within the Church of England.
4. For other charitable purposes connected with the Church of England

The Rector of Christ Church, Rev.d Thomas Crowley, Bishop Peter Wheatley (until January 2025), Mrs Maureen Harman, Bishop Nicholas Reade, Mrs Susan Parsons, Mr Paul Lewis, Mr Peter King (from March 2024) and Mr Andrew Knight serve as Trustees. Mr Andrew Knight was also Clerk to the Trustees until April 2024 with Mr Peter Knight appointed from then.

The Trustees met on six occasions during 2024

Highlights for 2024 have been:

- Amended composition of Trust Board membership.
- Discussed the appointment of a joint Christ Church and Old Building Trust Site Manager.
- Accounts for year 2023/24 approved by independent financial adviser.
- Replacement of iron gate and electronic locks in passageway between Alfred Street and London Road.
- Investigation of reported damp concerns in walls.
- Gas safety and fire alarm test inspections carried out.
- Received Community Audit report to Mother Agnes Trust presented by Rev.d Thomas Crowley.

10. Risk Assessment

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Church Architect reporting regularly to the Standing Committee and PCC. The finances are controlled by careful budgeting and close attention to fundraising, particularly with the employment of professional fundraisers and an ongoing multi-year stewardship campaign.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

11. Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting. The PCC approved a set of Terms of Reference in November 2022 which outlined the expected conduct of members, to which all new members are required to assent. These have since been updated.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the one stipendiary clergyman is remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

12. Fabric

* Boilers - at present the Church heating is being supplied by only one of the two industrial boilers. The other boiler needs another part to get it working. We have a quote of £21000 two new boilers. This is obviously expensive. Sadly, our present boilers are obsolete and our engineer has had difficulty getting parts. The concern is as one boiler has broken down, the other may well do at any time. Fortunately as summer is coming, hopefully, heating will not be necessary, but a decision has to be made well before September.

* Locks and Keys - the keypad on the Crypt door has been replaced. More keys are needed for the Parish Centre. Costs are being explored.

* Organ - the organ has been tuned and the de-humidifier serviced.

* Sanctuary Lamps - as you will all have noticed, one of our lamps had to be removed as it had fallen. A decision has yet to be reached as to whether other lamps should be removed. At present it is considered unsafe to lower them to light them.

* Annual Servicing - the font lifting mechanism has been serviced, as have the fire extinguishers in both Church and Parish Centre. Electrical items in both buildings have been PAT tested. The Parish Centre has had a fire safety check.

* Electrics - Hannington Gilbert recently carried out an electrical survey of the Church. (This is supposed to happen every five years). At time of writing the report has not been received. Security light faults in the courtyard have been rectified. Several lights in the Church are not working. As a cherry picker and/or scaffolding will be needed, it is wise to wait until more need doing. Wall lights at the top of the stairs in the Crypt are to be replaced.

* Gutters and Downpipes in both the Church and the whole of the Parish building are in urgent need of clearing. The cost will be shared with CCOBT. I have a quote of £5994.00 from George Stone. I am awaiting further quotes.

* Defibrillator - this has been erected on the courtyard gatepost facing London Road. I understand we are awaiting training.

* Finally - the Church is indebted to Terry Knight who has carried out painting in the Crypt and other repairs in the Church.

John Read.

13. Safeguarding

Anne Hanney is the Safeguarding Office. There were no Safeguarding issues that have arisen since the last Annual Report

14. Children's Ministry

I took over the running of PALS in May 2024 and it was rebranded to Christ Church Sunday School. Due the numbers of adults it was trialled at the back of the church. I am extremely happy with this and the children seem to like this. They can always see their parents, and I feel it's important for them to use all their senses during the service. We are able to hear the reading and prayers. We come out to hear the Gospel readings, are able to see baptisms and receive the holy waters.

The number of children has increased and we do various different activities.

The children stay for the full service rather than returning at the offertory.

I follow the weekly Gospel as much as possible but have also introduced learning about Saints, church festivals, the old testament. I have also introduced Acts, our drama productions where we act of the Gospel stories. These are very popular with the children and congregation and I have many wanting to join in.

Sunday school has also increased its community involvement, we took part in the St Leonards Festival last July and have been asked to join this year

We took part in our second Frost fair, held our second Christmas eve Nativity play, and this year held our first Easter play. To promote this we took the cross out into the streets which has given me idea for next year!

Id like to say how many incredibly proud I am of all the Sunday school children, their behaviour is remarkable and their knowledge and want to learn, develop and promote Christian values. Christ church are very blessed to have them.

Krystyne Walsgrove

15. Deanery Synod

Christ Church is represented by Anne Hanney, Julie Gidlow and Elizabeth Mackay

16. Youth Groups: Group Scout Leaders Report 2023

Many thanks to all section leaders, assistant leaders, occasional/parent helpers and young leaders for all the great work they do. Without them we wouldn't be able to run our sections each week and all the activities in-between.

17. Sacristy

Like last year, I am writing this immediately post Easter when it's always hard to think what the Sacristy Team has been up to over the whole year, not just the last couple of weeks. Was Maundy Thursday really only one week ago? It feels like it was years ago and Palm Sunday seems like a distant memory! We certainly pack quite a lot into a very short space of time – this year including Compline by Candlelight for the first time, as well as a low Latin Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week.

The team is much as it was last year, with regular help from my co-Sacristans Mark and Tina, and Gail who still covers Wednesdays and 8.00am Sunday. Sue Edwards still washes the small altar linens and we have been joined by Sarah Salisbury who has valiantly undertaken to launder and press the large altar linens, along with Rev.d Thomas's Alb and Amice. Having at times tried to deal with the large linens myself I know that this is no small task. The timing is crucial – the linens have to be pressed at an optimum point in the process of drying so that they come out crisp. Too wet and the linen will stick and burn, too dry and you will not get the crumples out. Being able to devote a solid two days to the task is essential – just ironing the large altar cloths can take half a day, and a Sacristan trying to do this late at night when up against the time pressure of Christmas or Easter looming is not something anyone should ever have to witness (just ask Chris!)

Re-dressing the altars for the major Feasts also takes some time because there are so many of them – we have six altars (seven including Christ the King) that require three cloths each for Christmas and Easter. We are halfway through the project we started last year of labelling each linen so it is easy to find the right one for a particular altar – when this is complete, it will dramatically reduce the time it takes to do this job. Tina has “adopted” the altar of SS Peter and Paul meaning that she will now take responsibility for dressing that one at Christmas and Easter, for which I am immensely grateful. I wonder if anyone else would like to adopt one of the remaining altars for the same purpose? It would entail joining us on a few days each year (Christmas Eve, Holy Saturday, Advent) simply to reset that one, which would take no more than an hour. It really is a wonderful way in which to serve the church, and is extremely satisfying to see when done. Do please let me know if you feel able to help in this way.

Another project with regard to altars this year is to measure each one in order to have new linens made. Many of the cloths we have are worn through, or spoiled with age and are no longer usable. We also need new purificators and Corporals as well as large altar linens, especially at busy times of the year when we have a succession of elaborate services back to back.

You might think that in all this we have no time to relax or enjoy ourselves. This year, however, as well as enjoying our first Sacristy meal at Fortes, I was able to take two whole months off in the summer. I am extremely grateful to Mark, Tina and Gail for keeping it all going while I was not around – it was wonderful to have some Saturdays off. And, as always, thanks are due to everyone who was drafted in to help with the heavy lifting when the church was reset at Easter and Christmas - Philip Mackay, Harry Walsgrove, John Zachariah, Will Baker, Graeme Monk and Terry Knight.

Lastly, let me mention my favourite subject – candles! This year we decided on a new Paschal Candle design. Having whittled down the options in the Charles Farris catalogue to just a few we decided to put it to the vote – Mark, Tina, Rev.d Thomas and I unanimously chose the same one! Hopefully you all like it as much as we did. Some of you will have noticed that we are using real flowers to decorate it with this year. This was a very happy outcome to what could have been disastrous when we went to dust the artificial flower wreath on Wednesday of Holy Week to discover that it is missing. After an initial panic, Maureen came to the rescue and ordered the flowers from La Collina, something we hope to repeat next year too. Also new this year is an investment in longer hand-held candles for the people at the Easter Vigil and Christmas. I felt that the smaller ones we have previously used become quite difficult to handle and these new ones, which are twice as long, will be easier to hold. The sight from the Sanctuary on Holy Saturday was certainly very impressive, a sea of beautiful light.

I will end with my particular favourite sight of the year, again related to candles. Rev.d Thomas decided to hold a dawn Rorate Mass just before Christmas which, because it was scheduled to start at 6.30am, initially caused my heart to sink. He promised, however, that he would do all the necessary work to get it ready and I could just turn up at the start time. Walking in to the church at that time in the morning to see all the candles alight, and everything set up perfectly was wonderful. I know how long it takes to put all this together, and it was amazing to be able to just come along and worship without the extra worry of making it happen. Thank you Rev.d Thomas!

Julie Gidlow – Sacristan

18. Christ Church Parish Church Choir

The choir currently consists of 3 Sopranos, which includes one occasional, 1 Alto, 2 Tenors (one of whom is the organist) and 1 Bass. We have had quite a busy year which has involved some changes. The choir continues to lead the congregational singing from the chancel, a position they occupied when the church was first built. It is a much better position to sing from and the acoustic in that position helps the singers produce a good sound. The climbing of the stairs to the gallery often left individuals out of breath in the past. Now that they are singing in the chancel they are able to process in and out with the servers and clergy, as well as taking part in the prayers before and after the service making them much more part of the service. The choir works hard each week preparing the music so that they can lead the congregation in worship Sunday by Sunday. They are a very committed group of individuals and over the week leading up to Easter were singing services on a daily basis, which included the introduction of Sung Compline on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of Holy Week. These services were very well attended and were sung by candlelight which made them the perfect "ending of the day."

On Saturday 1st June, our choir set off to travel to Bury St Edmunds to sing Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, together with the choir of St Neots. I had the great privilege of playing the magnificent Cathedral organ. The service was streamed on their website.

It was a joy to welcome the choir of St Mary's Parish Church, St Neots in Cambridgeshire to sing Evensong with us on 29th September 2024. They enjoy coming to Christ Church as Charles Lyndhurst-Vaughan was their Rector before he came to Christ Church. Our choir went to sing Evensong at St Neots on 28th July 2024 as part of their organist's 40 years of service at that church.

On Saturday 4th January, our choir set off again to travel to Bury St Edmunds to sing Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, together with the choir of St Neots. I had the great privilege of playing the magnificent Cathedral organ for the second time this year. The service was again streamed on their website.

We are looking forward to our 150 celebrations and our choir will be joined by the choirs of St Neots and St Saviours Eastbourne to sing choral Evensong at 5:00 pm on Sunday 18th May.

Future dates include:

Saturday 10th January - Evensong at Southwark Cathedral, London. There is also a possibility that the choir may go to Rochester Cathedral as well next year

If there are any that feel that they could sing as part of our choir they should initially have an informal conversation with me during coffee after a service.

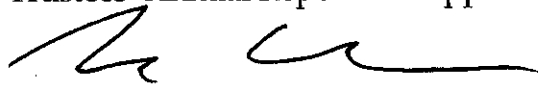
David Smith
Director of Music

19. Webmaster

The role of Parish Webmaster entails me to design, register, arrange payment of and regularly update our parish website. In addition to this main role I have a number of side roles which are all IT related; • To be on hand as IT support to the wardens resolving minor issues with the parish computer. • On an ad-hoc basis setup new computers in the parish office linking, establishing &/or registering accounts of any type as needed and arranging payment of those accounts or services. • Designing, printing and refreshing regular event and directional posters on Church premises. • Setting up and linking email addresses for Parish officers as and when needed & resolving problems with email accounts for existing addresses. • Ensuring that the Weekly Parish Booklets & notices are printed. This year, as part of my contribution to mark the 150th Anniversary year of the opening of the second Christ Church, I've designed a new Parish Website enabling Parishioners and Volunteers better insight and communication externally/internally. The new Parish website has been launched as well as the new Parish admin system. This new admin system means double booking for our spaces and rooms is a thing of the past as the booking process itself is now digital, so users are/will be able to request a booking online as well as being able to call into the office in person as before or phone up. Please bear with us all as the system is bound to have teething problems initially. Our new site has exactly the same internet address www.christchurchstleonards.co.uk. Please take time to have a look and explore the site there are new layouts and much new content on every page. As our site is a Parish not solely Church site I invite organisations from within St Leonard's to send me details of events as part of their advertising which I'll display in good time on the site.

Philip Mackay

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:



Revd. Thomas Crowley PCC Chairman

Date: 9.1.25

**Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St
Leonards-on-Sea**

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Fund	Total Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£		£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	78,017			78,017	72,920
Charitable activities	162			162	291
Other trading activities	78,266	6,383		84,648	242,629
Investments	11,128	478		11,606	13,277
Other receipts	0			0	0
Total income	167,573	6,861	0	174,434	329,117
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	2,778			2,778	4,671
Charitable activities	188,608	478		189,086	350,560
Other trading activities	26,463	6,646		33,109	22,291
Other expenditure	0	0		0	0
Total expenditure	217,849	7,124	0	224,973	377,521
Net gains (or losses) on investments	7,164	388	14	7,566	15,131
Net income or (net expenditure)	-43,111	124	14	-42,973	-33,273
Transfers between funds				0	0
	-43,111	124	14	-42,973	-33,273
Other recognised gains/(losses):				0	0
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>					
Net movement in funds	-£43,111	£124	£14	-£42,973	-£33,273
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2023	£342,128	£0	£0	£342,128	
Total funds carried forward	£299,016	£124	£14	£299,155	

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

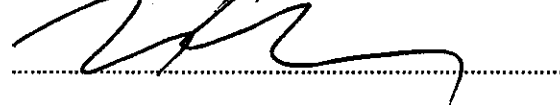
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Investments	337,709	330,157	Note 9
Endowed investments	476	462	Note 9
Total fixed assets	338,185	330,619	
Stocks	-	-	
Debtors	6,120	25,921	Note 10
Cash at bank and in hand	46,073	77,078	Note 15
Total current assets	52,193	102,999	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(49,151)	(49,418)	Note 11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	3,042	53,581	
Total assets less current liabilities	341,227	384,200	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	Note 12
Provisions for liabilities	(42,072)	(42,072)	Note 13
Total net assets or (liabilities)	299,155	342,128	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	476	461	
Restricted income funds	18,987	18,830	
Unrestricted funds	279,692	322,837	
Revaluation reserve	-	-	
Total unrestricted funds	279,692	322,837	
Total charity funds	299,155	342,128	
Analysis of Funds	Balances b/f	Income	Expenditure
Endowment funds	462	14	476
Restricted Funds			
YACC	577		577
Walsingham Pilgrimage	971	6,383	6,646
Sunday School	120		-34
Trollopes Charity	17,161	865	478
Total Restricted Funds	18,829	7,248	7,090
General Fund – Unrestricted	322,837	174,738	217,883
Total charity funds	342,128	182,000	224,973
			299,155

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2024, including the notes following, was

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Revd. Thomas Crowley Chairman



Date 7th May 2025

Notes to the financial report

1 Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or *projects*.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the cease of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

□ Fixtures and fittings	20%
□ Audio visual equipment	33%
□ Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

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

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

Notes to the financial report (continued)

2 Analysis of income and endowments 12 months to 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Fund	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	12,247			12,247	12,817
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	13,160	-		13,160	13,887
Donations	22,250			22,250	18,878
Loose cash collections	6,595			6,595	5,961
Fund Raising Events	2,377	-		2,377	2,357
Special Appeals (not incl. Gift Aid)				-	0
Cosy Crypt	516	-		516	1,551
Table Sales	7,069			7,069	5,531
Gift Aid recoverable	10,235			10,235	8,881
Legacies	22			22	-
Online and Contactless Donations	3,547	-		3,547	3,057
Donations and legacies	£78,017	-	-	£78,017	£72,920
Fees for weddings & funerals	162	-		162	291
Charitable activities	£162	-	-	£162	£291
Coffee and Candles	3,397	-		3,397	4,292
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	-	-		-	0
Church Hall and Office Letting	22,361	-		22,361	19,140
Grants	52,507			52,507	214,315
Walsingham Pilgrimages		6,383		6,383	4882
					0
Other trading activities	£78,266	£6,383	-	£84,648	£242,629
Bank & CBF deposit interest	2,373	-		2,373	4,220
CBF investment fund dividend	8,688	478		9,166	9,027
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	67			67	30
Investments	£11,128	£478	-	£11,606	£13,277
	-	-		-	
Total income and endowments on all	£167,573	£6,861	-	£174,434	£329,117

Notes to the financial report (continued)

3 Analysis of expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Funds	Endowment Fund	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£		£	£
Cosy Crypt	63	-	-	63	988
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	0
Planned Giving Costs	-	-	-	-	0
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)	-	-	-	-	0
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	2,715	-	-	2,715	3663
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs	-	-	-	-	20
Cost of raising funds	£2,778	-	-	£2,778	£4,671
Missionary and charitable giving					
Ministry:					
<i>diocesan parish share</i>	35,600	-	-	35,600	34,550
<i>other clergy costs</i>	5,363	277	-	5,640	6,182
Staff	12,085	-	-	12,085	9,845
Upkeep of services	3,944	201	-	4,145	2,587
Church running	23,997	-	-	23,997	15,323
Sunday school	34	-	-	34	175
Church maintenance and repair	7,678	-	-	7,678	10,073
Fabric Repairs	90,106	-	-	90,106	260,736
Special Appeals costs (Clock/Organ/Legacies)	-	-	-	-	0
Insurance of Church Building	7,697	-	-	7,697	7,529
Grants	-	-	-	-	265
Architects Fees	-	-	-	-	1,234
Bank charges	251	-	-	251	241
Rectory Costs	-	-	-	-	0
Governance	1,920	-	-	1,920	1,820
Cost of charitable activities	£188,608	£478	-	£189,086	£350,560
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	0
St Peters Hall costs	-	-	-	-	0
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	26,463	-	-	26,463	17,756
Curate costs	-	-	-	-	0
Parish magazine costs	-	-	-	-	0
Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	0
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	6,646	-	6,646	4,535
Sundry Expenses	-	-	-	-	0
Cost of other trading activities	£26,463	£6,646	-	£33,109	£22,291
Total expended on all funds	£217,849	£7,124	-	£224,973	£377,521

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4 Missionary and charitable giving

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Overseas:	-	-	-	-	-
Home:	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Remuneration					
Wages and salaries	12,085	-	-	12,085	9,845
Social Security costs	-	-	-	-	-
	£12,085	-	-	£12,085	£9,845

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Independent examination					
Accounts production	1,920	-	-	1,920	1,820
Bookkeeping	-	-	-	-	-
	£1,920	-	-	£1,920	£1,820

7 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Market value 1 January 2024	312,995	17,162	462	330,619	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	7,164	388	14	7,566	
Market value 31 December 2024	£320,159	£17,550	£476	£338,185	

b Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets
	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2022	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-
Charge for impairment				
At 1 January 2022	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-
Net book amounts				
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-
<i>At 31 December 2021</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Investment fixed assets	320,159	17,550	476	338,185	330,617	
Current assets (except cash)	6,120	-	-	6,120	25,921	
Cash at bank and on deposit	45,001	1,072	-	46,073	77,078	
Current liabilities	(49,151)	-	-	(49,151)	(49,418)	
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)	-	-	(42,072)	(42,072)	
	£280,057	£18,622	£476	£299,155	£342,126	

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income tax recoverable	3,355	-	-	3,355	3,747	
Prepayments and accrued income	2,765	-	-	2,765	2,401	
Other debtors	-	-	-	-	19,773	
	£6,120	-	-	£6,120	£25,921	

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Deferred income	-	-	-	-	-	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	49,151	-	-	49,151	49,418	
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-	
	£49,151	-	-	£49,151	£49,418	

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072	-	-	42,072	42,072
	£42,072	-	-	£42,072	£42,072

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

14 Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	462	-	-	14	476
				-	-
Total of all endowed funds	462	-	-	14	476
Rector & Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-
YACC	577	-	-	-	577
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	971	6,383	6,646	-	708
Sunday School	120	-	(34)	-	154
Trollopes Charity	17,161	478	478	388	17,549
Total of all restricted funds	18,829	6,861	7,090	388	18,988
General fund	322,837	167,573	217,883	7,164	279,691
Total of all unrestricted funds	322,837	167,573	217,883	7,164	279,691
Total funds	£342,128	£174,434	£224,973	£7,566	£299,155

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £350,835 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	46,073	77,078	
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-	
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-	
Total cash and cash equivalents	£46,073	£77,078	

16 Related parties and transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ST PETER AND ST PAUL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 set out on pages 1 to 29.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Mr S Rosling FCCA
For and on behalf of Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors
20 Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1BP

Date: 23.5.2025

Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church with St
Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards on Sea

Registered Charity No. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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Trustees Annual Report 2023

Registered Charity No. 1170031

Contents

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- Fundraising and Fellowship
- Serving the Community
- Financial Review
- Structure, Governance and Maintenance
- Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd
- St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity
- Sarah Brisco Charity
- Christ Church Old Buildings Trust
- Risk Assessment
- Organisational Structure
- Fabric
- Safeguarding
- Children's Ministry
- Deanery Synod
- Youth Groups
- Sacristy
- Choir

Trustees Annual Report 2023

Registered Charity No. 1170031

1. Aims and Purpose

Our aims and purposes as a charity:

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship;
- The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, including on a daily basis at Christ Church; baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;

- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
 - Visiting the sick;
 - Administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship, to the sick and dying;
 - Supporting pastoral work;
 - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
 - Supporting the work of other local charities.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

In 2023/24, we continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church. The Church is now open from 7.30 – 7pm every day, except in exceptional circumstances.

Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community;

Teaching, baptizing and confirming new and existing believers;

Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;

Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;

Trustees Annual Report 2023

Registered Charity No. 1170031

Offering worship and prayer

Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;

Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish;

Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

Our Mission Action Plan came to an end last year, and the Rector, Wardens & PCC are discerning the next steps to develop one for the next five years. The process began in 2022 with an open meeting of the parish, but the next steps have been delayed by – amongst other things – overrunning building works, a Heritage Engagement Project & the temporary absence of the Rector on sick leave. However, the Rector, Wardens & PCC remain committed to concluding this process to enable us to have a long term plan in place to launch from our 150th Anniversary celebrations.

Christ Church remains open daily for private prayer and public worship: there are is a Daily Low Mass offered either in the daytime (1030am) or evening (7pm) to allow both retired and working people to attend. On Sundays, there is a Low Mass at 8am, followed by a time of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer at 915. The main Sunday Sung Mass then follows at 1030, which is supplemented by Sunday School. There are also occasional seasonal evening services, usually Evensong, offered by either our choir, a visiting choir or a combination of the two.

As well as the continued offering of the daily Mass, additional opportunities for worship include the Rosary led by the Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham, the celebrations of major feasts and solemnities and – since Lent 2024 – the reintroduction of public daily Morning & Evening Prayer. Christ Church now offers 11 hours of regular public worship per week (572 hours per year – the equivalent of almost 24 solid days!) This doesn't include additional major feasts and solemnities, or the extra programmes of worship offered over Advent, Christmas, Lent & Easter. We can see this has borne fruit as our ASA (Average Sunday Attendance) including Christmas & Easter had increased almost 25% for 2023 compared with 2022, to 110.

Baptisms continue to be celebrated, including most recently at the Easter Vigil, which also included three Confirmations. There were also seven confirmations at the large celebration of St George's Day in April 2023, alongside the Scout Church Parade. We conduct a small number of funerals, mainly of former parishioners.

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Christian teaching occurs weekly in the preaching at weekday and Sunday Masses, as well as in Lent & Advent Courses from the Rector. Visiting clergy have also come to speak and teach on particular topics. There have also been three courses of 5/6 sessions offered twice-weekly (daytime and evening) over the past year to allow parishioners to explore the 'Meaning of the Mass' – what happens at Christ Church, why and how it can be made more reverent. We also ran well-attended Alpha Course this year, and have hopes to repeat this in the future having learned lessons about the most effective approaches to engaging new people and balancing their interests with those of current church members.

The Rector also leads Christian worship at Christ Church Academy at least every week, as well as other additional seasonal services and continues to develop a growing programme of visits from the school and to the school in conjunction with the staff and governors.

Pastoral care is offered to members of our parish and congregation not just by the clergy (both stipendiary and retired) but also by the Eucharistic Ministers of the church, in the form of home visits, home communions and pastoral calls.

Christ Church continues to grow its wider ministry and visibility in the local community as well in a variety of ways including hosting concert series, one-off events such as staging a play about the life of Julian of Norwich and particularly this past year with our Heritage Engagement Project. More details are in the below reports.

2. Fundraising & Fellowship

Monthly table sales, which regularly bring in between £400-500 and are the result of a lot of hard work from our volunteers, have continued. They also act as an important point of interaction with the local community. There have also been other occasional events which have raised funds, such our Epiphany Meal, a Curry Night and a play by a local artist. Concerts also continue to provide both an important revenue stream, and an opportunity to develop links with local groups and people.

As last year, the growth of the congregation and of congregational giving represents an important source of income – as well as a primary aim of Christ Church in and of itself. Sunday worship is now focussed on the 1030 Mass attended by a growing and diversifying congregation followed by fellowship & refreshments for all - as well as the continued provision of an early 8am Mass, and quiet prayer and reflection in between. There have also been a number of 'Bring & Share' parties after major Feasts & Festivals – including Easter & Christmas. A major highlight was the celebration of the King's Coronation in May 2023 with special services and an outdoor party hosted by the parish, and including many visitors and local friends.

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Although the completion of outstanding building works took longer than was originally hoped – and consequently occupied more time and energy for longer than anticipated – these have now come to a close, and put us in an excellent position to focus on our programme of events and fundraising for our 150th anniversary in 2025. This will also allow a greater focus of our collective time and efforts on mission and outreach to the people of God, and the growth of our church family in both faith and number.

Various groups and ministries restarted last year continue to offer the chance for more fellowship and outreach, including the Rosary (an important lay-led ministry) and Coffee hosted by the Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham; Cozy Crypt; ongoing links and hosting of the School, the Fellowship of St Nicholas at Christmas, and our Uniformed Groups. The provision of a 'Scratch Nativity' on Christmas Eve was a new offering and a particular highlight, bringing well over 100 parents and families into church and laying the foundations for a growing ministry of engagement and outreach to this demographic that is still relatively small at Christ Church.

3. Serving The Community

This year we have continued, as much as we can, to continue looking outward in our mission and outreach.

We have still been able to support the local community in these ways:

- The Seaview Project (for the poor and needy) providing items of requirement when needed.
- Serving as local governors at our parish school.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), Sarah Brisco Trust and the St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as Board members of the Christ Church St. Leonards House Improvement Society Ltd.
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.
- Hosting weekly Cocaine Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings.
- Members of the sewing group are contributing knitted items of clothing to charities such as Surviving the Streets, Dom's Food Mission and Warming Up The Homeless.

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Night Shelters

- Opening the Crypt for the night shelters operated by SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) is no longer operating due to other council arrangements.
- Regular contact and support is maintained with Surviving the Streets and some funding has been given to them via the Sarah Brisco charity.

Discussions re ways forward for the church to continue its support are ongoing and a link between the charity and Christ Church is now firmly linked. We have contributed to the costs of their delivery vehicles and equipment and our Harvest festival collection went to them.

Other Initiatives

The food bank continues to serve the local community and is in regular use. This is run by Surviving the Streets.

Cosy Crypt has been started up on a regular Thursday basis as part of the Warm Space initiative. It has been a great success, open from 10am to 4pm and staffed by Christ Church Volunteers. There has been a constant good footfall. Cosy Crypt offers a warm safe space, friendly faces and an opportunity to chat, rest and have hot drinks and snacks.

A representative from Citizen's Advice Bureau is in regular attendance to give advice.

Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local Scout Group and serve as members of the Scout Group Committee.

Monthly Table Sales have continued and have proven once again to be a great success with local people and also as a means of income. Many thanks to the members of the congregation who tirelessly work on a regular basis to enable the sales to occur.

The Parish Hall and Crypt have continued to be used by vulnerable groups AA, NA, CA and both rooms are open to the wider public for bookings. Active Arts, a charity for people with learning difficulties also use the hall on a frequent basis as do various exercise and well being groups.

The hall is also used for different types of exercise groups.

The 'Book Room' in the Parish Centre is open twice a week and continues to raise a profitable amount of money as well as providing a reading resource for the congregation and wider public.

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The Church has been able to continue to host some concerts this year and has a good ongoing relationship with Hastings Philharmonic Choir and Chamber Choir. We have been able to benefit from a variety of recitals by various people in church and several concerts have taken place with full bookings. The concerts run by Hastings Philharmonic have become an extremely well known and popular feature in our outreach to the wider community.

The children's choir group, Songbirds, set up by Hastings Philharmonic Choir is continuing to take place in church.

A good relationship continues with Citizens Advice Bureau housed in Christ Church Old Buildings Trust in the courtyard.

We have developed a link with the festival 'A Town Explores A book' which engages the community in assorted activities and events round a book theme. In 2023 the opening ceremony took place in the church and discussions re further activities in the church are open.

The church became involved in the St Leonards on Sea community Frost Fair and parade with the Liturgy Group dressing up as angels and promoting Christmas activities in the church.

Various activities involving the Liturgy Group took part in Advent to which members of the public could attend.

This year a National Lottery Heritage Fund series of events open to members of the congregation and the wider public took place. This was co-ordinated by Lucy Bailey and involved a series of activities for children over a period of months which were well attended.

A Community Embroidery depicting church and community was also undertaken in several venues, the main one being Christ Church and the unveiling of this was on Easter Sunday.

As part of the heritage fund initiative open days one of the stone masons from Heritage Stone, working on the building, was on hand to give talks and explanations of the work involved.

4. Financial Review

Throughout 2023 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. The 'Mind the Gap' Stewardship campaign was launched again in both May and October, seeking additional giving, and particularly through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid, thus helping with our cash flow. Although this brought about a small uptake in numbers of givers, the overall level of regular giving has not increased, since some givers were lost.

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Throughout the year Christ Church continued to engage the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional support to advise on capital campaigns to raise the sums required to take our Tower Clock plans forward, and to create plans to make the annual running costs of the church sustainable without relying on reserves.

The Quinquennial Inspection showed the requirement for urgent fabric restoration repairs. Works to the Tower, and South Elevations were completed in 2022, and the remaining elevations of the Church are the subject of a grant by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which has covered a large part of the costs, but has still required over £100,000 to be found to complete all the necessary works. £70,000 of this has been incurred by the end of 2023, with the remaining £35,000 to be incurred during the first half of 2024. We were fortunate to successfully negotiate a further £10,000 grant in respect of the South Elevation Works.

During 2023 donation income was £17,786 lower than in 2022, entirely resulting from no legacy income during this year. Income from the use of the Church Hall and Crypt together with concerts in the Church, was lower than in 2022, but still a valuable contribution to Church funds. The PCC continue, where possible, to keep expenditure under tight control. However the day-to-day deficit although eliminated during 2023 this was due entirely to the negotiated 3 year reduction in our Parish Share payments to the Diocese. These 3 years are to allow us to address our ongoing deficits. The investment holdings, in line with market trends in 2023, recovered £28,620 of the previous years deficit on their revaluation at the year-end. The overall effect has been to decrease our Reserves by almost £20,000.

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a five-year period. It has not been possible during 2023 to make much progress, and it is essential that we make further progress on increasing our Income in 2024.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.
- In 2023 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £48,405 before the exceptional increase in the value of our Investments is taken into Account.
- The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church, the largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst the reduction in Parish Share for the next two years helps address this, there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000 before the special short-term reduction in Parish Share costs), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

5. Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Rector:

The Rev'd Thomas Crowley

Assistant Curates:

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM)

Authorised Lay Minister:

Jane Hart

Wardens:

Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*

Maureen Harman

Elected Members:

William Baker

Trevor Davies

Christopher Gidlow

Tina-Marie Grevett

Michael Hart

Andrew Knight

Jane Read

John Read

David Smith

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Deanery Synod Representatives:

Julie Gidlow

Anne Hanney *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Elizabeth Mackay

Susan Parsons

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, curates), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and [up to] 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

A Standing Committee meets to transact PCC business between PCC meetings, and the Rector & Churchwardens meet on a regular basis to address any ongoing or arising matters.

6. Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors is chaired by the Rector. The other Directors are, Sue Parsons a member of the PCC, Heidi Ralph and Melanie Clark. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. Sadly during 2023 we lost both Gerald Funnell, a retired Director and George Bryan. Their expertise will be sorely missed and may they Rest In Peace. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2023, the Board of Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, with flat improvements being made to existing tenants also. A new Intercom Telephone system as well as CCTV to the front of the Building has been installed. Costs continue to increase, but rents were not increased during this difficult time financially. This has led to a deficit again the year. Whilst the Society has ample reserves to meet this, it is necessary to address this and Rents will be increased over a two-year period commencing April 2024, but still to a level well below current market rentals. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

7. St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. Other areas where this Charity could offer support are being examined. The Trustees are chaired by the Rector. There are 4 other Trustees including Michael Hart a member of the PCC and Trevor Davies as Treasurer.

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8. Sarah Brisco Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are The Rector and the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2023 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy school-children's Walsingham Pilgrimage, as well as a further contribution to Surviving The Streets for their provision to the needy. The Charity also funded the Defibrillator for Community use in the Courtyard.

9. Christ Church St. Leonards Old Building Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (1087321)

The Trust owns and manages the buildings parallel to Christ Church known as the Old School Buildings and the land upon which the Christ Church CE Primary and Nursery Academy stands.

The objects of the Trust are:

1. The advancement and promotion of theological education and training for lay and ordained persons in the Church of England.
2. Meeting rooms for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea.
3. Accommodation for clergy and their families within the Church of England.
4. For other charitable purposes connected with the Church of England

The Rector of Christ Church, Fr Thomas Crowley, Bishop Peter Wheatley, Mrs Maureen Harman, Bishop Nicholas Reade, Mrs Susan Parsons, Mr Paul Lewis and Mr Andrew Knight serve as Trustees. Mr Andrew Knight is also Clerk to the Trustees.

Highlights for 2023 have been:

- The completion of the major maintenance of the outside of OSB both South and North sides.
- The continuation of a ten-year lease let to CA1066 (Citizens Advice Bureau) from 2/1/19

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- A rolling 1-year lease let as a private residence for 17 Alfred Street from 1/5/2020
- The continuation of a rolling 1-year lease of the 'Parish Rooms' to the Christ Church PCC
- A continuation of a 125-year lease to Hastings Borough Council for the part of the building known as Renaissance House
- The Board met five times during 2023 and discussed and progressed where possible
 - A closer relationship with the Mother Agnus Trust (MAT)
 - Fire Safety in the Old School Buildings (OSB)
 - Long term strategy of the use of the OSB including discussions with the Mother Agnes Trust and the Diocese
 - A successor for the post of Clerk to the Trustees
 - Anti-Social behaviour in and around the OSB and Christ Church
 - Compliance with the Charities Commission advice on Risk and Financial Control
 - Installation of pigeon deterrents.
 - Agreed an extension of the BHT sub-lease in Renaissance House

10. Risk Assessment

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Church Architect reporting regularly to the Standing Committee and PCC. The finances are controlled by careful budgeting and close attention to fundraising, particularly with the employment of professional fundraisers and an ongoing multi-year stewardship campaign.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

11. Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

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New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting. The PCC approved a set of Terms of Reference in November 2022 which outlined the expected conduct of members, to which all new members are required to assent. These were updated in July 2023.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the one stipendiary clergyman is remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

12. Fabric

Firstly, it is important to thank Terry Knight immensely for doing many necessary jobs around the Church, including painting the Crypt, dealing with the Fire Extinguisher mountings, and securing loose wooden tiles in the Church Flooring.

SERVICING – The Church alarms, Font lifting mechanism, Altar lamps, Smoke alarms, Fire Extinguishers, PAT Testing and boilers for the Church and Parish Centre, have all been dealt with.

DRAINS – the drains around the Church and Parish Centre have all been checked and cleaned out as necessary.

PARISH CENTRE BOILERS – at present there is no heating or hot water in the Parish Centre. One of the two boilers stopped working. An inspection from Dale Saunders engineer, who completely understands the system, said that the boilers were not fit for the purposes of heating such a large space, which should have been known when the buildings were renovated. Dale Saunders quoted £7,000 for one boiler that would effectively heat the Centre. Two weeks ago the second boiler died. Both Boilers burnt out doing a job they were not equipped to do.

13. Safeguarding

Myself, Anne Hanney and Jessica Midgely Campbell are the Safeguarding personnel for Christ Church. We are responsible for advertising and supporting training and doing DBS checks.

We follow the Diocesan guidelines, and are in regular contact with Church House and the DBS checking agency.

Our policies and procedures are reviewed and updated. This is currently being done as I will be handing this over to Anne as the Lead Recruiter, and therefore stepping back from this role, again to concentrate on my ALM roles.

Jane Hart
Safeguarding Officer

14. Children's Ministry

PALS (Praise and Learn on Sundays) Sunday School in its current format has been running for about 30 years. Over this time, we have had various leaders (some still involved – myself and Fiona -thank you Fiona!), and different styles of teaching and learning. Some leaders have been qualified teachers or teaching assistants, and bring a wealth of knowledge and experience, and others are volunteers from other walks of life. Above all, we have a passion for sharing the love of Jesus with the children of our church and parish. We all have individual and unique skills, so the children benefit from a varied teaching programme.

In recent months the children have taken part in the Scratch Nativity on Christmas Eve, and also The Frost Fair and The St Leonards Festival.

I was privileged, with Tina & Sharon, to be involved in the Walsingham Children's Pilgrimage in March. 18 children went from school, and 1 from church. They gave a presentation on this year's theme 'Mary's Song', on Mothering Sunday, and gave out posies to the ladies of the church.

