

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION PRESTON WEMBLEY

England & Wales · Charity number 1170285

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2016-11-21

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

## Contact

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## Activities

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

**Activities:** The Church of The Ascension is a Church of England Church in the borough of Brent. We seek to serve not just those who attend public worship but all who live in the parish. Our church and hall premises are used for a wide variety of activities.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **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, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Brent

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£98,640	£116,199	-	-
2023-12-31	£90,759	£74,111	-	-
2022-12-31	£76,371	£88,967	-	-
2021-12-31	£60,096	£67,186	-	-
2020-12-31	£50,205	£90,286	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Antoinette Morgan		2022-05-22
MAUREEN EGBUCHE		2016-04-14
Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem		2021-04-25
Nicola Kent		2016-04-14
Tracey Anne King		2021-04-25
Victoria George		2024-04-30

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# Accounts

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**The Church of Ascension**

**The Avenue,  
Wembley, HA9 9QL**

**Reports for  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024**

**with**

**Annual Reports for 2024**

# Agenda

## **Agenda - Meeting of Parishioners, Sunday 21<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 11:15 AM**

1. To confirm the minutes of the Parishioners Meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024
2. To elect Churchwardens

## **Agenda - Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Sunday 21<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 11:15 AM**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adoption of Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Elections of churchwarden  
*Attendance is recorded for our Archive*

### **5. The Reports**

- Electoral Roll
- Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
- Financial Review
- Deanery Synod

### **6. Elections and Appointments**

- Deanery Synod
  - PCC members
  - Appointment of Independent Examiner of the PCC
  - To receive the names of the Churchwardens elected at the meeting of parishioners just held
7. Any Other Business – to be notified to the Chair or Secretary beforehand.

Closing Prayers

## APCM minutes from 2024

Minutes of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Council held in Church on Sunday 21st of April 2024

Revd. Jacqueline opened the meeting.

Election of the Churchwardens: Tracey King  
Mabel Mwonge

This concluded the Meeting of Parishioners.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 21st of April at 11.15am

Apologies for absence: Hanora Horan, Angelica Chukwuenyem.

Parochial Church Council:

Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem (Treasurer), Angelica Chukwuenyem, Maureen Egbuche, Vicky George, Frank Horan, Nicola Kent (Safeguarding Officer), Laure Labidi, Edy Labidi, John Shalloe.

Deanery Synod representatives serve a 3 year term and Nicola Kent is now in her second year (2024)

Electoral Roll- Revd. Jacqueline said this was incomplete and said that in 2025 everyone would have to come off and re-apply.

The report on Church Fabric Goods and Ornaments. Everything in order for 2024.

New Altar Frontal was bought for Lent and advent.

The Financial Review.

Revd. Jacqueline reported changeover issues with regard to putting the finances online. She said there would be an EPCM sometime to discuss finances. This took place in October 2024 on zoom. Revd. Jacqueline mentioned Kevin Ogilvie would be our bookkeeper. She thanked Anne Bignall for being our Church Treasurer for over 30 years.

Revd. Jacqueline reported that the meeting room, vestry and office had been painted. She thanked David King for his excellent work in the Church gardens and that he had also weed-matted and put wood-chips down.

Revd. Jacqueline reported that Stuart Ransom had completed the inventory and that she had put this on a hard-drive.

The Archdeacon Catherine came for our 5 year visitation and a special mention was made of Stuart's wonderful inventory. Everything was in order.

She mentioned that five people were on a grow-course and that they would be our new task-force for people to go to if there were any problems.

The PCC would like to thank Antoinette Morgan who did an excellent job as PCC Secretary. She has now stood down.

Stuart Ransom presented his final report as sacristan and head-server after 45 years of wonderful service. He had never missed a Sunday or Wednesday in all these years.

We would also like to thank Ian Shaw and Paul Davies our organists for their wonderful playing. We also welcome Stephen Cole our pianist.

Report by Vicar Jacqueline Shalloe (Ascension 2021-2025)

Dear Parish Council,

It is with mixed emotions that I present my final report as your Parish Council Chair (PCC). I am filled with joy as I reflect on our journey together, serving God and transforming our church into a welcoming and safe place for worship.

Our collective efforts have surpassed expectations, grounded in our faith in Christ, who empowers us to achieve more than we can imagine.

February 2025, we will mark three years since our partnership with the Ashford Place charity and the establishment of our memory café. Despite initial challenges, it has flourished as a fresh expression of church, deeply rooted in scripture: As commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ. As we read:

**Matthew 22:37-39:** "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

**Hebrews 13:2:** "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

**Matthew 5:16:** "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Our mission statement for the memory café, Songs of Joy community choir, carers group, and mothers and toddlers group is firmly based on these scriptures.

When I began my tenure post-COVID, we faced the challenge of reopening our halls.

With the support of the churchwardens, Nicola and Irene, we welcomed hall hirers back, and since then, we have witnessed God's blessings upon our parish.

Change, though often difficult, has brought new life and opportunities for growth.

This Christmas, we celebrated with 12 children and 19 younger members at our family Christmas meal, and we now have six families actively involved—a remarkable transformation.

Our statistics reveal a strong presence of seniors through the memory café and choir, as well as younger members in their 50s and above from the choir and carers group.

This growth will undoubtedly inspire our new priest to join and further our mission.

We have emerged from the challenges of COVID stronger and more committed to our communities.

Jesus calls us to be a light in the world, proclaiming peace and standing firm in our faith.

I leave you with confidence that you are stronger than when I arrived.

Hold steadfast to Christ, the rock of ages, and you will witness God's salvation in this parish.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your vicar and will always remember you in my prayers.

As Jesus accompanies me on my journey, He remains with you, ensuring there is no fear but only thankfulness and love shared in Christ.

With blessings and in Christ

**Revd Jacqueline Shalloe**

## **APCM – Church Wardens report**

### **Introduction**

Our Church has been moving successfully with our mission statement and our Memory Cafe, Parent & Toddlers and Community Choir and all running very well and we all have a lovely time! We are now reaching out into the community and welcoming new people into Church.

### **Parish Hall and Youth Centre**

#### **Hall Hirers**

We welcome our Hall Hirers: Kumon, Karate, Scottish Dancing, Brownies, Carers Group, NHS Fair, Diabetes Group, Deen Club, Jannah Club, Little Legs Dog Club, The Wembley Arts Society, Councillor Johnson and the Nursery.

We welcome all people in the community and we had our Christmas Party in the Parish Hall for the Memory Cafe and the Chameleons performing 'Cinderella' over Christmas. We have birthday, Wedding Anniversary and engagement parties, funeral wakes, and different celebrations. We welcome all.

#### **Grounds**

The clearance and tidy up of the grounds added to numerous people coming to look at the garden. It is wonderful to have the Peace Garden restored as numerous people come and sit on the benches and enjoy our beautiful garden. Our thanks go to David King for clearing it so well. We have discovered beautiful plants and shrubs buried beneath the brambles! It has shown us that the PCC need to allocate money in order to upkeep our beautiful grounds as many people have enjoyed coming and sitting in the garden. The nursery often take the children to the Peace Garden and they love looking at nature! They have planted pansies just outside the nursery and we are discussing creating a sensory garden.

#### **Work done with the expenditure.**

- Regular bin collections twice weekly.
- Dumphy's Boilers came and serviced the boilers in the Church, Meeting Room, Vestry and Vestry Office, and the Youth Centre.

We now have gas safety certificates valid for 12 months.

- Brent Pest Control has visited the grounds and inspected the halls every 8 weeks this year and reported there to be no sign of any rodents or pests.
- The Church Lightning Conductor Test was completed.
- B.T Broadband was renewed and the updated. We have wi-fi in the Church and Parish Hall.
- Pat Testing and fire-extinguishers were inspected with PHS Compliance.

Gutters were cleared by Fitzgerald in February.

The Church organ was tuned by BC Sheppard & Sons.

The flat roof over the Lady Chapel was repaired and a new flat roof was put on by Sullivan Builders. They also painted the Vestry, Meeting Room and Office.

David King cleans both halls three hours weekly and he does a marvellous job!

## **Church celebrations and Mission outreach**

### **Homes of promise**

Soulla Kwong our PCC member has been supporting the homes of promise for a long time. She held a fund-raising funday event for the Homes of Promise in Uganda. It was a great success and everyone enjoyed it. We also ran our Spring and Christmas Fairs which were a great success with afternoon tea, face-painting, bric-a-brac, jams and preserves and books. Our thanks go to all our wonderful volunteers to ran the stalls, cleared up and helped set up and clear away. Special thanks go to our young people who did an amazing job setting up and clearing up at the end. We are so blessed to have such wonderful young people!

## **Special Services in our Parish**

### **Church services:**

We had a lovely service to celebrate our dear Josie's 101st birthday! She is loved by everyone and prays for people three times a day. People ask her to pray for the sick, people who have problems, and loved ones and she is more than happy to do so. She has contributed so much to our Church, doing the linen, running the luncheon club, cleaning and helping with the children reading bible stories to them. She has such a wonderful listening ear and always has the best advice. We thank God for her!

### **Memory café service:**

Our Memory Cafe is always a lovely afternoon enjoyed by all! We have tea, wordsearch, quizzes, singing and bingo! We always end with a prayer and always have wonderful chats! Our thanks go to Marilyn who always plays the piano so beautifully, Shelley and her team of helpers and Debbie. Revd. Jacqueline, Irene and Tracey all received a certicate from the mayor of Brent thanking them for their services at the Memory Cafe. Tracey has sung at numerous events and Memory Cafes even singing with Shaun Wallace one of the Chasers!

### **Parent baby and toddler Group**

**We had Daniel's Den running our Parent & Toddler group which was wonderful but after much consideration decided we could run our own Ascension Parent & Toddlers Group. The Archdeacon kindly donated some money for ride-on cars and the diggers are especially popular as the children collect bricks and drive them round the hall! The numbers have been small but the children and parents that come really enjoy the morning. We chat and play and have hula hoop races at the end which the parents and grand-parents love! We all have a wonderful time and the group is growing.**

**Service for all souls.** This is a service when we pray for our loved ones who have departed and also the former members of the congregation. We also welcome friends and past families who travel to come and remember their loved ones. Tracey sang a solo and the organist (Ian Shaw) played beautiful organ solos.

### **Remembrance service**

This is always a very moving service where we sing traditional hymns and play the last post on the trumpet. The Church looked beautiful with red poppy displays on the altar and around the Church. Our thanks go to Irene who did a marvellous job decorating the Church and providing beautiful flower arrangements.

### **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols:**

Our nine lessons and carols were led by Ian Shaw at the organ and we sang congregational hymns and choral items. The music was heavenly and Tracey sang all the descants! We also had Laure playing her violin and it was magnificent! The children joined us in the choir loft and we all had a wonderful time!