Fr Thomas was also presented with a very fetching Easter bonnet on Easter Sunday, and the children helped to give out Easter eggs to the congregation.

Those that have been involved on a regular basis are Fiona, Krystyne, Sharon, Kate, Jess, Tina and myself. My thanks go to all of those, and others that have stepped in as needs arise. All leaders are DBS checked and others are supervised.

I am an Authorised Lay Minister for Children & Families, and also an ALM for Liturgy & Worship. These roles have involved study courses, and follow on from my degree in Religious Education Studies. I have recently stepped away from PALS to concentrate on the wider ministry my training affords me, but I will still be involved in the children's ministry, and key events with my ALM hat on.

I hope to have some more Godly Play and Messy Church sessions, which are open to families and individuals. Covid got in the way of much of the children's work, and I feel we are still rebuilding.

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As a team we still plan to have regular Sunday morning sessions, but also these bigger events, and others, both within church and in the wider community. For these we hope to recruit one off volunteers. Watch this space!

You can still contact me on jane.alm@yahoo.com

Jane Hart

Authorised Lay Minister - Children & Families

15. Deanery Synod

Our parish was well represented at the very few Deanery Synod meetings held April to April. Most of the value this year has been literally mixing with other parish representatives. We discover much in common; that other parishes had been running alpha groups, having warm spaces and coffee clubs. Leadership of synod is changing. Reverend Matthew Foy of St Matthews and St Ethelburga's Church has been appointed Rural Dean. It is likely the new chairperson and treasurer will be appointed at the next meeting.

Synod Members representing Christchurch: Sue Parsons, Anne Hanney, Lizzy Mackay, Julie Gidlow

16. Youth Groups: Group Scout Leaders Report 2023

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to all our section leaders, assistant leaders, occasional/parent helpers and young leaders for all the great work they do. Without them we wouldn't be able to run our sections each week and all the activities in-between.

Our young people numbers have grown over this past year (2023), which is really great to see. As the group continues to grow, we have welcomed more volunteer helpers like Sarah Mayes, Krystyne Walsgrove, Charley Roe, Jon Bromell, Catherine Cattaway, Harley Marshall, Alex Stocks and Sharon Irving.

Highlights from this year's programmes...

The Hastings half-marathon returned, which was great. The whole section turned up and it was good to see so many of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts there helping the runners.

We've seen the passing of our Queen and the crowning of our new King and reflected/celebrated both.

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We have been over to RSPCA Mallydams a couple of times this year. The Cubs and Scouts visit was our 'helping nature camp' and the Beavers was their first sleepover.

We also hosted our annual beach clean, with help from the RSPCA education team.

The Beavers also had their annual fun day, over at Bushywood campsite. So many activities seen and done, plus some very tuckered out leaders in attendance.

I would also like to acknowledge that our very own Merry and Tabby received their 5-year service awards, finally. A great achievement, even though these are always received late.

I would also like to extend a special thank you Graeme Monk, our former GSL. As I am finding out first hand, being a Group Scout Leader is never a dull day... never felt so popular before in my life, especially for things I never knew existed or were necessary before. So, I thank you on behalf of the 9th family for all your time, your encouragement and your commitment to being you.

Ronnie

Group Scout Leader

17. Sacristy

"But what do you actually do?" is a question I was asked during Holy Week and, since this is the first time I have been asked to write a report for the APCM, I thought I would try and answer it as a means of introducing the Sacristy Team to the wider congregation of Christ Church.

In the five years since I became a Sacristan there have been some fluctuations to the level of service offered by the Sacristy. Back in 2019, when there were three of us, we covered at least one service every day of the week. A year later, when Covid came, there were initially no services to cover at all and then suddenly we found ourselves having to set up and clear away four services back-to-back every Sunday – that was tough but just about do-able. These days we are back to a more manageable level (at least when it's not Holy Week!) and with the current members of the team we are still usually able to make sure that there is always someone to set out and clear away the items used at Mass.

Essentially the role of the Sacristan is to have charge of the Sacred items used in the offering of Mass, and other services. For each Mass the Sacristy Team set out vestments for the priests, laying them out in a specific order so he can put them on correctly. We set up vessels (chalice and ciborium) with the correct linens, and make sure there are enough wafers, water, and wine for communion.



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We prepare the bowls and towels for the priest to wash his hands during Mass, and extra water and linens for the cleansing of the vessels that takes place in the Lady Chapel post communion. We prepare the liturgical books – the Lectionary, Gospel and Ordo – and make sure that everything is in place on the legilium for the priest, lector and intercessor. We ensure there is oil in the large altar candles, refill numerous wax candlesticks, restock the pricket stands and votives, and most importantly make sure the Tabernacle lamp is constantly alight. We take charge of changing the liturgical colours according to the Season or any special Feast days or Solemnities. We put up and take down the Shrine banners, again according to the Season, and determine how many Shrine candles are put out on any given Sunday.

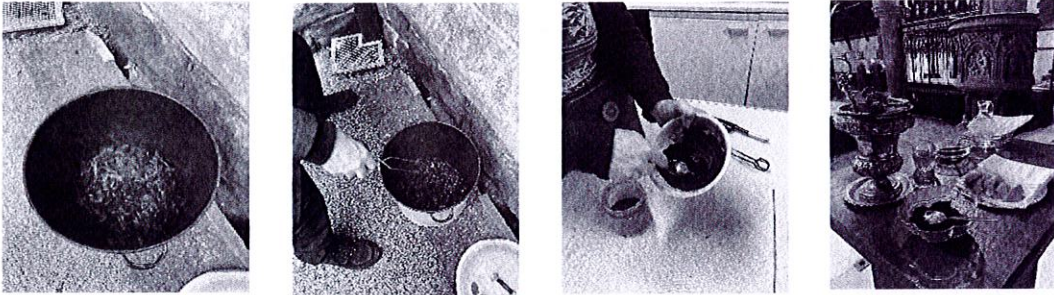
The set up for a normal Sunday takes us approximately two hours each week, but there is always more to do in the Sacristy (stock taking, ordering, cleaning brass and silver, repairing items etc) so we are often in church for much longer.



On special Feast Days – Christmas, Easter, Corpus Christi, All Saints and All Souls – there is considerably more to think about. During Holy Week, for example, we have the equivalent of a regular Sunday set up every day, plus several services that only happen once a year - the Washing of the Feet on Maundy Thursday (which requires a large bowl, thirteen towels and water at exactly the right temperature), and the Stripping of the Altars (which is a military operation all by itself), the Solemn Liturgy of the Passion on Good Friday, and of course the incredibly complex Easter Vigil

on Holy Saturday, which requires the preparation of not only the usual items for Mass, but the whittling down of a new Paschal candle, the preparation of two Paschal Candle stands, the emptying, cleaning and refilling of the font, the preparation of approximately 100 hand held candles for the congregation, the laying of new linens on six separate altars, the hanging of banners, and placement of flowers, plus twice the number of altar lights to be put out – the set up for this service alone takes almost ten hours.

It goes without saying that none of this can be done without a huge amount of help! After a couple of difficult years following Covid, we started this time last year to build the Sacristy Team. I was joined by Mark O'Sullivan and Tina Grevett (and sometimes Eden too) who give up their time each Saturday to join me in preparing for Sunday services. Gail Salisbury covers what is needed for the largest of the weekday services on a Wednesday. Sue Edwards has taken over the washing of all the small linens for Mass every week, previously done by Louise Fisher (who also washed and ironed the large altar linen cloths – an immense task!) and Val Cooper.



One of the Sacristy tasks: burning the palm crosses and making ash for Ash Wednesday

For the large festivals of Christmas and Easter, regular helpers Graeme Monk, Harry Walsgrove, Philip Mackay, Mark O’Sullivan, Will Baker and John Zachariah are often joined by other members of the Serving Team and congregation who help to carry very large and heavy items around the church for me.

I am deeply grateful to you all – it would not be possible for me to do what I do without your help!

Julie Gidlow - Sacristan

18. Christ Church Parish Church Choir

The choir currently consists of 4 Sopranos, 2 Altos, 2 Tenors (one of whom is the organist and the other occasional) and 1 Bass. We have had quite a busy year which has involved some changes. The choir is now leading the congregational singing from the chancel, a position they occupied when the church was first built. It is a much better position to sing from and the acoustic in that position helps the singers produce a good sound. The climbing of the stairs to the gallery often left individuals out of breath in the past. Now that they are singing in the chancel they are able to process in and out with the servers and clergy, as well as taking part in the prayers before and after the service.

The choir works hard each week preparing the music so that they can lead the congregation in worship Sunday by Sunday. They are a very committed group of individuals and over the week leading up to Easter were singing services on a daily basis.

It was a joy to welcome the choir of St Mary’s Parish Church, St Neots in Cambridgeshire to sing Evensong with us in July 2023. They enjoyed seeing Christ Church as Charles Lyndhurst-Vaughan was their Rector before he came to Christ Church. Our choir went to sing Evensong at St Neots in October.

Trustees Annual Report 2023

Registered Charity No. 1170031

On Saturday 18th November, our choir set off in the School Minibus to travel all the way to Coventry to sing Evensong at the Cathedral, together with the choir of St Neots. I had the great privilege of playing the magnificent Cathedral organ.

Future dates include:

Saturday 1st June - Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Sunday 28th July – Evensong at St Neots Parish Church.

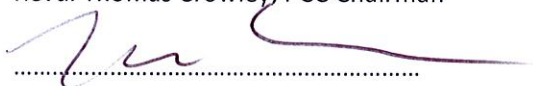
Saturday 24th August – Evensong at Chesterfield Parish Church. (The church with the crooked spire).

If there are any that feel that they could sing as part of our choir they should have an informal conversation with me during coffee after a service.

David Smith
Director of Music

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Revd. Thomas Crowley, PCC Chairman



.....

Date: 30.11.24
.....

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023

Registered Charity No. 1170031

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£		£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	72,920	-	-	72,920	90,706
Charitable activities	291	-	-	291	559
Other trading activities	237,747	4,882	-	242,629	191,963
Investments	12,806	471	-	13,277	9,885
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	323,764	5,353	-	329,117	293,113
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3,683	-	-	3,683	7,911
Charitable activities	350,902	646	-	351,548	347,912
Other trading activities	17,756	4,535	-	22,291	26,627
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	372,341	5,181	-	377,522	382,450
Net gains (or losses) on investments	27,130	1,466	24	28,620	(40,082)
Net income or (net expenditure)	(21,447)	1,638	24	(19,785)	(129,419)
Transfers between funds					
	(21,447)	1,638	24	(19,785)	(129,419)
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>					
Net movement in funds	(21,447)	£1,638	£24	(19,785)	(129,419)
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2022	344,283	17,191	437	361,911	491,330
Total funds carried forward	322,836	18,829	461	342,126	361,911

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

Registered Charity No. 1170031

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Investments	330,156	301,560	
Endowed investments	461	437	
Total fixed assets	330,617	301,997	8
Stocks	-	-	
Debtors	25,921	5,307	
Cash at bank and in hand	77,078	144,200	15
Total current assets	102,999	149,507	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(49,418)	(47,521)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	53,581	101,986	
Total assets less current liabilities	384,198	403,983	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than c	-	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	(42,072)	(42,072)	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	342,126	361,911	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	461	437	
Restricted income funds	18,829	17,191	
Unrestricted funds	322,836	344,283	
Revaluation reserve	-	-	
Total unrestricted funds	322,836	344,283	
Total charity funds	342,126	361,911	

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2023, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on it's behalf by

Revd. Thomas Crowley Chairman



Date 30.11.24

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

1 Accounting Policies

a Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds Accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Income and Endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the case of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income - Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

◦	Fixtures and fittings	20%
◦	Audio visual equipment	33%
◦	Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown a debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

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

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

2 Analysis of Income and Endowments 12 Months to 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	12,817	-	-	12,817	13,503
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	13,887	-	-	13,887	15,673
Donations	21,935	-	-	21,935	23,525
Loose cash collections	5,961	-	-	5,961	2,992
Fund Raising Events	2,357	-	-	2,357	1,890
Cosy Crypt	1,551	-	-	1,551	-
Table Sales	5,531	-	-	5,531	5,129
Gift Aid recoverable	8,881	-	-	8,881	9,243
Legacies	-	-	-	-	18,011
Special Appeals	-	-	-	-	740
Donations and legacies	72,920	-	-	72,920	90,706
Fees for weddings & funerals	291	-	-	291	559
Charitable activities	291	-	-	291	559
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar	-	-	-	-	-
Coffee and Candles	4,292	-	-	4,292	3,221
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	-	-	-	-	-
Church Hall and Office Letting	19,140	-	-	19,140	22,880
Grants	214,315	-	-	214,315	161,545
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	4,882	-	4,882	4,317
Other trading activities	237,747	4,882	-	242,629	191,963
Bank & CBF deposit interest	4,220	-	-	4,220	898
CBF investment fund dividend	8,556	471	-	9,027	8,977
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	30	-	-	30	10
Investments	12,806	471	-	13,277	9,885
	-	-	-	-	-
Total income and endowments on all funds	323,764	5,353	-	329,117	293,113

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

3 Analysis of Expenditure 12 Months to 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£		£	£	
Special appeals costs (e.g. adverts, brochures)	-	-	-	-	-	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Planned Giving Costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	3,663	-	-	3,663	7911	
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs	20	-	-	20	-	
Cost of raising funds	3,683	-	-	3,683	7,911	
Missionary and charitable giving Ministry:	-	-	-	-	-	4
<i>diocesan parish share</i>	34,550	-	-	34,550	62,500	
<i>other clergy costs</i>	5,909	273	-	6,182	1,561	
Staff	9,845	-	-	9,845	8,295	5
Upkeep of services	2,389	198	-	2,587	2,791	
Church running	16,311	-	-	16,311	17,697	
Sunday school	-	175	-	175	100	
Church maintenance and repair	10,073	-	-	10,073	7,864	
Fabric Costs	260,736	-	-	260,736	220,848	
Insurance of Church Building	7,529	-	-	7,529	6,843	
Grants	265	-	-	265	75	
Special Appeals works (Clock Dials/Sound System/Organ)	-	-	-	-	20,270	
Architects Fees	1,234	-	-	1,234	1,149	
Bank charges	241	-	-	241	262	
Rectory Costs	-	-	-	-	(4,323)	
Governance	1,820	-	-	1,820	1,980	6
Cost of charitable activities	350,902	646	-	351,548	347,912	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	-	
St Peters Hall costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	17,756	-	-	17,756	16,436	
Curate costs	-	-	-	-	6,332	
Parish magazine costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	4,535	-	4,535	3,859	
Sundry Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of other trading activities	17,756	4,535	-	22,291	26,627	
Total expended on all funds	372,341	5,181	-	377,522	382,450	

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

4 Missionary and Charitable Giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Overseas:	£	£	£	£	£
Home:	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

5 Staff Costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
a Remuneration	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	9,845	-	-	9,845	8,295
Social Security costs	-	-	-	-	-
	9,845	-	-	9,845	8,295

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Independent examination	£ 1,820	£ -	£ -	£ 1,820	£ 1,980
Accounts production	-	-	-	-	-
Bookkeeping	-	-	-	-	-
	1,820	-	-	1,820	1,980

7 Analysis of Transfers Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Transfers	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2023	285,865	15,695	437	301,997
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	27,130	1,466	24	28,620
Market value 31 December 2023	312,995	17,161	461	330,617

b Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets
	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2023	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-
Charge for impairment				
At 1 January 2023	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-
Net book amounts				
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-
<i>At 31 December 2022</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

9 Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Investment fixed assets	312,995	17,161	461	330,617	301,997
Current assets (except cash)	25,921	-	-	25,921	5,307
Cash at bank and on deposit	75,410	1,668	-	77,078	144,200
Current liabilities	(49,418)	-	-	(49,418)	(47,521)
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)	-	-	(42,072)	(42,072)
	322,836	18,829	461	342,126	361,911

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Income tax recoverable	3,747	-	-	3,747	3,083
Prepayments and accrued income	2,401	-	-	2,401	2,224
Other debtors	19,773	-	-	19,773	-
	25,921	-	-	25,921	5,307

11 Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Deferred income	-	-	-	-	-
Accruals for utilities and other costs	49,418	-	-	49,418	47,521
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-
	49,418	-	-	49,418	47,521

12 Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072	-	-	42,072	42,072
	42,072	-	-	42,072	42,072

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

14 Statement of Funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	437	-	-	24	461
Total of all endowed funds	437	-	-	24	461
Rector & Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-
YACC	577	-	-	-	577
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	624	4,882	4,535	-	971
Sunday School	295	-	175	-	120
Trollopes Charity	15,695	471	471	1,466	17,161
Total of all restricted funds	17,191	5,353	5,181	1,466	18,829
General fund	344,283	323,764	372,341	27,130	322,836
Total of all unrestricted funds	344,283	323,764	372,341	27,130	322,836
Total funds	361,911	329,117	377,522	28,620	342,126

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest.

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

Notes to the Financial Report

Registered Charity No. 1170031

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church.

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £75,100 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only.

15 Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	77,078	144,200
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	77,078	144,200

16 Related Party Transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ST PETER AND ST PAUL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2023 set out on pages 20 to 32.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



S. R. Sampson BFP FCA FCIE DChA
For and on behalf of Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors
20 Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1BP

Date: 2 May 2024

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen
and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards on Sea**

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Christ Church, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 6GL

Registered Charity no. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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Website:	www.christchurchstleonards.co.uk
Priest-in-Charge:	Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley (to 22 nd October 2022)
Rector:	Revd. Thomas Crowley (from 22 nd October 2022)
Independent examiner:	Ashdown Hurrey, Hastings
Bankers:	Charities Aid Foundation, West Malling

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship;
- The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, including on a daily basis at Christ Church; baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
 - Visiting the sick;
 - Administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship, to the sick and dying;
 - Supporting pastoral work;
 - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
 - Supporting the work of other local charities.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

In 2022, we continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church. The Church remained open through the day whenever possible;
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community;
- Teaching, baptizing and confirming new and existing believers;
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish;
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;
- Offering worship and prayer
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish and others;
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish and others;

- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

Our Mission Action Plan came to an end last year, and the new Rector, Wardens & PCC are discerning the next steps to develop one for the next five years. This began in 2022 with an open meeting of the parish, and the PCC has committed to begin a Community Audit in 2023 to identify the ways in which Christ Church can act most effectively in fulfilling its charitable aims in the local community.

Christ Church remains open daily for private prayer and public worship: there are two Masses each day, including the main Sunday Mass at 1030 which is supplemented by Sunday School since Advent. Weddings and baptisms continue to be celebrated, with preparations for Confirmations in April 2023 – as well as several individual confirmations in the previous year. We conduct a small number of funerals, mainly of former parishioners.

Outside of the daily Mass, there are now additional opportunities for worship in the renewed Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham, which offers regular prayer sessions, the Rosary and quiet days (more details below.)