### **Normal Services**

We continue to have two communion services each week:

Sundays at 10:00 am Family Service

Wednesday 10:00 am said Eucharist

We thank Revd. Jacqueline for her vision for our Church and for opening doors and enabling work to happen. We have wonderful sessions with our Memory Cafe, Parent & Toddlers and our new Community Choir. We have had wonderful prayer sessions in Church for the community and for anyone who wants to pray. We would like to thank our wonderful congregation for their support, hard work, and huge team effort.

'Love one another as I have loved you'

May we continue to strive to show God's love both in Church and in the community.

Tracey and Mabel (Church-Wardens)



## Kenbrook Nursing Home 2024

Tracey regularly visits the care home and takes her pupils there to perform concerts throughout the year. The residents love hearing and seeing the children sing and they chat with them afterwards. Tracey sings there and visits regularly performing World War 2 songs, Opera, Classical and Musical Theatre for different occasions. She and Revd. Jacqueline went to do a service for Valentine's Day and the residents always enjoy receiving communion. We were very sad to lose our dear Mavis Hazell who attended the Ascension for many years. She passed away surrounded by love at Kenbrook. Mavis and Daisy visited the memory cafe earlier in the year (brought by Kenbrook staff) and they thoroughly enjoyed coming back to Church and joining in with the singing as well as seeing congregation members. We would like to thank Ray, Jean and Sheila for visiting Kenbrook, helping with services and visiting residents.

## Flower Report 2024

We have wonderful flower ladies arranging beautiful flowers for special occasions and for the regular Church services. Irene, Sharon, Anthea, Tracey, Tina and Soulla have all done wonderful displays and we always have fun and a chat whilst arranging them! We would like to thank Mike for doing the flower rota too and for mowing the lawn for free for many years. We thank David too who has taken over when Mike could no longer do it. We prepare flower displays all year round and do special displays for Remembrance Day, Christmas, Easter, Baptisms and funerals. We also do special anniversaries. If you would like to join our wonderful team please contact Tracey or Soulla and you would be very welcome!

## **Community Choir – Songs of Joy Choir**

The Community Choir meets weekly, on a Thursday 1.45pm- 3.15pm, in the Church at the Ascension.

Linked to Community Action on Dementia Brent and Ashford Place, it provides a safe space and environment for people to sing together.

Working on the principle that singing is a powerful resource which enhances wellbeing for people with dementia / memory issues, it can be a tool which reduce anxiety, increases relaxation and good communication.

The Community Choir members have formed into a sociable caring group.

The Community Choir have been in demand and have made several performances in the area, including at the Ascension and at a local Fire Station.

### **Carers Forum**

The Carers Forum meets monthly at the Ascension. Linked to Ashford Place, it provides a safe environment for carers to come together as a group. It also enables attendees to get advice and information from Ashford Place representatives and arranged visiting speakers.

Ashford Place have also arranged specialist information which are open to all such as a talk by a Solicitor on becoming a Power of Attorney and health and wellbeing sessions from doctors.

It is a privilege to work with Ashford Place, their commitment to providing a good experience to nurture wellbeing, is admired.

Nicola Kent

## **MISSION**

As in previous years the Church of the Ascension has once again held a fundraising event towards the end of July 2024 to raise funds for Homes of Promise Uganda. This charity was started by Jane Davidson (ex vice president of Mother's Union London Diocese) in 2013. A boys home was set up in Garuga and is registered to receive street children who are sent to school (most of them are in boarding school) and the older boys receive vocational training of their choosing which once they complete they are helped to find work and settle independently. The charity also works with social workers to unite the boys back with their families once they are located. For more details on the work of this charity you can find the weekly letters sent from Uganda on: [www.hopuganda.org](http://www.hopuganda.org)

We shall fundraise for Homes of Promise Uganda again this year on Saturday 26 July.

Soulla Kwong

working with the Church paid or voluntarily.

## **Safeguarding Report for APCM 2024-2025**

Training has continued to be on the agenda & the Ascension and with another year approaching, we will review training required again, training has to be renewed every three years.

### **Who gets what training:**

**Clergy & Licenced Lay Ministry:** Basic Awareness, Foundation, Leadership.

**Parish Workers with children / Vulnerable adults (paid or voluntary)**  
Basic Awareness, Foundation.

**Leaders / Supervisors of work with children / vulnerable adults:**  
Basic Awareness, Foundation, Leadership.

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Basic Awareness, Foundation, Leadership.

**Church Operations Manager:** Basic Awareness, Foundation

**Churchwardens:** Basic Awareness, Foundation, Leadership.

**PCC members:** Basic Awareness, Foundation.

### **DBS – Disclosure Baring Service checks. A Church DBS are required by:**

- Churchwardens
- Safeguarding Officers,
- PCC members,
- anyone working with children or Vulnerable adults – whether it be paid or voluntary.
- It is also part of the Safe Recruitment process for people –

This year we participated in the Diocese 'Safeguarding Sunday' which was an opportunity for congregations to learn about Safeguarding.

The Ascension has an online portal for Safeguarding, where progress made at the Church and also with the 5 Safeguarding Standards (see below) can be logged:

- Culture, Leadership & Capacity
- Prevention
- Recognising, Assessing, & Managing Risk
- Victims & Survivors
- Learning, Supervision & Support

### **Policies & Procedures which the PCC have introduced / revised:**

- the Safeguarding Policy,
- the Promoting a Safer Church Statement,
- the Data Protection Policy
- Procedure for electronic communication and use of social media.

The Willesden Episcopal Area thanked Safeguarding Officers for the work done by holding a Celebration Event. Attended by Bishop Lusa, Archdeacon Catherine, Both Harrow & Brent Area Deans as well as the Area Safeguarding Advisor, we enjoyed live music, food (including cake) and catch up, with each of us each receiving a signed acknowledgement certificate with appropriate Biblical verses, presented to each of us by the Bishop.

*"Everyday God thinks of you" Psalm 139:17*

Nicola Kent – Safeguarding Officer.

## Deanery Synod Report to APCM 2025

The Deanery Synod have met in a variety of different Churches throughout the year ... from St Michaels & All Angels, Stonebridge to All Souls Harlesden & St John the Evangelist, Wembley.

- We have heard about Brent Council's response to Climate Action in Brent, & how Churches can act responsibly.
- We were fortunate to receive a Biblical reflection on Safeguarding by the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor for the Willesden Episcopal Area, who spoke on how to make our Churches safe spaces for all.
- The Deanery Synod have considered what God is saying to us as individuals, to the Church we belong to and the Church at large.
- In the second deanery roadshow, together we and participated "using the ignition practice of examen" with Bishop Lusa, Archdeacon Catherine, The Area Director of Ministry Andrew and the Director of Mission, Christopher

It has been an interesting year

Nicola Kent

Deanery Synod Representative

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WEMBLEY PARK**

**Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council  
of the Church of the Ascension Wembley Park**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on the attached pages.

**Respective responsibilities of Parochial Church Council and examiner**

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- 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
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.



Revd David M Green FCA  
Gowers Limited  
The Old School House  
Bridge Road  
Hunton Bridge  
Kings Langley  
Herts. WD4 8SZ

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025

# Treasurers' Report

## Reserves Policy

The PCC policy is to maintain reserves for future expenses related to parish operations and maintenance of church structures, including all buildings and grounds. It is our policy to invest funds with the Church of England's Central Board of Finance (CBF) where possible.

As of 31 December 2024, total reserves balance was £25,291 (last year £35,422). This includes £12,544 (last year £23,317) in trust fund income (code 6515) shown on page 2 of 7 of the financial statements. The decrease is due to transferring -£25,000 to general funds for roof repairs, despite adding £14,227 of income and interest during the year.

## Financial Review

2024 has been a notable year in several aspects. We focused on activities to increase our Halls letting income, support our church community, manage and maintain our church fabric and facilities, and explore ways to control our expenditure.

Results have varied in these areas. 2024 saw improvements in Halls letting income, more than mitigating the reduction in Gift Aid giving due to a reduced congregation. However, there was an increase in operational expenses, outstripping operational income, primarily driven by high energy costs, and 2024 saw a huge investment in our church fabric with repairs to the flat roofs around the meeting room and other areas of the church. These led to an overall net deficit in the church's year-end financials.

Our Memory Café community contributed over one thousand pounds to its mission, and we renegotiated a medium-term contract with our resident nursery school through the efforts of our vicar, Jacqueline Shalloe, in the last quarter of the year, which should enhance financials in 2025.

Ogilvie Bookkeeping Services continued to provide bookkeeping support, and we thank them for their assistance.

David Gowers, our independent examiners for the past three years, will leave after the 2024 examination period due to internal restructuring of their activities. We extend our thanks to David Gowers for their services over the past years.

Examining the accounts attached - page 1 of 7 (Sofa Separate Designated) summary, total income for the year, taking all receipts regardless of designation into account, stand at £98,640 (2023, £90,759) an increase of £7,881 year on year.

This rise is mainly due to increase in Other trading activities (£18,570, mostly Hall rentals) and increase in Investments (£6,079). However, Donations and legacies decreased by -£16,523, due to drops in Planned Giving (-£9,044), Loose plate collections (-£2,578), Gift Aid Tax recoverable (-£3,483, as Gift Aid tax was not claimed in 2024), and Donations appeals, etc (-£1,419).

Focusing on the "General" column of the accounts (page 3 of 7), total income is £81,307 (2023: £79,431), an increase of £1,876. This rise is mainly due to Halls letting income (codes 1230/1240/1245/1247 & 1248) totalling £62,863 (2023: £43,218), up by £19,645 year on year, driven by Parish Hall and Youth Centre lets increases of £18,799 and £847, respectively. This increase counteracts a significant drop in Donations and legacies of -£16,523, caused by a decline in congregation contributions.

As in previous years, our reliance on income from hall rentals to cover the day-to-day operating costs of the Parish continues. Unfortunately, for 2024, the revenue from hall rentals, combined with Church receipts, was insufficient to fully fund the Parish's expenditures, excluding major roof repairs. This is evident in the "General" (Unrestricted) funds column of the accounts on page 1 of 7, where the total combined income from the Church and Halls was £81,307 (2023: £79,431). When compared to the total expenditure on the same basis, £86,008 (2023: £73,443), it results in a deficit of -£4,701 for the year (2023: was an excess of income of £5,988). In 2024, COTA experienced the full impact of rising energy prices due to the expiration of a three-year fixed-term energy contract, which had been entered into prior to the energy crisis, late in the fourth quarter of the previous year. This fuelled the deficit. In addition, COTA undertook a roof repairs project at the cost of £30,135. Including the roof repairs, the deficit for 2024 rises to -£34,836.

To clarify the reserves and capital assets included in the following financial statements, The PCC has a Trust Fund invested in CBF Global Equity Fund Shares, under a Deed of Trust with the Diocesan Board as Custodian Trustees. Previously, the funds were invested in M&G Charifund, but a review by the LDF and the Investment Guidance Group found that M&G Charifund did not comply with the Church of England's Ethical Investment Policy. Consequently, the LDF could not hold M&G units. In June 2024, the PCC passed a resolution to invest the Trust Fund in CBF Global Equity Fund Shares, which align better with the church's values and mission regarding sustainability and environmental measures.