Christian teaching occurs weekly in the preaching at weekday and Sunday Masses, as well as in Lent & Advent Courses from the Rector.

The Rector also leads Christian worship at Christ Church Academy at least every week, as well as other additional seasonal services and is developing a growing programme of visits from the school and to the school in conjunction with the staff and governors.

Pastoral care is offered to members of our parish and congregation not just by the clergy (both stipendiary and retired) but also by the Eucharistic Ministers of the church, in the form of home visits, home communions and pastoral calls. It is intended to reorganise these volunteers into a Pastoral Visiting Team in the coming year, in order to make better use of these volunteers and ensure as many people as possible are supported.

Fundraising & Fellowship

We've been able to return to our pre-COVID pattern of fundraising table sales, held monthly, which regularly bring in between £500-700 and are the result of a lot of hard work from our volunteers. They also act as an important point of interaction with the local community. There have also been other occasional events which have raised funds, such the (postponed) Epiphany Meal.

Our professional fundraisers, Craigmyle, have continued to work on various avenues of fundraising towards completing the final phase of external refurbishment to the West, North & East Elevations as well as developing proposals to complete restoration of the clock and organ. They are also working on the establishment of a group (Friends of Christ Church) to act as a permanent means by which members of the wider community can engage with, and contribute to, the physical heritage Christ Church.

Longer-term, the growth of the congregation and of congregational giving represents an important source of income – as well as a primary aim of Christ Church in and of itself. We've been able to make good progress in re-uniting the parish back into a single worshipping community, bringing an end to the division of four Sunday Masses of small groups that was introduced as a response to the COVID pandemic. Sunday worship is now focussed on the 1030 Mass attended by a growing and diversifying congregation followed by fellowship & refreshments for all - as well as the continued provision of an early 8am Mass. There have also been a number of 'Bring & Share' parties after major Feasts & Festivals – included Easter & Christmas.

It is hoped that the completion of outstanding building works in the coming year will allow a greater focus of our collective time and efforts on mission and outreach to the people of God, and the growth of our church family in both faith and number.

Already, in the run-up to, and during the start of, the new church year in 2022 we've been able to restart various groups and ministries and introduced other new ones, whilst also seeing growth in existing areas. This culminated with a joyful series of Christmas services which saw Midnight Mass numbers return to pre-COVID (2019) levels and overall numbers surpass them. These included:

Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham

This has restarted with regular Saturday meetings & Mass each month; the Cell also hosted a successful Advent Quiet Day at Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre with both new and longstanding members of Christ Church.

Wednesday Coffee

The Cell now hosts coffee and refreshments each week after the Wednesday Mass

Rosary Group

This has grown, and is now almost entirely lay-run with a number of new leaders.

Uniformed Groups

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers joined Christ Church to lay wreathes and present flags at our Remembrance Service. (Full report below).

Fellowship of St Nicholas

FSN returned to Christ Church for their Christmas & Nativity Service after a gap of several years; as well as bringing hundreds of new people in Christ Church for the first time, it also encouraged several new families to join us for our Children's Services

School

The school have returned to Christ Church for their full Christmas Service and Nativity; they also now hold an end of term service with us. We've also made a start on a programme of visits from the school to ensure every pupil comes on a class visit, and receives one from us.

Cosy Crypt

This is a new initiative, which- thanks to the support of committed volunteers - has grown quickly, offering free light refreshments and company to local people in a warm space. It now regularly receives growing numbers of guests each Thursday, a couple of whom have started to join us for Mass on Sundays. (Full report below.)

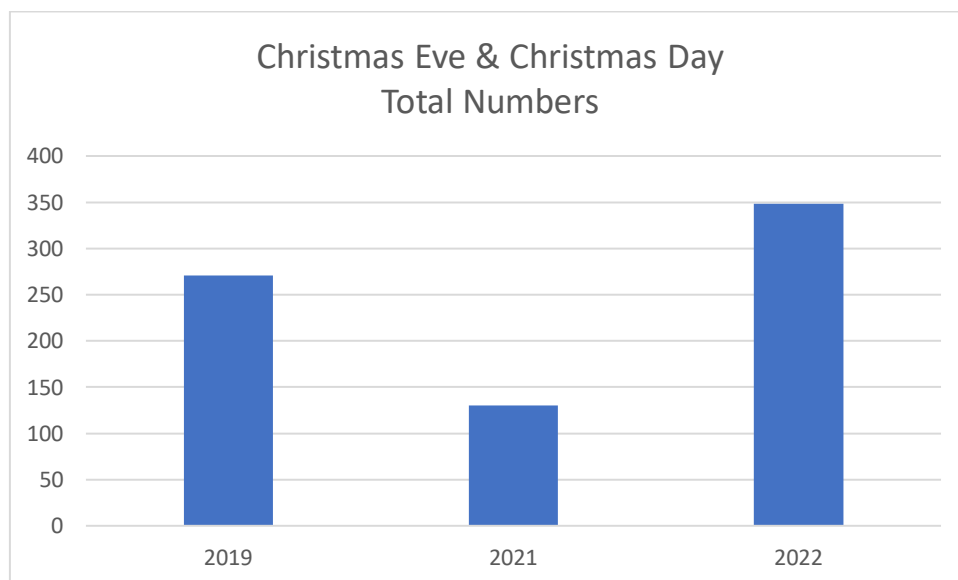
PALS (Sunday School)

PALS restarted in Advent, with a good core of volunteers offering a Liturgy of the Word to the growing number of children in the congregation: we now have between 6- 12 children at Mass every Sunday, who showcase their learning at the end of Mass.

Children's Services

A new Saturday afternoon service including teaching, crafts, worship and a free meal: in 2022 there was one held as a Light Party and one featuring a Christingle Workshop.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services



In 2022, the Midnight Mass returned to its traditional time and saw a large boost in numbers. There were several additional Said Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day, as well as a new format Carols & Crib service which attracted well over 100 people, mainly without previous links to the church or congregation.

Serving the Community

This year we have continued, as much as we can, to continue looking outward in our mission and outreach.

We have still been able to support the local community in these ways:

- The Seaview Project (for the poor and needy) through contributions of food and useful small items and contributing staple foodstuffs and toiletries to Hastings Foodbank.
- Serving as local governors at our parish school.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), Sarah Brisco Trust and the St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as Board members of the Christ Church House Improvement Society Ltd.
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.
- Hosting weekly Cocaine Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings.
- Members of the sewing group are contributing knitted items of clothing to charities such as Surviving the Streets, Dom's Food Mission and Warming Up The Homeless.

Night Shelters

- Opening the Crypt for the night shelters operated by SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol is no longer operating due to other council arrangements.
- Surviving the Streets are using the crypt and courtyard as a night shelter and tent space from November 2022 through to the end of bad weather conditions. This is initially on Tuesday and Friday nights only at the moment due to staffing .
- Regular contact and support is maintained with Surviving the Streets and some funding has been given to them via the Sarah Brisco charity. Discussions re ways forward for the church to continue its support are ongoing and a link between the charity and Christ Church is now firmly linked.

Other Initiatives

The food bank continues to serve the local community and is in regular use . This is run by Surviving the Streets.

Cosy Crypt has been started up on a regular Thursday basis as part of the Warm Space initiative. It has been a great success , open from 8am to 6pm and staffed by Christ Church Volunteers. There has been a constant good footfall . Cosy Crypt offers a warm safe space, friendly faces and an opportunity to chat, rest and have hot drinks and snacks.

Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local Scout Group and serve as members of the Scout Group Committee

Monthly Table Sales have proven once again to be a great success with local people and also as a means of income. Many thanks to the members of the congregation who tirelessly work on a regular basis to enable the sales to occur.

The Parish Hall and Crypt have continued to be used by vulnerable groups AA, NA, CA throughout the pandemic and both rooms are now reopen to the wider public and the hall has resumed being booked by local groups. Active Arts a charity for people with learning difficulties also use the hall on a frequent basis.

The hall is also used for different types of exercise groups.

The 'Book Room' in the Parish Centre is open twice a week and continues to raise a profitable amount of money as well as providing a reading resource for the congregation and wider public.

Negotiations are ongoing to provide an opportunity for local arts groups to use our facilities.

The Church has been able to continue to host some concerts this year and has a good ongoing relationship with Hastings Philharmonic Choir and Chamber Choir. We have been able to benefit from a variety of recitals by various people in church and several concerts have taken place with full bookings. The concerts run by Hastings Philharmonic have become an extremely well known and popular feature in our outreach to the wider community.

The children's choir group ,Songbirds, set up by Hastings Philharmonic Choir is continuing to take place in church.

Citizens advice Bureau have settled into CCOBT's Magnet Centre and the good relationship with them continues.

3 a – Cosy Crypt

The "Cosy Crypt" was opened on a trial basis on the 3/11/22 as part of Christ Church's outreach mission to engage with the local community with a view to support its needs and to potentially grow our congregation and the demographic to which it currently has. This initiative is part of the nation wide "Warm Space' programme to which the "Cosy Crypt" is registered nationally and at Diocese level.

We have engaged local businesses for key donations of provisions and to promote the work to which our church is offering via the "Cosy Crypt" We have also compiled a list of all other agencies to which we can sign post our visitors to when they have specific needs such as the "Sea view project" and CAB.

The "Cosy Crypt" is manned by a core group of eight volunteers and other members of the congregation who assist when able and operates strictly within Christ Church safeguarding and health & safety policy to safeguard the young and vulnerable for both visitors and volunteers. Procedures have been compiled and documented. These are upheld and adhered to at all times during the opening hours of the "Cosy Crypt"

Weekly reports of numbers of visitors, the volunteer rota and any donations received are compiled and sent to the core group of volunteers and Father Thomas to ensure that a transparent and informative approach is adhered to at all times. A donation sheet is updated weekly and all monies are given to Valerie Wilson and it is agreed that all donations are given with a view to support the ongoing mission and needs of the "Cosy Crypt" Over the trial period of the "Cosy Crypt" visitor numbers have been growing, and we hope that this will continue with increased publicity, word of mouth and ongoing social media presence.

The visitors are a complete mix in its demographic make up. We have a children's area with donated toys, rug, dolls house, and numerous toys. All children are welcome as long as they bring a responsible adult; parent or carer. We have a weekly craft group which we facilitate in the back room of the Crypt and this is very well attended. This craft group is aimed at "Stitching through TLC" which aims to help the attendees with mental stimulation and companionship in challenging times. We hold weekly quizzes, have music and have a games table with a jig saw etc for added activities.

We have had very distressed visitors to which we have assisted through sign posting them empathetically to official channels and some have come back every Thursday. We have had to eject some problematic visitors and have strictly followed the safe guarding and health & safety guidelines to do this.

On a very positive note, we are developing a regular core base. Two of our visitors have now joined the regular Sunday morning congregation.

An open meeting is to be held late January 2023 with our Church Wardens and Father Thomas to discuss the way we take the "Cosy Crypt" forward as it has been agreed that the concept has been proven that there is an urgent need to have a warm hub within the local community to which Christ Church serves.

Julie Harrison

Financial Review

Throughout 2022 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. A 'Mind the Gap' Stewardship campaign was launched in September, seeking additional giving, and particularly through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid, thus helping with our cash flow. Although there was a small uptake in numbers in the PGS, the overall level of regular giving has not increased.

Throughout the year Christ Church continued to engage the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional support to advise on a capital campaign to raise the sums required to take our building improvement plans forward, and to create plans to make the annual running costs of the church sustainable without relying on reserves.

The Quinquennial Inspection showed the requirement for urgent fabric restoration repairs. Detailed inspection of these requirements showed additional work was required on the Tower and Steeple. In total these costs are in excess of £725,000, and this is greater than our level of reserves. Craigmyle were able to secure two large grants from the Cultural Recovery Fund covering 80% of the costs of the works to both the Tower/Steeple and South Elevation. The Tower and Steeple works were completed during 2021 and the South Elevation works in 2022. The balance of costs of these works at £59,305 has had to come from our reserves.

Further works to the remaining elevations of the Church are the subject of an application submitted by Craigmyle on our behalf to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which would

cover a large part of the costs, but would still require £130,000 to be found to complete all the necessary works.

During 2022 donation income (excluding the special appeals) was £3,600 lower than in 2021. With COVID-related restrictions ended, there was increased use of the Church Hall and Crypt together with concerts in the Church, meaning that this income was greater than in 2021. The PCC continue, where possible, to keep expenditure under tight control. However the day-to-day deficit was only slightly reduced to £24,000 for the year. The investment holdings suffered a reduction in value, in line with market trends in 2022, of £40,000 on their revaluation at the year-end, almost eliminating the gain made in 2021, showing that valuations can reduce as well as increase. The value is, though, higher than original cost. The overall effect has been to decrease our Reserves by £127,000

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a five-year period. It has not been possible during 2022 to make much progress, and the expected deficit for 2023 onwards has only been able to be eliminated by a reduction in our Parish Share contributions for the next three years whilst we make further progress on increasing our Income.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.
- In 2022 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £89,000 before the exceptional reduction in value of our Investments is taken into Account
- The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church, the largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst the reduction in Parish Share for the next three years helps address this, there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

Structure Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Priest-in-Charge

The Rt Revd Peter Wheatley *PCC Chairman (to 22nd October 2022)*

Rector

The Rev'd Thomas Crowley *(from 22nd October 2022)*

Assistant Curates:

The Revd Thomas Crowley *(until 22nd October 2022)*

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM) *(until October 2022)*

Authorised Lay Minister

Jane Hart

Wardens:

Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*

Maureen Harman

PCC Secretary:

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM) *(until 22nd October 2022)*

Maureen Harman *(from 22nd October 2022)*

Elected Members:

Trevor Davies

Christopher Goodman *(until July 2022 – RIP)*

Tina-Marie Grevett

Michael Hart

Andrew Knight

Celia Manning

David Smith

John Read

Jess Campbell

Deanery Synod Representatives

Louise Fisher

Anne Hanney *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Elizabeth Mackay

Susan Parsons

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain *ex-officio* members (the incumbent, curates), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and [up to] 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

A Standing Committee meets to transact PCC business between PCC meetings. For the past several years this has been larger than usual, with an enlarged remit that included stewardship, mission, fundraising and many other areas of parish life. It is intended that in the coming year these areas of parish life will be overseen by their own discrete working groups, as well as the one for events & catering. The Safeguarding Committee will continue to function separately. A Capital Projects Group was also established which has specific oversight of major upcoming projects, in particular fabric repairs and a heritage education and engagement project part-funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and with the assistance of Craigmyle our fundraisers.

For the first part of the year, meetings of the Churchwardens and of the Clergy took place on a monthly basis, chaired by the Priest-in-Charge; this continues under the new Rector, who has regular meetings with the Churchwardens as well as with the Honorary Assistant Clergy.

Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors was chaired by Bishop Peter, until November when the Rector was appointed, The other Directors are, Sue Parsons a member of the PCC, George Bryan and two new Directors appointed in 2022, Heidi Ralph and Melanie Clark. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. Gerald Funnell RIP retired as a Director after more than 50 years of service. We were able to enjoy a High Tea with him and Members of the Society, and he was presented with a letter from Bishop Martin of Chichester recording thanks for all that he had done. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2022, the Board of

Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, with flat improvements being made to existing tenants also. Costs continue to increase, but rents were not increased during this difficult time financially. These improvement works, as well as an unexpected roof repair needed at the end of the year has led to a deficit for the year. The Society has ample reserves to meet this. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. Other areas where this Charity could offer support are being examined. The Trustees were chaired by Bishop Peter until November when the Rector was appointed. There are 4 other Trustees including Michael Hart a member of the PCC and Trevor Davies as Treasurer.

Sarah Brisco Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are Bishop Peter, The Rector and the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2022 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy school-children's Walsingham Pilgrimage, Easter packs and School Counsellor as well as further contributions to Surviving The Streets for their provision to the needy as well as the final payment towards to Food Bank installed in the Church Courtyard.

Christ Church Old Building Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (1087321)

The Trust owns and manages the buildings parallel to Christ Church known as the Old School Buildings and the land upon which the Christ Church CE Primary and Nursery Academy stands.

The objects of the Trust are:

1. The advancement and promotion of theological education and training for lay and ordained persons in the Church of England.
2. Meeting rooms for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea.

3. Accommodation for clergy and their families within the Church of England.

4. For other charitable purposes connected with the Church of England

The Priest in Charge of Christ Church, Bishop Peter Wheatley, Mrs Maureen Harman, Bishop Nicholas Reade, Mr Ian MacKellar, Mrs Susan Parsons and Mr Paul Lewis serve as Trustees. Mr Andrew Knight is Clerk to the Trustees. The new Rector of Christ Church, Fr Thomas Crowley, will join the Board in early 2023.

Highlights for 2022 have been:

- The continuation of a ten-year lease let to CA1066 (Citizens Advice Bureau) from 2/1/19
- A rolling 1-year lease let as a private residence for 17 Alfred Street from 1/5/2020
- The continuation of a rolling 1-year lease of the 'Parish Rooms' to the Christ Church PCC
- A continuation of a 125-year lease to Hastings Borough Council for the part of the building known as Renaissance House
- The Board met seven times during 2022 and discussed and progressed where possible
 - A closer relationship with the Mother Agnus Trust (MAT)
 - Fire Safety in the Old School Buildings (OSB)
 - Maintenance of the outside of OSB both South and North sides
 - Long term strategy of the use of the OSB
 - Successor for the post of Clerk to the Trustees
 - Anti-Social behaviour in and around the OSB and Christ Church
 - Compliance with the Charities Commission advice on Risk and Financial Control
 - Change of Accounting Systems from Sage to Excel
 - Difficulties with Barclays Bank regarding online access to accounts
 - Maintenance to light well in Old School Buildings
 - Pigeon Nuisance – discussions with neighbours
 - Concerns over the BHT sub-lease in Renaissance House
- At the end of the year the Mother Agnes Trust has offered to write off the previous loan to CCOBT, which was for the conversion of the buildings to become the MAGNET Centre, and to make a substantial grant to complete the renovation of the exterior of the Buildings as well as to commission a feasibility study to explore the long-term future of the Buildings and the site.

Risk Assessment

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Church Architect reporting regularly to the Standing Committee and PCC. The finances are controlled by careful budgeting and close attention to fundraising, particularly with the employment of professional fundraisers and the introduction of a multi-year stewardship campaign.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter-alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. The PCC is also the normal channel of communication between the parishioners and the Bishop of the diocese. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting. The PCC approved a set of Terms of Reference in November which outlined the expected conduct of members, to which all new members are required to assent.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the one stipendiary clergyman is remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

Fabric

SERVICING – The altar lamps, font lifting mechanism, boilers for the Church and Parish Centre, fire extinguishers, church alarms (inc. external sounder) and electrical appliances have all been serviced. (PAT testing.)

DAMP - The problems with ventilation in the Parish Centre have been dealt with by putting ventilators in the office and the ladies' toilets and by keeping the heating on low through the summer. With the assistance of the Church architect, the problem with pigeons in the area behind the Centre has been alleviated.

LIGHTING – the faulty strip light in the Crypt have been replaced When it becomes necessary, strip lights in the Parish Office will be replace. At the time of writing, we are awaiting a survey on the Church lights, a number of which are not working, and the security lights in the courtyard. It is worth point out that some of the lights in the church will need scaffolding when they are replaced. This is expensive. The lights in the corridor outside the servers' vestry have been fixed.

CHURCH BOILERS – Servicing is now carried about by Dale Saunders, rather than Elco, as the former are much cheaper, local and efficient. We are in the process of adjusting the heating timers as circumstances in both Church and Crypt change.

KITCHEN (Rear of Church) – The faulty water heater has been replaced. At our own expense (and with thanks to Graeme Monk for fitting) the wheels on the serving trolley have been replaced.

TOILETS – Taps in the Parish Centre toilets have been replaced. The flushing systems in the Crypt toilets have been repaired or replaced thanks to David Smith.

ORGAN – This has been fitted with a humidifier which has had one service. This is essential to mitigate against the vast changes in temperature within the Church that would affect the Organ going out of tune.

BELL TOWER – High safety works to the high level walkway have been done.

CHURCH DOORS – All seven external doors have been renovated by Terry Knight for material costs. Huge thanks.

MARBLE TILES IN THE SANCTUARY – Lee from the stonemasons has secured the tiles in the sanctuary. At the time of writing volunteer help will secure the wooden floor tiles in the Church.

LINO REPAIRS – The lino in the Parish Centre corridor has been made safe.

CLEANING – Great thanks to the cleaning team, who work regularly on Friday mornings and at other times. We don't often notice when they do their work, but would if they didn't!

Safeguarding

There have been no Safeguarding situations over the last year, but I am in regular contact with Church House, and if a concern or query should arise, I would phone or email Kim Nash or Colin Perkins immediately, and also discuss with Fr Thomas.

The Safeguarding Team meet regularly and discuss and update policies and procedures as required.

I am regularly updating the details of all DBS checks and Safeguarding training.

Jane Hart

Safeguarding Officer

PALS, Children & Families

The last 9.30 Children's Mass was held, with some sadness, on the 18th September 2022, with a view to returning to PALS Sunday School at the earliest opportunity. This informal mass was introduced to give us some Children's Ministry during lockdown, and was very well received and enjoyed by all who took part. It gave the younger members of our congregation a chance to read the lesson if they wished, and experience other aspects of the Mass, not normally seen at a High Mass.

In October 2022, we also introduced a Celebration Service at 3pm on a Saturday, every 2 months (roughly!) which has a time of teaching, craft and worship, ending with hot dogs and drinks, at about 5pm. It is using the model of Messy Church.

So far we have held a Light Party on 29th October, and a Christingle on 10th December. A Lent event is planned for February 2023, and another one to coincide with Palm Sunday.

There have been 10-12 children attend the first 2. We hope it will continue to grow, and those that come, mostly not current worshippers, will soon attend PALS Sunday School.

This finally began again on 27th November, Advent 1. We have a few new faces, and average 8 children each week. We do not meet on the Sundays during long school holidays, but we do meet during half terms. We also like to be in the Mass for special events and celebrations, but there is the Play & Pray area where children can sit with their families, if they would rather.

We decided against a Crib Service this year, as they have been poorly attended in the past, but instead there was the Carols at the Crib at 3pm on Christmas Eve. There were about 110 attendees, and it was a wonderful celebration. Possibly the Crib activities might be added next year, inviting the children to dress up if they wish, but maybe having it an hour earlier, and attractive to adults and children made it a more positive celebration.

I'm looking forward to our Children's Ministry going from strength to strength in the coming months.

Jane Hart

Authorised Lay Minister - Children & Families

Deanery Synod

The Hastings and St Leonard's Deanery Synod met four times in 2022 - January, May, September and December. Meetings were Chaired by our Rural Dean, Rev David Hill from St John the Evangelist, and our new Deputy Rural Dean Tim Bell, Rector at St Helens, and Christchurch Ore. The new Chapter Clerk is Rev Luke Dean of St John's Hollington and St Peter and St Paul Churches.

Andrew Creighton our Deanery Treasurer reports back at each meeting, and keeps us in close contact with Chichester. At the ensuing meetings we were told about new clergy taking up posts in the Deanery which was very welcome, while others retired.

The Synod moved from strength to strength in 2022. Two vacant posts were filled with a new Lay Chair (Ms Harry England) and a new Secretary (Ms Susie Edwards and Ms Sarah Hackett) bringing in their own enthusiasms; minutes followed promptly after meetings, and the Chair has a wide view of outreach taking place in Hastings and St Leonard's churches. For example, she plans to set up a timetable of community services provided by our Anglican churches across the Deanery, including our Christchurch 'Cosy Crypt', complemented elsewhere on different days of the week.

The very real problems of fuel and food poverty are being addressed in churches keen and able to help support the community in many different ways. Synod was a good place to share blessings and challenges. The work clergy and youth workers were performing in reaching out to schools was also an ongoing item of interest. This following 2021 when parishes had all faced challenges during lockdown and social distancing due to Covid. Many agenda items were covered at meetings, which demonstrated the links with deanery, diocese and national synod. There should be a three way flow of items and suggestions and at one session Rev David Hill presented the topic, what is deanery synod, particularly helpful to new members.

In March 2022 we were asked to advertise a visit to the Deanery of the Archbishop of Canterbury as part of his countrywide campaign. He gave his open and honest testimony to a large group at the Hastings Centre on the Ridge, which was very warmly received. Individuals who came forward were to be followed up locally in planned lenten group meetings.

Issues affecting the Worldwide Anglican Communion were considered when Tina Nay came as a guest speaker in September, to feedback from the General Synod in York in July 2022. Topics included: elections of new Archbishop of Canterbury in the future with a possible proposal of drawing candidates from other continents. Another issue was 'Net Zero 2030' and the churches' roles in achieving that. A sum of £190 million was being provided by the Church Commissioners to boost these efforts over 9 years. (Also £20 million for racial justice work and £400 million for local ministry). Many other items were noted by Ms Nay as discussed at General Synod. She gave us her notes and references, available should anyone wish to have them. Some of the issues raised highlighted different opinions within Synod with a chance for some general discussion.

The final meeting of the year in December 2022 was a social event where lay members and clergy mingled more freely than in the usual meetings, a welcome opportunity to get to know each other better. Reverend Hill was a generous host, plying members with a welcome and drinks on arrival.

Dec 22

Synod Members representing Christchurch

Louise Fisher, Sue Parsons, Anne Hanney, Lizzy Mackay

Youth Groups: Group Scout Leaders Report 2022

Following a couple of turbulent years with the pandemic, in and out of lockdowns and with lots of restrictions, the light at the end of the tunnel started shining and Scouting activities started getting back to normal.

All the sections have had exciting programmes with continued growth. They all have covered First Aid at different levels and have been looking at Environmental issues covering recycling. As we are a seaside town, we looked at Marine Conservation, teaming up with the Local RSPSA at Mallydams.

The Cubs and Scouts looked at some international things like the WSJ (World Scout Jamboree) and the Scouts started writing to a Scout Troop in the USA who contacted me earlier in the year asking if any of them would be interested in becoming pen pals. We also saw the welcome return of the Hastings Half Marathon with the group helping to hand out drinks to the runners outside the Hastings Pier.

The whole group wrote to our Late Queen in May to wish her well for her birthday and her forthcoming 70th Jubilee. We were really chuffed to receive a lovely card with an accompanying letter later in the year!

After teaming up with the RSPCA we all carried out a beach clean in June from Warrior Square to almost the Pier and back. We were all shocked at the amount of rubbish and very shocked at some of the items we found! To coincide with the beach clean we held a competition to design a badge, something we haven't done for a while. The last time was when our group turned 100 back in 2009. The lovely folk at the RSPCA judged the competition for us and the winning design has been made into a badge for all the group.

We finished the summer term with our annual AGM at Fairlight, with hotdogs and games and ended with handing out some well-earned badges. It was just like old times. Following the summer break, the autumn term started with our Beaver Leader Charley leaving us and Tina and Lizzy stepping up and running the Beaver Colony, with myself and Nick (our Cub Leader) helping bi-weekly for extra support.

The group once again made a couple of appearances in church this year for Harvest and Remembrance Sunday, making poppy wreaths for the latter. The Hastings Gang Show was also back on this year with a good number from each section taking part and watching the show, including Fr Thomas.

All the sections have been taking part in so many different and exciting things, far too much to list, however I hope you get a sense of what we all have achieved this year following all the setbacks we have experienced over the previous two years. I would like to thank all the Section Leaders, Assistant Leaders, and other adult helpers for the excellent job they do, and for volunteering their time freely to make a real difference to the young people at the 9th Hastings (Christ Church) Scout Group.

Graeme Monk

Scout Leader & Group Scout Leader 9th Hastings (Christ Church) Scout Group.

Bell Ringers

The tower continues to be well supported by ringers, with generally six to eight attending on Sunday morning, and ten to twelve (including visitors from Christ Church, Blacklands and Battle) at the Monday night practices. To most or all of us the change in service times during the year to a 10.30 main Mass on Sunday morning was very welcome, enabling us to ring for the principal service of the day. Mechanically there is little to report, with the bell installation continuing in good order despite the occasional ingress of pigeons to the belfry, and a certain amount of rope wear, necessitating splicing - a traditional craft which is still very much alive in bell towers!

Alan Pink

Tower Captain

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Revd. Thomas Crowley, PCC Chairman



Date: 27th February 2023

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds	Total Funds 2,021
	£	£		£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	90,706	-	-	90,706	110,721
Charitable activities	559	-	-	559	1,002
Other trading activities	187,646	4,317	-	191,963	159,373
Investments	9,417	468	-	9,885	8,847
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	288,329	4,785	-	293,114	279,943
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7,911	-	-	7,911	8,641
Charitable activities	347,615	297	-	347,912	361,307
Other trading activities	22,497	4,130	-	26,627	22,620
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	378,024	4,427	-	382,451	392,568
Net gains (or losses) on investments	(37,949)	(2,065)	(68)	(40,082)	42,886
Net income or (net expenditure)	(127,644)	(1,707)	(68)	(129,419)	(69,739)
Transfers between funds					
				-	-
	(127,644)	(1,707)	(68)	(129,419)	(69,739)
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>					
Net movement in funds	(127,644)	(1,707)	(68)	(129,419)	(69,739)
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2021	471,927	18,898	505	491,330	
Total funds carried forward	344,283	17,191	437	361,911	

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

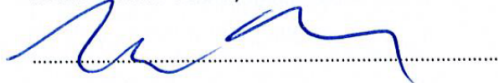
Registered Charity no. 1170031

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2022

	Total Funds <u>2022</u>	Total Funds <u>2021</u>	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Investments	301,560	341,574	
Endowed investments	437	505	
Total fixed assets	301,997	342,079	8
Stocks	-	-	
Debtors	5,307	81,197	
Cash at bank and in hand	144,200	160,825	15
Total current assets	149,507	242,022	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(47,521)	(50,699)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	101,986	191,323	
Total assets less current liabilities	403,983	533,402	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	(42,072)	(42,072)	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	361,911	491,330	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	437	505	
Restricted income funds	17,191	18,898	
Unrestricted funds	344,283	471,927	
Revaluation reserve	-	-	
Total unrestricted funds	344,283	471,927	
Total charity funds	361,911	491,330	

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2022, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Revd. Thomas Crowley. Chairman



Date 27th February 2023

Notes to the financial report

1 Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the cease of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

□ Fixtures and fittings	20%
□ Audio visual equipment	33%
□ Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

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

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

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Analysis of income and endowments 12 months to 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	13,503	-	-	13,503	14,730
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	15,673	-	-	15,673	14,296
Donations	23,526	-	-	23,526	26,603
Loose cash collections	2,992	-	-	2,992	2,400
Fund Raising Events	1,890	-	-	1,890	958
Summer and Winter Fayres	-	-	-	-	1,090
Table Sales	5,129	-	-	5,129	2,366
Gift Aid recoverable	9,243	-	-	9,243	11,488
Legacies	18,011	-	-	18,011	29,459
Special Appeals	740	-	-	740	7,330
Donations and legacies	£90,706	-	-	£90,706	£110,720
Fees for weddings & funerals	559	-	-	559	1,002
Charitable activities	£559	-	-	£559	£1,002
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar	-	-	-	-	-
Coffee and Candles	3,222	-	-	3,222	1,167
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	-	-	-	-	-
Church Hall and Office Letting	22,880	-	-	22,880	18,731
Grants	161,545	-	-	161,545	139,475
Walsingham Pilgrimages		4,317	-	4,317	-
Other trading activities	£187,646	£4,317	-	£191,963	£159,373
Bank & CBF deposit interest	898	-	-	898	147
CBF investment fund dividend	8,510	468	-	8,978	8,686
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	10	-	-	10	14
Investments	£9,417	£468		£9,885	£8,847
	-	-	-	-	-
Total income and endowments on all funds	£288,329	£4,785	-	£293,113	£279,942

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Analysis of expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Special appeals costs (e.g. adverts, brochures)	-	-	-	-	-	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Planned Giving Costs	-	-	-	-	217	
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	7,911	-	-	7,911	8424	
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of raising funds	£7,911	-	-	£7,911	£8,641	
Missionary and charitable giving						
Ministry:						
<i>diocesan parish share</i>	62,500	-	-	62,500	62,000	
<i>other clergy costs</i>	1,561	-	-	1,561	90	
Staff	8,295	-	-	8,295	7,051	5
Upkeep of services	2,594	197	-	2,791	2,703	
Church running	17,697	-	-	17,697	12,764	
Sunday school	-	100	-	100	100	
Church maintenance and repair	7,864	-	-	7,864	7,335	
Fabric Costs	220,850	-	-	220,850	172,116	
Insurance of Church Building	6,843	-	-	6,843	6,588	
Grants	75	-	-	75	0	
Special Appeals works (Clock Dials/Sound System/Organ)	20,270	-	-	20,270	84,675	
Architects Fees	1,149	-	-	1,149	724	
Bank charges	262	-	-	262	286	
Rectory Costs	- 4,323	-	-	- 4,323	2,834	
Governance	1,980	-	-	1,980	2,040	6
Cost of charitable activities	£347,615	£297		£347,912	£361,306	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	-	
St Peters Hall costs	-	-	-	-	0	
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	16,437	-	-	16,437	16,266	
Curate costs	6,061	271	-	6,332	6,154	
Parish magazine costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	3,859	-	3,859	200	
Sundry Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of other trading activities	£22,497	£4,130	-	£26,627	£22,620	
Total expended on all funds	£378,024	£4,427	-	£382,451	£392,567	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4 Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Overseas:	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-
Home:					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
a Remuneration	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	8,295	-	-	8,295	7,051
Social Security costs	-	-	-	-	-
	£8,295	-	-	£8,295	£7,051

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Independent examination	£	£	£	£	£
	1,980	-	-	1,980	2,040
Accounts production	-	-	-	-	-
Bookkeeping	-	-	-	-	-
	£1,980	-	-	£1,980	£2,040

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
7 Analysis of transfers between funds	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Market value 1 January 2022	323,814	17,760	505	342,079	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	(37,949)	(2,065)	(68)	(40,082)	
Market value 31 December 2022	£285,865	£15,695	£437	£301,997	

b Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2022	-	-	-	-	
Additions	-	-	-	-	
Disposals	-	-	-	-	
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-	
Charge for impairment					
At 1 January 2022	-	-	-	-	
Additions	-	-	-	-	
Disposals	-	-	-	-	
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-	
Net book amounts					
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-	
<i>At 31 December 2021</i>	-	-	-	-	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Investment fixed assets	285,865	15,695	437	301,997	342,079	
Current assets (except cash)	5,307	-	-	5,307	81,197	
Cash at bank and on deposit	143,127	1,072	-	144,200	160,825	
Current liabilities	(47,521)	-	-	(47,521)	(50,699)	
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)	-	-	(42,072)	(42,072)	
	£344,706	£16,768	£437	£361,911	£491,330	

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income tax recoverable	3,083	-	-	3,083	3,219	
Prepayments and accrued income	2,224	-	-	2,224	5,704	
Other debtors	-	-	-	-	72,274	
	£5,307	-	-	£5,307	£81,197	

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Deferred income	-	-	-	-	-	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	47,521	-	-	47,521	50,699	
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-	
	£47,521	-	-	£47,521	£50,699	

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072	-	-	42,072	42,072	
	£42,072	-	-	£42,072	£42,072	

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

14 Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	505	-	-	(68)	437
				-	-
Total of all endowed funds	505	-	-	(68)	437
Rector & Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-
YACC	577	-	-	-	577
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	166	4,317	3,859	-	624
Sunday School	395	-	100	-	295
Trollopes Charity	17,760	468	468	(2,065)	15,695
Total of all restricted funds	18,898	4,785	4,427	(2,065)	17,191
General fund	471,928	288,328	378,024	(37,949)	344,283
Total of all unrestricted funds	471,928	288,328	378,024	(37,949)	344,283
Total funds	£491,330	£293,113	£382,451	£(40,082)	£361,911

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £142,125 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds <u>2022</u>	Total Funds <u>2021</u>	Notes
	£	£	
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	144,200	160,825	
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-	
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-	
Total cash and cash equivalents	£144,200	£160,825	

16 Related parties and transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ST PETER AND ST PAUL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2022 set out on pages 19 to 28.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



S. R. Sampson BFP FCA FCIE DChA
For and on behalf of Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors
20 Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1BP

Date: 7 March 2023

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen
and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards on Sea**

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Christ Church, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 6GL

Registered Charity no. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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Website: www.christchurchstleonards.co.uk
Priest-in-Charge: Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley
Independent examiner: Ashdown Hurrey, Hastings
Bankers: Charities Aid Foundation, West Malling

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea

Trustees Annual Report for 2021

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship;
- The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, including on a daily basis at Christ Church; baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
 - Visiting the sick;
 - Administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship, to the sick and dying;
 - Supporting pastoral work;
 - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
 - Supporting the work of other local charities.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

For 2021 we continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church. Obeying Covid 19 restrictions the Church remained open through the day whenever possible;
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community;
- Teaching, baptizing and confirming new and existing believers;
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish;
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;
- Offering worship and prayer, though learning about the Gospel in small group situations had to postponed this year because of the pandemic;
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;

- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish;
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed and monitored at PCC meetings.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

The range of activities for Christ Church can be split broadly into three categories –

- a) worship, prayer, catechesis, pastoral care and evangelism;
- b) fellowship and fundraising;
- c) serving the local community

The ongoing Coronavirus pandemic has continued to impair the normal activities of the Church throughout 2021, but it is remarkable how resilient the Church has been.

Worship, prayer, catechesis, pastoral care and evangelism

The Church has remained open for private prayer day-by-day. Public worship continued with two Masses on weekdays Monday to Friday and four Masses on a Sunday as opposed to the previous two per Sunday before the 2020 lockdowns to ensure ease of social distancing and cater also for the needs of the children who were unable to meet safely in the crypt.