The current Trust Fund figures, and movement, (in summary) are: -

<b>Market Value at</b>	<b>Units/Shares</b>	<b>27.04.1988</b>	<b>31.12.2023</b>	<b>31.12.2024</b>
M&G Chari Fund Units (15,985)	15,985.00	£ 80,000	£ 229,383	£ 241,916
Disposal (23.03.2024) to PCC	- 1,036.77	-£ 5,189		-£ 15,000
Disposal (12.09.2024)	- 14,948.23	-£ 74,811		-£ 226,916
		<b>27.09.2024</b>		
CBF Global Equity Fund Shares	71,229.41	£ 226,916		£ 229,031
	Deposit Account at CBF		£ 13,561	£ 23,317
	Plus, income from Charifund		£ 9,191	£ 14,721
	Plus, interest		£ 565	£ 867
	Less grant to PCC			-£ 25,000
	<b>Balance held on deposit</b>		<b>£ 23,317</b>	<b>£ 13,905</b>
<b>Total values</b>			<b>£ 252,700</b>	<b>£ 242,936</b>

Investments in unit trusts and shares are influenced by stock market movements and can fluctuate in value. This year, the capital value of our Chari Fund units and Global Equity Fund shares has increased by £14,648 compared to 2023. This represents an increase in capital of 6.4%. Additionally, £15,588 of income (and interest) was generated during the year, contributing to the balance of income held on deposit at the beginning of the year. However, units to the value of -£15,000 were sold to help fund repairs to the church flat roof during the year.

### Church Hall buildings valuation

Current Charity commission instructions require that we annotate our accounts with Church Halls buildings valuation. As such the PCC maintain the revised valuation of the Church Halls, in 2021, by EIG Insurance of £2,960,000 (2020, the Hall buildings' valuation was set at £1,747,011). These valuations are set out on page 2 of 7, Balance sheet detailed, and page 6 of 7, Fund movement summary, on the attached financial statements.

### The year(s) ahead – 2025 and beyond

The Parish Church Council (PCC) anticipates that 2025 will usher in an improved future for the Church and its financial health. It aims to continue expanding our congregation, contributing more significantly to the common fund, and achieving normalcy within our church community.

As we strive to maintain a stable yet vibrant financial posture, it is prudent to exercise caution, considering the substantial costs already incurred. It remains critical to persist in growing our congregation and enhancing outreach efforts within the community to prepare for the challenges that 2025 may present.

Furthermore, given the demographic shift in our church community, where legacy parishioners—and their considerable contributions—are being succeeded by newer, younger members with numerous commitments, we must be ready in 2025 to leverage alternative income sources to mitigate any gaps introduced by this change. To that end, attention should be directed towards managing and maximizing net income through various avenues.

We must pursue initiatives to improve the frequency of one-off lets, implementing a rate card aligned with market rates as guided by the Diocese Financial Advisor (FA). Additionally, exploring ways to generate more revenue from church activities and accelerating other fundraising efforts are essential strategies. This includes leveraging local grants opportunities.

It is also crucial to continue conducting thorough reviews of our cost base and implementing efficiencies where feasible to streamline and align costs with changing revenue profiles. This approach will help contain or enhance our net cash position. Measures have already been taken, such as fixing electricity prices, by contract, for the next three years, effective October 2025, to safeguard against future price hikes.

Parishioners should once again challenge themselves this year to increase regular giving. Reducing reliance on planned giving envelopes and fully embracing the Church of England Parish Giving Scheme will ensure donations and regular contributions are gift-aided, thereby maximizing the benefits offered by this scheme. We must execute all measures that enhance our financial posture throughout 2025 and beyond.

We should continue our commitment to review stewardship on an annual basis.

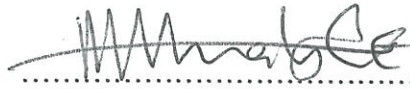
The following accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis, and I present it to the APCM.

Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem – Treasurer

These accounts were presented and approved by a meeting of the PCC convened on April 10, 2025, and signed on their behalf by



.....  
Mrs Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem (Interim Chair)



.....  
Mabel Muwonge (Secretary & Church warden)

**Church of the Ascension Wembley**  
**Sofa Separate Designated**  
**For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and legacies	15,112	-	-	15,112	31,635
Income from charitable activities	1,812	-	1,102	2,915	3,161
Other trading activities	64,383	-	-	64,383	45,813
Investments	-	16,200	31	16,230	10,151
<b>Total income</b>	<b>81,307</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>98,640</b>	<b>90,759</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Raising funds	147	-	-	147	582
Expenditure on charitable activities	115,996	-	56	116,052	73,529
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>116,143</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>116,199</b>	<b>74,111</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>(34,836)</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>(17,559)</b>	<b>16,648</b>
<b>Transfers:</b>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	41,348	-	1,348	42,697	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,348)	(40,000)	(1,348)	(42,697)	-
<b>Other recognised gains / losses</b>					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	14,648	-	14,648	(5,520)
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>5,164</b>	<b>(9,152)</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>(2,911)</b>	<b>11,128</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>(5,507)</b>	<b>276,119</b>	<b>2,975,231</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>	<b>3,234,715</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>(343)</b>	<b>266,966</b>	<b>2,976,308</b>	<b>3,242,932</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>
<b>Represented by</b>					
<b>Unrestricted</b>					
General Fund	(343)	-	-	(343)	(5,507)
<b>Designated</b>					
Designated	-	11,891	-	11,891	11,891
Fabric Fund	-	6,188	-	6,188	5,876
Inspection	-	1,164	-	1,164	1,164
Parish Hall Reserve	-	238	-	238	226
Project Fund	-	2,398	-	2,398	2,218
Trust Fund	-	242,935	-	242,935	252,700
Youth Centre Reserve	-	2,152	-	2,152	2,044
<b>Restricted</b>					
Bequests	-	-	607	607	576
Flower Fund	-	-	47	47	47
Hall Fixed Asset	-	-	2,960,000	2,960,000	2,960,000
Memory Cafe	-	-	1,529	1,529	482
Retention	-	-	14,126	14,126	14,126