Baptisms were celebrated and adult candidates presented for Confirmation. With only limited numbers allowed at times to attend, funerals in Church included from the congregation, Jennifer Sang, Michael Fletcher, a former Organist, Patrick Dawson, a former Churchwarden and member of the Confraternity of Our Lady, and Noreen Knight, who had served for many years as a housemother for the Fellowship of St Nicholas and more recently as a benefactor enabled the Church to access WiFi and donation by credit card. *Requiescant in Pace.*

Throughout the year Fr Nick Archer led worship in Christ Church Academy, including when only kept open for key workers and vulnerable children, and has provided weekly videos for classroom worship. This ministry has been maintained since Fr Archer left in October 2021 by Fr Thomas Crowley whom we welcomed as a full-time stipendiary assistant curate in September.

The church bells were rung each Sunday. When collective bell ringing was not possible, the bell ringers ensured that a single bell was tolled both on Sunday and before the evening Mass.

Fundraising and Fellowship

2021 proved to be as challenging as 2020 and started with a lock down, the first casualty was the Parish lunch to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.

However positive steps were taken when conditions allowed:

- Seven table Sales were held raising £2,366, a further £957.83 was raised through various efforts including the Book Room, Epiphany Envelopes, Penny Boxes, Christmas Cards and Cake of course.

- There were two Concerts by the Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir.
- Our website continues to be a useful source of information including an on-line giving facility
- Funding from a parishioner in 2020 enabled the installation of Wi-Fi throughout the church which has provided access to the internet for 'livestreaming' of services via Face Book whilst the service booklets were emailed to people's home from the Parish Office and the use of an unmanned contactless donation device which in these difficult times, especially with cash handling and when the church was only open for private prayer and reflection. The Wi-Fi has also been used to exercise more control over the recently-installed, improved Sound System.
- The Fundraising Group established 2019 continues to assist in looking at ways of raising the substantial sum of money needed for renovation of the Church fabric and will, later in 2022, look at sustainable giving on a regular basis. A number of meetings have been convened mainly over ZOOM or Telephone Conferencing and importantly working with Craigmyle, an experienced fundraising firm of some 50 years, especially in the area of an ecclesiastical nature. The emphasis of these meetings has been how to apply successfully for grants to enable substantial renovation to the exterior of the church in dealing with the recommendations of the 2018 Quinquennial Report from our architect Peter Pritchett, for example:
 - The urgent work on the Tower and Steeple was undertaken in the first half of 2021 at a total cost of around £108k. With the help of Craigmyle, the Fundraising Group and our architect, Peter Pritchett, a grant of £87k was obtained from the Cultural Recovery fund of the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF).
 - Although not grant funded the four Clock Faces were taken down and taken to the workshops of Smiths of Derby who conducted a complete refurbishment and are now returned to their rightful place. Clock watchers will know the hands were removed for safety reasons some 20 years ago. The Fundraising Group and the PCC felt the clock faces were an important landmark in the community and needed to be restored to their 1895 splendor. The cost of this has been in the region of £65k, donations of £26k have already been received. Later in 2022 a project to obtain some grant funding will be launched to overhaul the clock mechanism to get the clocks fully working again.
 - The next phase of refurbishment is the South side of the Church; this was started in November 2021 and will continue until April - June 2022. Again, a grant of £180k was obtained from the Cultural Recovery fund of the Cultural Recovery part of the NLHF against an overall project cost of £226k.
 - The last phase is the West, North and East elevation along with the lower part of the tower. The planning for this has already started.

Of course, this is not all about fundraising and buildings, it is about people coming together, using their talents, involving the local community and celebrating the space we call our church for worship and much more.

Serving the Community

This year we have continued, as much as we can, to continue looking outward in our mission and outreach.

We have still been able to support the local community in these ways:

- The Seaview Project (for the poor and needy) through contributions of food and useful small items and contributing staple foodstuffs and toiletries to Hastings Foodbank.
- Serving as local governors at our parish school.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), Sarah Brisco Charity and the St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as Board members of the Christ Church House Improvement Society Ltd.
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.
- Hosting weekly Cocaine Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings.
- Members of the sewing group are contributing knitted items of clothing to charities such as Surviving the Streets, Dom's Food Mission and Warming Up The Homeless.

Night Shelters

- Opening the Crypt for the night shelters operated by SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) and Surviving the Streets has not been allowed again this year but communications remain open with Hastings Council for using the Crypt and supporting SWEP in future.
- Regular contact and support is maintained with Surviving the Streets and some funding has been given to them via the Sarah Brisco Charity. Discussions re ways forward for the church to continue its support are ongoing and a link between the charity and Christ Church is now firmly linked.

Surviving the Streets Food Bank Initiative

This year we have been very pleased to see the instigation of an exciting new initiative with Surviving the Streets with the installation of a Food Bank Locker in the courtyard. This has finally come to fruition after a year of hard work from Christ Church clergy, PCC members and the charity. The church has been able to fund the initiative through the Sarah Brisco charity and the Food Bank will be a much needed resource for local people to use providing food parcels for people and pets and essential items for the homeless.

Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local Scout Group and serve as members of the Scout Group Committee although actual gatherings have been curtailed until allowed.

The monthly Community Café has been unable to take place this year but will resume shortly. Monthly Table Sales have resumed and have proven once again to be a great success with local people and also as a means of income. Many thanks to the members of the congregation who tirelessly work on a regular basis to enable the sales to occur.

The Parish Hall and Crypt have continued to be used by vulnerable groups AA, NA, CA throughout the pandemic and both rooms are now reopen to the wider public and the hall has resumed being booked by local groups.

The 'Book Room' in the Parish Centre is now open twice a week and continues to raise a profitable amount of money as well as providing a reading resource for the congregation and wider public.

Negotiations are ongoing to provide an opportunity for local arts groups to use our facilities.

The Church has been able to continue to host some concerts this year and has a good ongoing relationship with Hastings Philharmonic Choir and Chamber Choir. We have been able to benefit from a variety of recitals by various people in church and some concerts have been rescheduled to take place at a later date.

A new children's choir group, Songbirds, has also been set up by Hastings Philharmonic Choir and this takes place in church.

Citizens Advice Bureau has settled into CCOBT's Magnet Centre and a good relationship has been developed with them.

The Church has also benefitted from being part of the Safer Streets project with liaison between Church, police and CAB to provide extra lighting and security cameras in the courtyard. This has given extra security to the users of our premises.

Financial Review

Throughout 2021 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. In particular this stressed giving through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid, thus helping with our cash flow. Although there was a small uptake in numbers in the PGS, the overall level of regular giving has not increased.

Throughout the year Christ Church continued to engage the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional support to advise on a capital campaign to raise the sums required to take our building improvement plans forward, and to create plans to make the annual running costs of the church sustainable without relying on reserves.

The Quinquennial Inspection showed the requirement for urgent fabric restoration repairs. Detailed inspection of these requirements showed additional work was required on the Tower and Steeple. In total these costs are in excess of £725,000, and this is greater than our level of reserves. Craigmyle were able to secure two large grants from the Cultural Recovery Fund covering 80% of the costs of the works to both the Tower/Steeple and South Elevation. The Tower and Steeple works were completed during the year and work commenced to the South Elevation in November. The balance of costs of these works at £33,000 has had to come from our reserves.

Further works to the remaining elevations of the Church are the subject of an application submitted by Craigmyle on our behalf to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which would cover a large part of the costs, but would still require £140,000 to be found to complete all the necessary works.

In addition to these works Appeals were launched during the year to cover the costs of the restoration of the Clock Dials, an upgraded Sound system and urgent repairs to the Organ dehumidifier. These Appeals together with legacies requested to be used for these costs raised

£38,000. This was insufficient to meet all the costs of these projects, mainly owing to unforeseen difficulties experienced by the Contractors restoring the Clock Dials causing delays and significantly higher scaffolding costs. This has led to £46,000 of our reserves being used. Grant Aid was not possible for these works.

During 2021 donation income (excluding the special appeals) was £6,000 lower than in 2020. With COVID-related restrictions reduced, the second half of the year saw increased use of the Church Hall and Crypt together with concerts in the Church, meaning that this income was greater than in 2020. The PCC continue, where possible, to keep expenditure under tight control. However the day-to-day deficit was £25,000 for the year. The investment holdings again brought a windfall gain of £43,000 on their revaluation at the year-end. We again caution that valuations can reduce as well as increase. The overall effect has been to decrease our Reserves by £70,000

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a five-year period. It has not been possible during 2021 to make much progress, and the expected deficit for 2022 remains too high at £20,000, thereby eroding further our accumulated reserves.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.
- In 2021 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £112,000 before the exceptional increase in value of our Investments is taken into Account
- The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church, the largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Priest-in-Charge

The Rt Revd Peter Wheatley *PCC Chairman*

Assistant Curates:

The Revd Nicholas Archer *(to 7 November 2021)*

The Revd Thomas Crowley *(from 14 September 2021)*

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM) *PCC Secretary*

Wardens:

Mrs Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*

Mrs Maureen Harman

Elected Members:

Jessica Campbell *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Trevor Davies *Treasurer*

Julie Gidlow

Christopher Goodman *Data Protection Responsible Person*

Tina-Marie Grevett

Michael Hart

Jane Hart *Safeguarding Officer*

Wil Jewitt

Andrew Knight

Celia Manning

John Read

Carole Sherwood *Electoral Roll Officer*

David Smith

Deanery Synod Representatives

Louise Fisher

Anne Hanney *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Elizabeth Mackay

Susan Parsons

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain *ex-officio* members (the incumbent, curates), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 13 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Structure, governance and management

As required by law, a Standing Committee meets to transact PCC business between PCC meetings.

Also elected at the first meeting of the PCC after the APCM were a Safeguarding Committee and working groups for buildings and maintenance, social and catering and fairs. Stewardship and mission was subsumed into meetings of the Standing Committee, as was also fundraising, given the importance of major grants for the fabric, already secured and applied for, and attention to the ongoing financial deficit, all with the assistance of Craigmyle, our fundraising consultants.

Meetings of the Churchwardens and of the Clergy Staff took place on a monthly basis, chaired by the Priest-in-Charge

Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors is chaired by Bishop Peter. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2021, the Board of Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, and with ever-increasing costs rents were increased slightly for the first time since 2018, allowing for a very small surplus. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. The Trustees are chaired by Bishop Peter. Trevor Davies is Treasurer.

Sarah Brisco Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are Bishop Peter, the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it

does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2021 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy schoolchildren's Home-schooling packs, Gardening Club and Friday Fruit, as well a contribution to Surviving The Streets for their provision to the needy as well as the first payment towards to Food Bank installed in the Church Courtyard.

Christ Church St Leonards Old Buildings Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (1087321)

The Trust owns and manages the buildings parallel to Christ Church known as the Old School Buildings and the land upon which the Christ Church CE Primary and Nursery Academy stands.

The objects of the Trust are:

1. The advancement and promotion of theological education and training for lay and ordained persons in the Church of England.
2. Meeting rooms for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea.
3. Accommodation for clergy and their families within the Church of England.
4. For other charitable purposes connected with the Church of England

The Trustees are; Bishop Peter Wheatley, (Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church), Mrs Maureen Harman, Bishop Nicholas Reade, and Mr Ian McKellar. Two new Trustees joined the Board in 2021, Mrs Susan Parsons and Mr Paul Lewis. Mr Andrew Knight is Clerk to the Trustees.

Highlights for 2021 have been:

- The continuation of a ten-year lease let to CA1066 (Citizens Advice Bureau) from 2/1/19
- A rolling 1-year lease let as a private residence for 17 Alfred Street from 1/5/2020
- The continuation of a rolling 1-year lease of the 'Parish Rooms' to the Christ Church PCC
- A continuation of a 125-year lease to Hastings Borough Council for the part of the building known as Renaissance House
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic the Board met six times during 2021 (two via ZOOM) and discussed and progressed where possible
 - A closer relationship with the Mother Agnes Trust
 - The Fire Alarm in the Old School Buildings (OSB) which was replaced in July 2021
 - Maintenance of the outside of OSB (held up due to COVID-19)
 - Long term strategy of the use of the OSB
 - Recruitment of two new Trustees

- Anti-Social behavior initiatives such as CCTV, keeping the curtilage clean in and around the OSB and Christ Church, including liaising with Community Leaders and Hastings Borough Council
- Compliance with the Charities Commission advice on Risk, Conflict of Interests and Financial Control

Risk Review

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Church Architect and by the Buildings and Maintenance Group reporting regularly to the Standing Committee and PCC. The finances are controlled by careful budgeting and close attention to fundraising, particularly with the employment of professional fundraisers.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter-alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. The PCC is also the normal channel of communication between the parishioners and the Bishop of the diocese. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the one stipendiary clergyman is remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

Fabric

Routine Servicing - Boilers in the Church and Parish Centre have been serviced, as has the Font Lifting Mechanism and the Church alarm system. PAT testing has been carried out. The lightning conductor has been checked.

Lighting - all lights in the church and organ gallery have been replaced as necessary. The ornamental light in the Crypt now has a replacement bulb and an LED light bulb put in the wall mounted light inside the door.

Key Pad - the key pad on the Crypt has been replaced and has a protective cover over it.

Drains - there was a sewage problem in the Parish Centre causing an offensive odour. The offending drain was cleared. Also the drain under the sink in the flower room was partially blocked. A temporary solution may have been found. If this is not successful then a drain company will be called in.

Gutters - the gutters and hoppers have been cleared curing the water ingress in the Crypt.

Parish Centre - the damp problem in the Parish Centre has been rectified, through replacing a radiator and keeping the heating on all year round. Also, when the boilers were serviced it meant all radiators were working properly. All taps in the toilets have been replaced and the water pressure reduced.

Organ dehumidifier - a dehumidifier is to be fitted in the organ blower room and at the time of writing, although the necessary electrical preparation has been done, the installation of the dehumidifier is awaited.

Altar Lamps - again, at the time of writing, the servicing of these is awaited, although a price has been agreed.

Hot Water - the problem of the hot water taps in the Crypt toilets has been dealt with.

Safeguarding

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) adopts the Safeguarding Policy of the Diocese of Chichester and reviews this annually. Our Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Jane Hart. She is assisted by Mrs Anne Hanney and Miss Jessica Campbell. The Diocese has a Safeguarding Website (<https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org>), which can be accessed by anyone, and all the policies and procedures adopted by the PCC are available here. They are also available via a link on the front page of our Parish website.

During 2020, the Safeguarding Training was delivered by Zoom, with those needing to update attending, including Jane Hart and Fr Richard Ralph at C2 level. It has been difficult to monitor this during the various lockdowns of the pandemic, but Jane is aware of any courses being made available and the PCC and wider Parish community will be notified as appropriate. The courses are C0 and C1 safeguarding training, required by all in any role concerning young people or vulnerable adults. C2 training is for all laity in a leadership role. The Clergy are also required to take C3 training. The training continues to be on Zoom, and will be for the foreseeable future.

All members of the congregation required to do so (those in leadership, training, supervision, and trustee roles) have been DBS checked (Criminal Records Bureau), and these are now updated every 3 years.

We aim to be transparent in all we do, and are compliant with all required forms and information, subject to GDPR.

The forms have been updated and displayed as required. The Safeguarding team has continued to

meet via Zoom throughout 2021. There have been no areas of concern. As Covid restrictions have gradually lifted, the Family Mass at 10.30 has adapted, but maintained safety aspects.

Jane Hart, Safeguarding Officer

PALS (Christ Church Sunday School)

PALS did not resume during 2021, but the 10.30 Mass was continued in lieu of it. It is an interactive celebration where the children (and adults) can take part as much as they wish, in reading the lesson, joining in with the sign language worship, and laying incense grains on the burner during our prayers. As I am now an Authorised Lay Minister in Worship & Liturgy, I sometimes present the teaching element of the Mass, following the Gospel. This is a concise 1 or 2 minute talk or activity; a simplified version of what we would be teaching in PALS. It is hoped this might continue once a month, when things return to normal and we are able to resume PALS in our room downstairs, but giving the young people and their families a different form of worship actually in church, and one the younger ones can take more part in, rather than the full Parish Mass. It is an excellent way to introduce certain aspects, and I thank Bishop Peter, Fr Nick, and now Fr Thomas for their ideas, support and encouragement in this new service.

Godly Play was to be introduced as a local activity at St John's Church, Pevensey Road, in October 2021, but due to various members of the team contracting Covid, this has been deferred until Spring 2022.

On Christmas Eve, we had the 4pm Crib Service. Shades Christian Theatre Group performed a short sketch about the Angel Gabriel. I think it was better appreciated by adults than by children, but it gave a good introduction to the rest of the story. There were 4 children and 12 adults, plus Bishop Peter, Fr Thomas, myself and Mick Hart. Those that wanted to could dress up.

Jane Hart

Deanery Synod Report

A Deanery Synod has now reconvened, but in 2021 planned meetings were cancelled until 27 September when Synod met to discuss experiences of the pandemic.

In October the Synod lay members voted for candidates for the Diocesan Synod. The next meeting is scheduled for 19 May 2022.

Christ Church Bell Ringers

With eleven permanent ringing members and some regular visitors, we are one of the better populated towers in the county, and manage to man all or most of the eight ringing bells each Sunday and on our Monday night practices. The recent change to a new Sunday morning ringing time of 9 am to 9.30 was inevitably more convenient for some than for others, but it is appreciated that the structure of Sunday morning masses is under review. The recent extensive work on the tower has been carried out with minimal disruption to the ringing, and we look forward to developments with regard to the clock. The bells themselves continue to be in good order.

Alan Pink, *Tower Captain*

9th Hastings (Christ Church) Scout Group: Group Scout Leader's Report

2021 started off the same way 2020 ended - in lockdown with no Scouting activities except via

zoom, which I tried to do on a regular basis with my leaders to keep them up to date with any changing guidelines, and also to ensure everyone felt they were still involved.

March saw the Hastings ½ Marathon cancelled for the second year running, so no drink station again and still no Scouting.

Guidelines changed slightly by the end of March when six adults could meet up outdoors and Scout HQ announced that limited Scouting could start with small groups of Scouts meeting up face-to-face outside. After several Zoom meetings with the Leaders, the 9th resumed meeting in The Courtyard face-to-face.

To celebrate coming back together again and utilising guidelines, we decided to finish off the term by taking the whole Group down to the Crazy Golf. Unfortunately, Covid got in the way and we had to cancel the golf, finishing our term prematurely.

It was mid-September by the time we were able to restart following the summer break. Guidelines slightly changed once more and with huge relief we were able to meet indoors at last. Unfortunately, October saw Emma our Scout Leader step down and I once more stepped back into the role of Scout Leader. October was also our first Church Parade for some time, if on a somewhat smaller scale than usual, when we took part in the Harvest Festival mass.

October and November saw the Group get back to some sort of normality with Beavers talking about looking after our planet, learning how to send a letter and learning a new song. The Cubs looked at Road Safety, did some cooking and the Artist Badge, trying to copy Banksy. The Scouts had a crafty evening, a hobbies evening and held an International evening. The whole Group helped to make poppies for remembrance Sunday which went to decorate the Church.

In December, all the sections were able to finish off the term in different festive ways. The Beavers and Cubs both had a Christmas party, and the Scouts had a Jim Jam film night, dressed in either onesies or pajamas watching Elf. The Cubs and Beavers also went to the White Rock pantomime during the Christmas break.

We ended the year by saying goodbye to our Akela (Duane Kemp) who had been with our Group since 2013. All the leaders from each section came down to wish him well on his final evening.

I would like to thank all the Adult Leaders, Assistant Leaders, and helpers for the excellent job they do, volunteering their time freely to make a real difference to the lives of the young people in our group, especially even more so over the last year which has been at times rather stressful!

Graeme Monk

Group Scout Leader, 9th Hastings Christ Church Scout Group

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley, PCC Chairman



6 March 2022

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£		£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	110,720	-	-	110,720	77,478
Charitable activities	1,002	-	-	1,002	794
Other trading activities	159,373	-	-	159,373	12,794
Investments	8,390	457	-	8,847	9,687
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	279,485	457	-	279,942	100,753
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8,641	-	-	8,641	7,702
Charitable activities	361,013	293	-	361,306	139,964
Other trading activities	22,156	464	-	22,620	15,051
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	391,810	757	-	392,567	162,717
Net gains (or losses) on investments	40,737	2,185	(36)	42,886	116,803
Net income or (net expenditure)	(71,588)	1,885	(36)	(69,739)	54,839
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
	(71,588)	1,885	(36)	(69,739)	54,839
Other recognised gains/(losses):	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>					
Net movement in funds	(71,588)	1,885	(36)	(69,739)	54,839
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2020	543,515	17,013	541	561,069	
Total funds carried forward	471,927	18,898	505	491,330	

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

	Total Funds 2021	<i>Total Funds</i> <i>2020</i>	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Investments	341,574	298,652	
Endowed investments	505	541	
Total fixed assets	342,079	299,193	8
Stocks	-	-	
Debtors	81,197	4,711	
Cash at bank and in hand	160,825	321,372	15
Total current assets	242,022	326,083	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(50,699)	(22,135)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	191,323	303,948	
Total assets less current liabilities	533,402	603,141	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	(42,072)	(42,072)	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	491,330	561,069	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	505	541	
Restricted income funds	18,898	17,013	
Unrestricted funds	471,927	543,515	
Revaluation reserve	-	-	
Total unrestricted funds	471,927	543,515	
Total charity funds	491,330	561,069	

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2021, including the notes following, was

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

+Peter Wheatley Chairman



Date: 6 March 2022

Notes to the financial report

1 Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the cease of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

□ Fixtures and fittings	20%
□ Audio visual equipment	33%
□ Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

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

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

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

2. Analysis of income and endowments 12 months to 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	14,730	-	-	14,730	18,052
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	14,296	-	-	14,296	14,192
Donations	26,603	-	-	26,603	30,195
Loose cash collections	2,400	-	-	2,400	2,578
Fund Raising Events	958	-	-	958	587
Summer and Winter Fayres	1,090	-	-	1,090	-
Table Sales	2,366	-	-	2,366	1,588
Gift Aid recoverable	11,488	-	-	11,488	10,286
Legacies	29,459	-	-	29,459	-
Special Appeals	7,330	-	-	7,330	-
Donations and legacies	110,720	-	-	110,720	77,478
Fees for weddings & funerals	1,002	-	-	1,002	794
Charitable activities	1,002	-	-	1,002	794
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar	-	-	-	-	-
Coffee and Candles	1,167	-	-	1,167	830
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	-	-	-	-	900
Church Hall and Office Letting	18,731	-	-	18,731	12,370
Grants	139,475	-	-	139,475	250
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	-	-	-	(1,556)
Other trading activities	159,373	-	-	159,373	12,794
Bank & CBF deposit interest	147	-	-	147	1,266
CBF investment fund dividend	8,229	457	-	8,686	8,395
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	14	-	-	14	26
Investments	8,390	457	-	8,847	9,687
	-	-	-	-	
Total income and endowments on all funds	279,485	457	-	279,942	100,753

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

3. Analysis of expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£		£	£	
Special appeals costs (e.g. adverts, brochures)	-	-	-	-	-	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Planned Giving Costs	217	-	-	217	35	
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	8,424	-	-	8,424	7,667	
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of raising funds	8,641	-	-	8,641	7,702	
Missionary and charitable giving	-	-	-	-	-	
Ministry:						
<i>diocesan parish share</i>	62,000	-	-	62,000	61,800	
<i>other clergy costs</i>	90	-	-	90	936	
Staff	7,051	-	-	7,051	6,134	5
Upkeep of services	2,510	193	-	2,703	1,136	
Church running	12,764	-	-	12,764	13,456	
Sunday school	-	100	-	100	50	
Church maintenance and repair	7,335	-	-	7,335	11,358	
Fabric Costs	172,116	-	-	172,116	31,706	
Insurance of Church Building	6,588	-	-	6,588	6,727	
Grants	-	-	-	-	20	
Special Appeals works (Clock Dials/Sound System/Organ)	84,675	-	-	84,675	-	
Architects Fees	724	-	-	724	1,666	
Bank charges	286	-	-	286	90	
Rectory Costs	2,834	-	-	2,834	2,965	
Governance	2,040	-	-	2,040	1,920	6
Cost of charitable activities	361,013	293		361,306	139,964	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-	-	-	-	
St Peters Hall costs	-	-	-	-	637	
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	16,266	-	-	16,266	12,167	
Curate costs	5,890	264	-	6,154	2,247	
Parish magazine costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	200	-	200	-	
Sundry Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of other trading activities	22,156	464	-	22,620	15,051	
Total expended on all funds	391,810	757	-	392,567	162,717	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4 Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
Overseas:	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-
Home:					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
a Remuneration	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	7,051	-	-	7,051	6,134
Social Security costs	-	-	-	-	-
	7,051	-	-	7,051	6,134

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
Independent examination	£	£	£	£	£
	2,040	-	-	2,040	1,920
Accounts production	-	-	-	-	-
Bookkeeping	-	-	-	-	-
	2,040	-	-	2,040	1,920

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
7 Analysis of transfers between funds	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Market value 1 January 2021	283,107	15,545	541	299,193	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	40,707	2,215	(36)	42,886	
Market value 31 December 2021	323,814	17,760	505	342,079	

b Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2021	-	-	-	-	
Additions	-	-	-	-	
Disposals	-	-	-	-	
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	
At 31 December 2021	-	-	-	-	
Charge for impairment					
At 1 January 2021	-	-	-	-	
Additions	-	-	-	-	
Disposals	-	-	-	-	
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	
At 31 December 2021	-	-	-	-	
Net book amounts					
At 31 December 2021	-	-	-	-	
<i>At 31 December 2020</i>	-	-	-	-	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Investment fixed assets	323,815	17,760	505	342,080	299,193	
Current assets (except cash)	81,197	-	-	81,197	4,711	
Cash at bank and on deposit	159,687	1,138	-	160,825	321,372	
Current liabilities	(50,699)	-	-	(50,699)	(22,135)	
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)	-	-	(42,072)	(42,072)	
	471,928	18,898	505	491,331	561,069	

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income tax recoverable	3,219	-	-	3,219	2,540	
Prepayments and accrued income	5,704	-	-	5,704	2,171	
Other debtors	72,274	-	-	72,274	-	
	81,197	-	-	81,197	4,711	

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Deferred income	-	-	-	-	-	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	50,699	-	-	50,699	22,135	
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-	
	50,699	-	-	50,699	22,135	

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072	-	-	42,072	42,072	
	42,072	-	-	42,072	42,072	

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

14 Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	541	-	-	(36)	505
				-	-
Total of all endowed funds	541	-	-	(36)	505
Rector & Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-
YACC	577	-	-	-	577
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	366	-	200	-	166
Sunday School	495	-	100	-	395
Trollopes Charity	15,575	457	457	2,185	17,760
Total of all restricted funds	17,013	457	757	2,185	18,898
General fund	543,515	279,485	391,810	40,737	471,927
Total of all unrestricted funds	543,515	279,485	391,810	40,737	471,927
Total funds	561,069	279,942	392,567	42,886	491,330

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £350,835 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	160,825	321,372	
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-	
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-	
Total cash and cash equivalents	160,825	321,372	

16 Related parties and transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ST PETER AND ST PAUL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2021 set out on pages 15 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



S. R. Sampson BFP FCA FCIE DChA
For and on behalf of Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors
20 Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1BP

Date: 9 June 2022

Accounts

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Christ Church, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 6GL

Registered Charity no. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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Website:	www.christchurchstleonards.co.uk
Priest-in-Charge:	Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley
Independent examiner:	Ashdown Hurrey, Hastings
Bankers:	Charities Aid Foundation, West Malling

Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea Trustees Annual Report for 2020

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship;
- The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, including on a daily basis at Christ Church; baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
 - Visiting the sick;
 - Administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship, to the sick and dying;
 - Supporting pastoral work;
 - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
 - Supporting the work of other local charities.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

For 2020 we continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church;
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community;
- Teaching, baptizing and confirming new and existing believers;
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish;
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel in small group situations;
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;

- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish;
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed and monitored at PCC meetings.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

The range of activities for Christ Church can be split broadly into three categories –

- a) worship, prayer, catechesis, pastoral care and evangelism;
- b) fellowship and fundraising;
- c) serving the local community

This year began well. Jane Hart was commissioned on 11 January by the Bishop of Chichester in his Cathedral as an Authorised Lay Minister to continue her work with children and families including coordinating the weekly activities of our parish Sunday School (PALS) group. We continued to open our Crypt as an emergency night shelter during the winter as part of the Local Authority Severe Weather Emergency Plan (SWEP), extending this provision on other evenings through co-operation with Surviving the Streets. Over the weekend of 13-15 March a group of children from our Parish School joined the Diocesan pilgrim group at the Walsingham Children's Pilgrimage, led by Head teacher, Mr Russell Thorne, Mrs Sharon Blythe, Mr Graham Marcroft, and Fr Nick. But this was just before the first lockdown in the coronavirus pandemic.

Worship, prayer, catechesis, pastoral care and evangelism

Public worship was suspended in March by order of the Government and the regulations prohibited the normal functioning of the Church's activities.

Mass continued to be offered daily in Church by the clergy throughout both the first lockdown (March to July) and the second (November/December). During these times the Church was kept open daily for private prayer. Public worship resumed as soon as permitted in July and again in December with four Masses on a Sunday as opposed to the previous two per Sunday to ensure ease of social distancing and cater also for the needs of the children who were unable to meet safely in the crypt.

When permitted Baptisms were celebrated and 2 adult candidates presented for Confirmation. With only limited numbers allowed to attend, funerals in Church included those of a number of members of the congregation, Christopher Langdon, Chas Bryan, Janet Davis, Adrian Tate, Sonia Rook, Sheila Johnston, Sheila Sergeant, and Fr Christopher Hopkins who, despite illness courageously suffered, had continued to celebrate and preach at Mass until his death. *Requiescant in Pace.*

Throughout the lockdowns Fr Nick Archer has led worship in Christ Church Academy, kept open for key workers and vulnerable children, and has provided weekly videos for classroom worship. When allowed, parishioners led 'Open the Book' collective worship in school,

The church bells were rung each Sunday. When collective bell ringing was not possible, the bell ringers ensured that a single bell was tolled both on Sunday and before the evening Mass.

Fundraising and Fellowship

The not so good news

- The Parishioners monthly table sale that provides a regular source of income has had to be suspended due to COVID-19.
- Our Summer and Christmas Fayres had to be cancelled.
- The only Parish lunch to actually take place was on the Feast of the Epiphany; due to the pandemic all others were canceled.

The better news

- As previously reported, a fundraising group was established 2019 to assist in looking at ways of raising the substantial sum of money needed for renovation of the Church fabric.
- The group were advised in 2019 by Dr Katherine Prior, the Diocesan Adviser on Fundraising, this has continued to be a useful source of information but probably more suited to a later project looking at activities to engage with the community, after the main building funds have been raised.
- Funding from a parishioner enabled the installation of Wi-Fi throughout the church which was believed to provide access to various fundraising initiatives in the future. Little did we know that COVID-19 presented severe challenges in having to close the church for some months, but the Wi-Fi assisted in the 'livestreaming' of services whilst the service booklets were emailed to people's home from the Parish Office. Later in the year further funding was provided to purchase a licence for 12 months of an unmanned contactless donation device which in these difficult times, especially with cash handling and the church being open for private prayer and reflection only, has proved to be invaluable.
- Our website has been re-built to reflect a more modern look but has also included an on-line giving facility.
- Despite COVID-19 much progress has been made in dealing with the recommendations of the 2018 Quinquennial Report from our architect Peter Pritchett.
- We commissioned Heritage Stone Access (HAS) to conduct a survey of the Tower and Spire on the basis that there was a risk of falling masonry and ironwork from the clocks. This was conducted in the Spring of 2020 and a report received in May 2020.
- Bishop Peter, our Priest in Charge introduced the committee to Craigmyle, an experienced fundraising firm of some 50 years, especially in the area of an ecclesiastical nature.
- A meeting was held after lockdown 1 on the 15 June 2020 where exploratory ideas via a Zoom meeting with Craigmyle, these were:
 - The nature of our reserves
 - The importance of gain an 'At Risk status' with English Heritage
 - The case for support to enable the raising of grants to enable renovations to the church fabric to be done
 - If Craigmyle could assist in us achieving our fundraising objectives.
- Following the meeting Craigmyle presented a proposal of how they would assist Christ Church in its objective of raising sufficient funds to allow the renovations necessary. This was accepted at the PCC Meeting of 24th July 2020.

- By September 2020 it became obvious that the Tower and Steeple required urgent work totaling around £120k. With the help of Craigmyle, the Fundraising Committee and our architect, Peter Pritchett, an offer of a grant of £89k was made by NLHF which enabled the planning of the work to be done in early 2021.
- In December Historic England approved our application to place Christ Church on the 'At Risk' register which will enhance our chances in grant applications.

Serving the Community

This year we have continued, as much as circumstances and restrictions have allowed, to continue looking outward in our mission and outreach.

We have still been able to support the local community in these ways:

- The Seaview Project (for the poor and needy) through contributions of food and useful small items and contributing staple foodstuffs and toiletries to Hastings Foodbank.
- Serving as local governors at our parish school.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), Sarah Brisco Trust and the St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as Board members of the Christ Church House Improvement Society Ltd.
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.
- Members of the sewing group are contributing knitted items of clothing to charities such as surviving the Streets, Dom's Food Mission and Warming Up The Homeless.

These meetings have been face to face wherever possible or by zoom and telephone conference calls.

Night Shelters

- The Snowflake Night Shelter project still has our support although unable to run in its usual way.
- Opening the Crypt for the night shelters operated by SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) and Surviving the Streets has not been allowed this year but communications remain open with Hastings Council for using the Crypt and supporting SWEP in future.
- Regular contact and support is maintained with Surviving the Streets and some funding has been given to them via the Sarah Brisco charity. Discussions re ways forward for the church to continue its support are ongoing.

Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local Scout Group and serve as members of the Scout Group Committee although actual gatherings have been curtailed until allowed.

The monthly Community Cafe has been unable to take place this year but will resume when possible.

Some small table sales of craft items at the back of church have taken place after mass when possible but monthly table sales which provide an opportunity for outreach and fellowship with the wider community through conversation and refreshments have not been able to occur.

The Parish Centre Hall and Crypt have had to postpone being resources for the community but will be operational when permissible. The Hall and Crypt have continued to be used by vulnerable groups AA, NA, CA. Tai Chi took place when allowed and other groups hopefully will return at a later date.

The 'Book Room' in the Parish Centre has been open twice a week when allowed and continues to raise a profitable amount of money as well as providing a reading resource for the congregation and wider public.

Plans have started to develop resources whereby different schools can use the church building for learning across the curriculum.

The Church has been able to continue to host some concerts this year and has a good ongoing relationship with Hastings Philharmonic Choir and Chamber Choir. We have been able to benefit from a variety of recitals by various people in church and some concerts have been rescheduled to take place at a later date.

Citizens Advice Bureau has settled into CCOBT's Magnet Centre and a good relationship is developing with them.

The Church has also benefitted from being part of the Safer Streets project with liaison between Church, police and CAB to provide extra lighting and security cameras in the Courtyard. This will give extra security to the users of our premises.

Financial Review

Throughout 2020 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. In particular this stressed giving through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid, thus helping with our cash flow. Although there was a small uptake in numbers in the PGS, the overall level of regular giving has not increased.

During 2020 a number of generous donations enabled an increase in donations compared to 2019 and no legacies were received. The PCC continue to, where possible, keep expenditure under tight control. However fabric repair and other exceptional expenditure total £47,000 in the year. Income excluding legacies has been reduced by £15,000 whilst the Church has been closed and our ongoing underlying deficit remains stubbornly high, and without the special donation income, would have been £33,000. St Peter's Hall was sold in March 2020 and achieved a surplus of £97,560. The increased investment holdings brought the expected additional income, but also a windfall gain on their revaluation at the year-end. We again caution that valuations can reduce as well as increase. The beneficial impact of this has been to increase our Reserves by £55,000

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a 5 year period. It has not been possible during 2020 to make much progress, and the expected deficit for 2021 remains too high at £44,000 thereby eroding further our accumulated reserves.

The Quinquennial Inspection showed the requirement for urgent fabric restoration repairs, compounded by additional work now found to be required on the Tower and Steeple. In total there is a need for in excess of £600,000 to meet these costs, and this is greater than our level of reserves. During the year Christ Church engaged the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional

support to advise on a capital campaign to raise the sums required to take our building improvement plans forward, and to create plans to make the annual running costs of the church sustainable without relying on reserves.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.
- In 2020 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £62,000 before the exceptional surpluses on the sale of St Peter's Hall and our Investments is taken into Account
- The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church. The largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Priest in Charge

The Rt Revd Peter Wheatley *PCC Chairman*

Assistant Curates:

The Revd Nicholas Archer

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM) *PCC Secretary*

Wardens:

Mrs Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*

Mrs Maureen Harman

Elected Members:

George Brice [to 27 September 2020]

Jessica Campbell *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Trevor Davies *Treasurer*

Julie Gidlow

Christopher Goodman *Data Protection Responsible Person*

Tina-Marie Grevett [*from 27 September 2020*]

Michael Hart

Jane Hart *Safeguarding Officer*

Wil Jewitt

Andrew Knight

Celia Manning [*from 27 September 2020*]

Sharon Mercer [*to 27 September 2020*]

John Read [*from 27 September 2020*]

Carol Sherwood *Electoral Roll Officer*

David Smith

Deanery Synod Representatives

Louise Fisher

Anne Hanney *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Elizabeth Mackay

Susan Parsons [*from 27 September 2020*]

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain *ex-officio* members (the incumbent, curates), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 13 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Structure, governance and management

As required by law, a Standing Committee meets to transact PCC business between PCC meetings.