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

## Church of the Ascension Wembley

### Balance Sheet detailed

	As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
6430: Hall	2,960,000	2,960,000
6435: M&G Trust Fund	-	229,383
6440: CBF Global Equity	229,031	-
<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>3,189,031</b>	<b>3,189,383</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
6501: Bank current account	28,339	21,039
6510: CCLA (CBF) Fabric Fund	6,188	5,876
6511: CCLA (CBF) Youth Centre Reserve	2,152	2,044
6512: CCLA (CBF) Parish Hall Reserve	238	226
6513: CCLA (CBF) COTA Deposit	3,562	3,383
6514: CCLA (CBF) Bequests & Donations	607	576
6515: CCLA (CBF) Trust Fund	12,544	23,317
6590: Cash in hand	271	-
<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>53,901</b>	<b>56,460</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
6601: Loans received	-	-
6602: Uncleared Cheques	-	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Asset surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>3,242,932</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Excess/(deficit) to date	(17,559)	16,648
Z01: Starting balances	3,245,843	3,234,715
Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	14,648	(5,520)
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>3,242,932</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>

<b>Represented by Funds</b>		
General (Unrestricted)	(343)	(5,507)
Designated	266,966	276,119
Restricted	2,976,308	2,975,231
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,242,932</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>

Church of the Ascension Wembley

Analysis of income and expenditure  
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations and legacies</b>					
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	6,571	-	-	6,571	18,766
0102 - PGS Giving	4,040	-	-	4,040	-
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	630	-	-	630	1,455
0201 - Other planned giving	65	-	-	65	129
0301 - Loose plate collections	1,412	-	-	1,412	3,990
0410 - Giving through church boxes	30	-	-	30	10
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	328	-	-	328	-
0550 - Donations appeals etc	1,012	-	-	1,012	2,817
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	4,468
0602 - Tax recovered on PGS giving	985	-	-	985	-
0901 - Other funds generated	38	-	-	38	-
<b>Donations and legacies Totals</b>	<b>15,112</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,112</b>	<b>31,635</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>					
0305 - Sumup donations	651	-	-	651	1,232
0555 - Special Donations	-	-	-	-	649
0560 - Memory Café donations	-	-	1,102	1,102	1,030
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	1,162	-	-	1,162	250
<b>Income from charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>2,915</b>	<b>3,161</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>					
0910 - Fundraising	1,520	-	-	1,520	2,595
1230 - Church hall lettings - Occasional	9,650	-	-	9,650	9,288
1240 - Church hall lettings - Regular	19,361	-	-	19,361	9,444
1245 - Youth Centre lettings occasional	3,177	-	-	3,177	3,701
1247 - Youth Centre lettings Regular	22,155	-	-	22,155	20,785
1248 - Office rent	8,520	-	-	8,520	-
<b>Other trading activities Totals</b>	<b>64,383</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,383</b>	<b>45,813</b>
<b>Investments</b>					
1001 - Dividends	-	14,721	-	14,721	9,191
1020 - Bank and building society interest	-	1,479	31	1,509	940
1030 - Rent from lands or buildings	-	-	-	-	19
<b>Investments Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16,230</b>	<b>10,151</b>
<b>Receipts Grand totals</b>	<b>81,307</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>98,640</b>	<b>90,759</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
<b>Raising funds</b>					
1701 - Fees paid to fund raisers	-	-	-	-	522