A Maintenance Committee of the PCC worked with the Rector and Standing Committee in managing the fabric of the buildings.

Safeguarding and Fundraising sub-committees of the PCC also met regularly. Meetings of the Churchwardens and of the Clergy Staff took place on a monthly basis, chaired by the Priest in Charge

Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors is chaired by Bishop Peter. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2020, the Board of Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, and despite ever-increasing costs kept rents at 2018 levels, but this incurred a deficit. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. The Trustees are chaired by Bishop Peter. Trevor Davies is Treasurer.

Sarah Brisco Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are Bishop Peter, the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2020 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy schoolchildren's Breakfast Club, and Walsingham Pilgrimage, as well a contribution to the costs of the Calvary Chapel conversion that will enable this space to be used for the benefit of the wider Community.

Christ Church St Leonards Old Buildings Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (1087321)

The Trust owns and manages the buildings parallel to Christ Church known as the Old School Buildings and the land upon which the Christ Church CE Primary and Nursery Academy stands.

The objects of the Trust are:

1. The advancement and promotion of theological education and training for lay and ordained persons in the Church of England.
2. Meeting rooms for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea.
3. Accommodation for clergy and their families within the Church of England.
4. For other charitable purposes connected with the Church of England

The Priest in Charge of Christ Church, Bishop Peter Wheatley, Mrs Maureen Harman, Miss Maureen Mason (retired 20 July 2020), Bishop Nicholas Reade, and Mr Ian McKellar serve as Trustees. Mr Andrew Knight is Clerk to the Trustees. Two further Trustees have been identified and will join the Board in early 2021.

Highlights for 2020 have been:

- The continuation of a ten-year lease let to CA1066 (Citizens Advice Bureau) from 2/1/19
- A rolling 1-year lease let as a private residence for 17 Alfred Street from 1/5/2020
- The continuation of a rolling 1-year lease of the 'Parish Rooms' to the Christ Church PCC
- A continuation of a 125-year lease to Hastings Borough Council for the part of the building known as Renaissance House
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic the Board met five times during 2020 and discussed and progressed where possible
 - A closer relationship with the Mother Agnus Trust
 - Fire Safety in the Old School Buildings (OSB) including replacing the fire alarm
 - Maintenance of the outside of OSB (held up due to COVID-19)
 - Long term strategy of the use of the OSB
 - Recruitment of new Trustees
 - Anti-Social behavior in and around the OSB and Christ Church
 - Compliance with the Charities Commission advice on Risk and Financial Control

Risk Review

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Fabric and Maintenance Committee and the Church Architect and the finances are controlled by careful budgeting and encouragement and appeals to worshippers and visitors.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter-alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. The PCC is also the normal channel of communication between the parishioners and the Bishop of the diocese. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the clergy are remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

Fabric

The following servicing has taken place: Boilers in the Church and Parish Centre; Church and Rectory alarms; Fire Extinguishers; Organ Tuning. At the time of writing PAT testing is still outstanding, as is the servicing of the Font Lifting Mechanism. The firms that do these have only been doing essential work as they have some workers shielding. This is also the reason why the replacement of high level bulbs in the Church hasn't taken place, as yet.

Radiators in the Parish Hall have been replaced and are more effective...

The motor for the organ blower burnt out, which was why the organ was not working for a period of time. The motor has been repaired.

Church outside metal railings and downpipes and brass silverware are protected by SmartWater.

The gulley where the Lady Chapel and Sanctuary join has been cleared of considerable rubbish etc. as rain water leaked into the former in heavy rain. We are hoping to have a safe ladder erected from the bell tower to the gulley so that expensive scaffolding is not needed when clearing is necessary.

Appreciation is recorded to the Church Cleaning Team for hoovering, floor washing, rubbish and weed removal, and many other such tasks. Also thank you to those who keep the gardens in check.

Safeguarding

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) adopts the Safeguarding Policy of the Diocese of Chichester and reviews this annually. Our Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Jane Hart. She is assisted by Mrs Anne Hanney and Miss Jessica Campbell. The Diocese has a Safeguarding Website <https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org>, which can be accessed by anyone, and all the policies and procedures adopted by the PCC are available here. They are also available via a link on the front page of our Parish website. Due to not being regularly in church, the policies need to be updated and re-signed, and this will happen before the APCM in March 2021.

During 2020, the Safeguarding Training was delivered by Zoom, with those needing to update attending, including Jane Hart and Fr Richard Ralph at C2 level. It has been difficult to monitor this during the various lockdowns of the pandemic, but Jane is aware of any courses being made available and the PCC and wider Parish community will be notified as appropriate. The courses are C0 and C1 safeguarding training, required by all in any role concerning young people or vulnerable adults. C2 training is for all laity in a leadership role. The Clergy are also required to take C3 training.

The Diocesan Simple Quality Protects (SQP) safeguarding audit tool, was used to complete the SQP1 audit. This was completed and is reviewed regularly, including at Deanery workshops. I am happy to report that Jane and Fr Nick met with Kim Nash and Morag Keane in February 2020 and after being interviewed and discussing our research, policies and risk assessments, we were told we had passed the SQP in March 2020.

All members of the congregation required to do so (those in leadership/training/supervision/trustee roles) have been DBS checked (Criminal Records Bureau), and these are updated every 5 years. We aim to be transparent in all we do, and are compliant with all required forms and information, subject to GDPR.

Any safeguarding concerns should be addressed to the Clergy or Safeguarding officers, when advice and appropriate action will be taken. Any concern will be treated in utmost confidence. There were regular meetings of the Safeguarding Committee during 2019. Unfortunately, due to the various lockdowns and shielding situations, we did not meet regularly during 2020, but as restrictions lift the team will do so by Zoom or in person; these will continue monthly or bi-monthly thereafter.

Thankfully there were no issues that needed to be addressed during the periods of closure. However, one scheme that was successful was Jane asking for coats for children at our school. Sadly some children do not have adequate clothing, particularly during the winter months, and after an appeal, Jane was able to offer a few bags of coats to the school to be donated to those in need. Thank you very much for this support.

PALS (Christ Church Sunday School)

Some of the children were able to attend the Walsingham Children's Pilgrimage from 13th-15th March. 32 adults, including Jane Hart, and children from Christ Church School made the journey and had a wonderful weekend considering the theme of Saving Water, making new friends, meeting old ones, and enjoying wonderful fellowship together. I learnt some new songs, which one day I hope we can share in church, and also some sign language which I have incorporated into the newly formed Family Mass.

Sadly, our last Face to Face PALS session was in March 2020, but the Family Mass takes place at 10.30 on a Sunday, and is 'in lieu' of Sunday School. There have been some new families join us, which is a great blessing, and we try to involve them in as much of the service as possible; reading the lessons and Gospel, taking part in actions and activities, adding incense to a large burner and making their private prayers. It is a joyous celebration, and will be further enhanced when we are once again able to sing. Thank you to David who plays the organ at various intervals.

For the very young ones I have put together individual packs in zipped folders. This keeps their crafting and colouring Covid safe as they are not sharing anything. The packs include crayons and

paper, scratch art, prayers, stickers, and posters relevant to the day's story. They are kept in church so we know no one else will use them and I top them up on a weekly basis.

I managed to introduce Godly Play at the beginning of March which I hope to use bi-monthly when we are able to meet again, but have also sent out electronically.

Also, I made up Holy Week/ Easter packs that I was able to deliver to the PALS children just before lockdown last year.

I have maintained contact by email and text with the families as much as possible during times when the church was closed.

Deanery Synod Report

A Deanery Synod report on the February meeting of Synod was discussed at the PCC meeting of 10 March 2020. Louise Fisher pointed out the difficulties inherent in a body that encompassed sharply-contrasting styles of churchmanship. Bishop Peter underlined the importance of reports from the Synod which drew the attention of the PCC to matters of wider significance and also of direct relevance to the parish (including the Deanery Review and financial matters).

It was noted that there was a large aggregated shortfall in the payment of the Parish Shares throughout the Deanery, which was at odds with the payment in full of its Share by Christ Church PCC. Bishop Peter agreed that many of the parishes in the Deanery continued to struggle financially; and the notion of cross-subsidy from wealthy parishes in the West of poor parishes in the East of the diocese was in active discussion.

Since the meeting on 3 February 2020 parish representative had not heard anything from Synod. Over the previous two years parish representatives had been contributing through discussion to a report for the Diocesan Synod. There has been a change of Rural Dean and this may mean a change in focus. We are disappointed not to have been asked to an online meeting and sorry that we have nothing new to report to the PCC.

Christ Church Bell Ringers

The Christ Church St Leonards Bell Ringers Guild, to give it its original Victorian title, is currently returning thirteen paid-up members of the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers. As such, it is one of the better populated towers in the county. Ringing has, of course, been restricted over 2020, but we have rung when it has been allowed to do so, and have received very favourable comments from the local community as a result, particularly when the bells were heard again after the Health Protection regulations were lifted at the beginning of July. It has become apparent that the sound of the bells is an important part of the lives of many of our neighbours, and was sorely missed during the government-imposed silence.

We are delighted that such considerable sums have been raised for work to the tower, to help ensure that the bells continue to be heard for a long time to come; and we hope that the clock chimes, another integral part of life in central St Leonards until comparatively recently, may soon be heard again as well. The bells themselves continue to be in good order.

Alan Pink, *Tower Captain*

9th Hastings (Christ Church) Scout Group

Well, I once heard someone say, “What a difference a year makes”. They were obviously talking about the year 2020. Looking back I suppose you could call this BC – Before Covid -19. The year started off so well for our Group with each section just about full and running smoothly, which is always a relief when you are the Group Scout Leader.

By the end of the previous year we had just raised the money needed to replace some old tents and equipment and we were eagerly awaiting a trip to the tent suppliers to purchase new ones. The Beavers were organising a fund-raising evening for their forthcoming trip to *Lego Land* and the whole Group was looking forward to helping with the Hastings Half Marathon drinks station amongst other events throughout the year.

But unfortunately, on Friday 20th March the whole of the UK went into Lockdown and Scouting had to be put on hold.

In the months that followed, the Scouting HQ has organized a Zoom account for every Group in the Country so we can do virtual meetings and we have had several Leader meetings. Every group has had to put certain things in place ready for when we can meet up again face-to-face. Part of this was completing lengthy Risk Assessments which had to be approved by the District Commissioner.

With all this now in place and with the recent Government announcements about coming out of the latest Lockdown, we eagerly wait to hear from Scout HQ when we may be able to start back. Even though we have been unable to do much this past year because of the lockdowns and other restrictions, we still have a healthy number of young people who still want to come back, which is every encouraging,

Also, very encouragingly, I’ve just received our first Scout enquiry of the year for someone wanting to join our Group as soon as we can meet up, as well as someone interested in becoming a new adult leader.

I would like to thank all the Adult Leaders, Assistant Leaders and Helpers for the excellent job they do, volunteering their time in making a real difference in the lives of the young people in our Group and hopefully in the not-too-distant future we can all resume our face-to-face meetings.

Graeme Monk
Group Scout Leader

This Trustees’ Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley, PCC Chairman

8 March 2021

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	77,478			77,478	86,697	
Charitable activities	794			794	740	
Other trading activities	14,100	(1,306)		12,794	33,182	
Investments	9,239	448		9,687	5,074	
Other receipts				-		
Total income	101,611	(858)	-	100,753	125,693	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7,702			7,702	158	
Charitable activities	139,724	240		139,964	113,317	
Other trading activities	14,793	258		15,051	29,747	
Other expenditure				-		
Total expenditure	162,219	498	-	162,717	143,222	3
Net gains (or losses) on investments	115,847	938	18	116,803	10,127	
Net income or (net expenditure)	55,239	(418)	18	54,839	(7,402)	
Transfers between funds				-		
	55,239	(418)	18	54,839	(7,402)	
Other recognised gains/(losses):				-		
				-		
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	55,239	(418)	18	54,839	(7,402)	
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2019	488,276	17,431	523	506,230		
Total funds carried forward	543,515	17,013	541	561,069		

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

	Total Funds	<i>Total Funds</i>	
	2020	<i>2019</i>	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	110,000	
Investments	298,652	279,427	
Endowed investments	541	523	
Total fixed assets	£ 299,193	£ 389,950	8
Stocks	-	-	
Debtors	4,711	5,202	10
Cash at bank and in hand	321,372	164,330	15
Total current assets	£ 326,083	£ 169,532	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(22,135)	(11,180)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	£ 303,948	£ 158,352	
Total assets less current liabilities	603,141	548,302	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	(42,072)	(42,072)	13
Total net assets or (liabilities)	£ 561,069	£ 506,230	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	541	523	
Restricted income funds	17,013	17,431	
Unrestricted funds	543,515	488,276	
Revaluation reserve	-	-	
Total unrestricted funds	£ 543,515	£ 488,276	
Total charity funds	£ 561,069	£ 506,230	9

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2020, including the notes following, was **Approved** by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

+Peter Wheatley Chairman

Date: 18/03/2021

Notes to the financial report

1 Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the cease of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

□ Fixtures and fittings	20%
□ Audio visual equipment	33%
□ Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

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

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

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Analysis of income and endowments 12 months to 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	18,052			18,052	20,206
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	14,192			14,192	12,349
Donations	30,195			30,195	23,965
Loose cash collections	2,578			2,578	5,468
Fund Raising Events	587			587	1,075
Summer and Winter Fayres				-	
Table Sales	1,588			1,588	3,869
Gift Aid recoverable	10,286			10,286	9,765
Legacies				-	10,000
Grants				-	
Donations and legacies	£ 77,478	£ -	£ -	£ 77,478	£ 86,697
Fees for weddings & funerals	794			794	740
Charitable activities	£ 794	£ -	£ -	£ 794	£ 740
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar				-	3,563
Coffee and Candles	830			830	2,457
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	900			900	
Church Hall and Office Letting	12,370			12,370	20,900
Grants		250		250	250
Walsingham Pilgrimages		(1,556)		(1,556)	6,012
Other trading activities	£ 14,100	£ (1,306)	£ -	£ 12,794	£ 33,182
Bank & CBF deposit interest	1,266			1,266	2,472
CBF investment fund dividend	7,947	448		8,395	2,408
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	26			26	194
Investments	£ 9,239	£ 448	£ -	£ 9,687	£ 5,074
				-	
Total income and endowments on all funds	£ 101,611	£ (858)	£ -	£ 100,753	£ 125,693

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Analysis of expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£		£	£	
Special appeals costs (e.g. adverts, brochures)				-		
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs				-		
Planned Giving Costs	35			35	158	
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)				-		
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	7,667			7,667		
Investment management costs				-		
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs				-		
Cost of raising funds	£ 7,702	£ -	£ -	£ 7,702	£ 158	
Missionary and charitable giving						
Ministry:						
<i>diocesan parish share</i>	61,800			61,800	60,000	
<i>other clergy costs</i>	936			936	2,363	
Staff	6,134			6,134	6,752	5
Upkeep of services	946	190		1,136	2,947	
Church running	13,456			13,456	10,048	
Sunday school		50		50	242	
Church maintenance and repair	11,358			11,358	3,937	
Fabric Costs	31,706			31,706		
Insurance of Church Building	6,727			6,727	6,566	
Grants	20			20	50	
Fees for Weddings and Funerals				-		
Quinquennial Inspection/Architects Fees	1,666			1,666	17,928	
Bank charges	90			90	90	
Rectory Costs	2,965			2,965	594	
Governance	1,920			1,920	1,800	6
Cost of charitable activities	£ 139,724	£ 240	£ -	£ 139,964	£ 113,317	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs				-		
St Peters Hall costs	637			637	3,307	
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	12,167			12,167	18,192	
Curate costs	1,989	258		2,247	3,697	
Parish magazine costs				-		
Bookstall costs				-		
Walsingham Pilgrimages				-	4,551	
Sundry Expenses				-		
Cost of other trading activities	£ 14,793	£ 258	£ -	£ 15,051	£ 29,747	
Total expended on all funds	£ 162,219	£ 498	£ -	£ 162,717	£ 143,222	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4 Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
Overseas:	£	£	£	£	£
Home:				-	-
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
a Remuneration	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	6,134			6,134	6,752
Social Security costs				-	
	£ 6,134	£ -	£ -	£ 6,134	£ 6,752

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
Independent examination	£ 1,920	£	£	£ 1,920	£ 1,800
Accounts production				-	
Bookkeeping				-	
	£ 1,920	£ -	£ -	£ 1,920	£ 1,800

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
7 Analysis of transfers between funds	£	£	£	£	£
				-	
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Market value 1 January 2020	264,820	14,607	523	279,950	
				-	
				-	
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	18,287	938	18	19,243	
Market value 31 December 2020	£ 283,107	£ 15,545	£ 541	£ 299,193	

b Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2020	110,000			110,000	
Additions				-	
Disposals	(110,000)			(110,000)	
Revaluation				-	
At 31 December 2020	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Charge for impairment					
At 1 January 2020				-	
Additions				-	
Disposals				-	
Revaluation				-	
At 31 December 2020	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Net book amounts					
At 31 December 2020	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
At 31 December 2019	£ 110,000	£ -	£ -	£ 110,000	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Investment fixed assets	283,107	15,545	541	299,193	389,950	
Current assets (except cash)	4,711			4,711	5,202	
Cash at bank and on deposit	319,904	1,468		321,372	164,330	
Current liabilities	(22,135)			(22,135)	(11,180)	
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)			(42,072)	(42,072)	
	£ 543,515	£ 17,013	£ 541	£ 561,069	£ 506,230	14

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income tax recoverable	2,540			2,540	3,339	
Prepayments and accrued income	2,171			2,171	1,863	
Other debtors	-			-	-	
	£ 4,711	£ -	£ -	£ 4,711	£ 5,202	

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Deferred income				-	-	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	22,135			22,135	11,180	
Other creditors				-	-	
	£ 22,135	£ -	£ -	£ 22,135	£ 11,180	

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Other creditors				-	-	
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance				-	-	
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072			42,072	42,072	
	£ 42,072	£ -	£ -	£ 42,072	£ 42,072	

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance (2017 Church Hall and Church Maintenance) as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

14 Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	523			18	541
Total of all endowed funds	£ 523	£ -	£ -	£ 18	£ 541
Rector & Churchwardens					-
YACC	577				577
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	1,922	(1,556)			366
Sunday School	295	250	50		495
Trollope Charity	14,637	448	448	938	15,575
Total of all restricted funds	£ 17,431	£ (858)	£ 498	£ 938	£ 17,013
General fund	488,276	101,611	162,219	115,847	543,515
Total of all unrestricted funds	£ 488,276	£ 101,611	£ 162,219	£ 115,847	£ 543,515
Total funds	£ 506,230	£ 100,753	£ 162,717	£ 116,803	£ 561,069

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £320,352 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	321,372	164,330	
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-	
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-	
Total cash and cash equivalents	£ 321,372	£ 164,330	

16 Related parties and transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ST PETER AND ST PAUL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 set out on pages 15 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 you as 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:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.

S. R. Sampson BFP FCA FCIE DChA
For and on behalf of Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors
20 Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1BP

Date: 18/03/2021