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
1720 - Costs of stewardship	64	-	-	64	60
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	83	-	-	83	-
<b>Raising funds Totals</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>582</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
1801 - Giving Charities	90	-	-	90	-
1830 - Donations from special collections	-	-	-	-	204
1901 - Common Fund	30,000	-	-	30,000	25,004
2101 - Working expenses of incumbent	49	-	-	49	392
2140 - Water rates - vicarage	736	-	-	736	-
2150 - Vicar's telephone	961	-	-	961	805
2170 - Education	-	-	-	-	24
2201 - Parish training and mission	972	-	-	972	12
2205 - Youth and Children's work	685	-	-	685	-
2210 - Memory café expenses	-	-	56	56	547
2301 - Church running - insurance	4,266	-	-	4,266	4,751
2310 - Church office - telephone	152	-	-	152	263
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	294	-	-	294	-
2321 - Organist	2,590	-	-	2,590	2,870
2330 - Church maintenance	3,466	-	-	3,466	2,153
2331 - Cleaning	-	-	-	-	68
2332 - Cleaning Materials Church	96	-	-	96	106
2340 - Upkeep of services	1,570	-	-	1,570	6,443
2350 - Upkeep of churchyard	1,027	-	-	1,027	576
2360 - Administration	1,228	-	-	1,228	418
2362 - Photocopier/printing costs	2,943	-	-	2,943	580
2365 - Bookkeeper	2,292	-	-	2,292	2,708
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	192	-	-	192	88
2401 - Church running - electric	4,321	-	-	4,321	945
2410 - Church running - gas	4,296	-	-	4,296	3,383
2420 - Church running - water	245	-	-	245	1,085
2520 - Hall running - Cleaner wages	870	-	-	870	745
2522 - Hall Running - cleaning materials	109	-	-	109	115
2530 - Hall running - electricity	1,806	-	-	1,806	757
2540 - Hall running - gas	3,417	-	-	3,417	1,483
2550 - Hall running - insurance	1,219	-	-	1,219	1,068
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	2,450	-	-	2,450	2,479
2562 - Hall running - Performing rights	-	-	-	-	44
2570 - Hall running - telephone & administration	-	-	-	-	1,112
2580 - Hall running - water	1,583	-	-	1,583	1,833
2590 - Hall running - Waste Collection	2,081	-	-	2,081	1,621
2591 - Hall running - Sundries	-	-	-	-	10
2601 - Youth Centre Running - Electricity	959	-	-	959	767
2610 - Youth Centre Running - Gas	2,278	-	-	2,278	1,011
2620 - Youth Centre Running - Cleaner wages	960	-	-	960	745
2630 - Youth Centre Running - Administration	-	-	-	-	630
2640 - Youth Centre Running - Water	1,055	-	-	1,055	1,222
2650 - Youth Centre Running - Cleaning Materials	13	-	-	13	49
2660 - Youth Centre Running - Waste collection	1,388	-	-	1,388	1,353
2670 - Youth Centre Running - Insurance	610	-	-	610	583
2680 - Youth Centre Running - Maintenance	2,067	-	-	2,067	2,010
2699 - Governance costs examination/audit fee	524	-	-	524	468

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
2701 - Church major repairs - structure	30,135	-	-	30,135	-
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>115,996</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>116,052</b>	<b>73,529</b>
<b>Payments Grand totals</b>	<b>116,143</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>116,199</b>	<b>74,111</b>

Church of the Ascension Wembley

Fund movement summary

Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
<b>Bequests</b>							
Restricted	576	31	-	-	-	-	607
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>607</b>
<b>Designated</b>							
Designated	11,891	-	-	-	-	-	11,891
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>11,891</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,891</b>
<b>Fabric</b>							
Designated	5,876	312	-	-	-	-	6,188
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>5,876</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,188</b>
<b>Flowers</b>							
Restricted	47	-	-	-	-	-	47
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Hall</b>							
Restricted	2,960,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,960,000
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>2,960,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,960,000</b>
<b>Hall Reserve</b>							
Designated	226	12	-	-	-	-	238
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>238</b>
<b>Inspection</b>							
Designated	1,164	-	-	-	-	-	1,164
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,164</b>
<b>Memory</b>							

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Restricted	482	1,102	56	-	-	-	1,529
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>56</b>				<b>1,529</b>
<b>Project</b>							
Designated	2,218	180	-	-	-	-	2,398
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>2,218</b>	<b>180</b>					<b>2,398</b>
<b>Retention</b>							
Restricted	14,126	-	-	-	-	-	14,126
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>14,126</b>						<b>14,126</b>
<b>Trust</b>							
Designated	252,700	15,588	-	(40,000)	14,648	-	242,935
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>252,700</b>	<b>15,588</b>		<b>(40,000)</b>	<b>14,648</b>		<b>242,935</b>
<b>Youth Centre</b>							
Designated	2,044	108	-	-	-	-	2,152
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>2,044</b>	<b>108</b>					<b>2,152</b>
<b>General</b>							
Unrestricted	(5,507)	81,307	116,143	40,000	-	-	(343)
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>(5,507)</b>	<b>81,307</b>	<b>116,143</b>	<b>40,000</b>			<b>(343)</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>	<b>98,640</b>	<b>116,199</b>		<b>14,648</b>		<b>3,242,932</b>

CT2106A: Ascension Wembley Parish Trust CB1008116 (G). CB3010342 (D).  
 Schedule of Investments and Income 2024  
 Year ended 31st December 2024

	Holding 01/01/2024	Book Value 01/01/2024	Market Value 01/01/2024	Date	Additions Quantity	Cost £	Date	Disposals Quantity	Proceeds £	Profit (Loss) £	Holding 31/12/2024	Book Value 31/12/2024	Market Value 31/12/2024	Date	Gross Income £
<b>Non-Permanent Endowment Capital</b>															
CBF Global Equity Fund Shares				27/09/2024	71,229.41	226,915.52					71,229.41	226,915.52	229,031.04	29/11/2024	1,360.48
M & G Charifund Income Units	15,985.00	80,000.00	229,383.15				22/03/2024 12/09/2024	1,036.77 14,948.23	15,000.00 226,915.52	9,811.29 152,104.23				29/02/2024 31/05/2024 30/08/2024	2,157.98 3,662.31 3,064.39
<b>TOTAL: Non-Permanent Endowment Capital</b>		<b>80,000.00</b>	<b>229,383.15</b>			<b>226,915.52</b>			<b>241,915.52</b>	<b>161,915.52</b>		<b>226,915.52</b>	<b>229,031.04</b>		<b>10,245.16</b>
<b>Accumulated Income</b>															
Central Board of Finance Deposit Fund Pounds	23,316.75	23,316.75	23,316.75		312.69 4,475.80 2,157.98 337.35 3,662.31 85.80 3,064.39 130.81	312.69 4,475.80 2,157.98 337.35 3,662.31 85.80 3,064.39 130.81	25/03/2024	25,000.00	25,000.00					03/04/2024 02/07/2024 02/10/2024 31/12/2024	337.35 85.80 130.81 149.00
<b>TOTAL: Accumulated Income</b>		<b>23,316.75</b>	<b>23,316.75</b>			<b>14,227.13</b>			<b>25,000.00</b>			<b>12,543.88</b>	<b>12,543.88</b>		<b>702.96</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>103,316.75</b>	<b>252,699.90</b>			<b>241,142.65</b>			<b>266,915.52</b>	<b>161,915.52</b>		<b>239,459.40</b>	<b>241,574.92</b>		<b>10,948.12</b>

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# Accounts

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**The Parish Church, of the Ascension (Preston)  
Wembley**

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

**for the year ending 31st December 2023**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

**and**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**Sunday 21 April 2024 at 11.15am**

**The Church of Ascension**

**The Avenue Wembley**

**HA9 9QL**

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Ashford place Charity.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

## Chairs Report

Welcome to our annual report of 2023. There is a lot of information on the past year in the following reports so I won't repeat what's already been written.

We set out our vision as a parish in our mission action plan to deepen our relationship with God and our community. We have achieved the community part and have grown our relations with the community in return we are a bigger family than we were before. New people are joining the church through memory café, parents, baby, and Toddlers which has made our worship in weekdays bigger than the tradition Sunday service. Our average is 60 people who hear Gods word in our community.

Our age range is more balanced and thanks for the work of the lay people who take time to shine and be the light in what they do. New expression of church is, showing God's love by loving our neighbour as ourselves and serving them the way Jesus did. He never held a church service although he participated in one, mostly he ate with people, walked with them on the streets, he healed them and they came to him in thousands, he did what seemed to be out of the ordinary and upset many but in all this he did his Fathers will. Jesus taught others how to live by example, this is what we are called to be. every Sunday we are sent to love and serve the Lord in our community. His trust in us is phenomenal so let's trust him that he will fulfil his will in us. Reflect, read, and trust the future that it is with God we can never be overwhelmed so be bold as you continue to serve the Lord. My thanks to each one of you for your contribution my gratitude to the Churchwardens our safeguarding officer our Treasurer and our amazing PCC. With you anything is possible through Christ who has loved us. A happy Easter season to you all

**Revd Jacqueline Shalloe**

# Agenda

## **Agenda - Meeting of Parishioners, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 at 11:15 AM**

1. To confirm the minutes of the Parishioners Meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023
2. To elect Churchwardens

## **Agenda - Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 at 11:15 AM**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adoption of Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Elections of churchwarden  
*Attendance is recorded for our Archive*

### **5. The Reports**

- Electoral Roll
- Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
- Financial Review
- Deanery Synod

### **6. Elections and Appointments**

- Deanery Synod
  - PCC members
  - Appointment of Independent Examiner of the PCC
  - To receive the names of the Churchwardens elected at the meeting of parishioners just held
7. Any Other Business – to be notified to the Chair or Secretary beforehand.

Closing Prayers

# Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 30th April 2023

Meeting opened with a prayer and a song Goodness of God sang by Jenn Johnson

By Revd Jacqueline Shalloe

Confirming minutes from last year Irene proposed and Tracey Seconded All agreed the minutes.

**1. To confirm the minutes of the Parishioners Meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**2. To elect Churchwardens**

**The second item is to elect the Church Wardens, I have received Two nomination:**

- Tracey King proposed Ian Shaw and Seconded by Victoria George
- Tina Ernestine Proposed Maureen Egbuche and Seconded by Mary-Ann

All agreed the Church wardens nem com.

Thanked Irene for standing in for the year although she had stood down to help keep the roll going.

This concludes the Meeting of Parishioners

## **Agenda - Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 11.25am**

We're now onto the second meeting which is the APCM...

8. Opening Prayers by the Incumbent the Revd Jacqueline Shalloe

### **9. Attendees**

Valerie Proctor, Nicola Kent, Irene Stubbs, Anne Bignell, Tracey King, Anthea Revans, Maureen, Nicola Kent Egbuche, Daniela Egbuche, Mary Ann Chukwuenyem, Angelica Chukwuenyem, David Chukwuenyem. John Shalloe.

### **10. Apologies for absence**

Shelia Coules, Roseanna Shalloe, Tim and Florence Woolford, Josie John Ray, Jean and Ray Hopkins Josephine, Sanyu Mudoe

11. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The was no comment,

**proposed by Antoinette, seconded by Tracey, all those in favour.**

### **12. The Reports**

Mary-Ann presented the Treasurers report.

Apologised that the last page of the financial reports the last page did not make it into the book.

Need receipts when money is being spent, we are not meeting our targets £84,000.for the common fund.

Priority must be for all of us on the electoral roll to commit to give either by Envelops or through our bank and this will help us to budget for the future, We also need to look at Tightening up on our spending.

Anne Bignell explained the Financial report and we are in red and to think ways we can increase funds in the church. It was also noted the Revd, Jacqueline does not put in a claim, but will be doing this going forward.

Revd Jacqueline and the congregation thanked Mary-Ann and Anne Bignell for the time and their ministry to the church.

Restrictions to be put in place and to be overlooked by the churchwardens.

Toilet papers and soap only for regular lets only parties to be asked to provide their own. Print leaflets only in Christmas and Easter season in colour and on special occasions.

We need help with posting on Facebook, Instagram, and twitter as Revd Jacqueline is doing all this now but really should members of the congregation.

### Safeguarding

The Revd Jacqueline informed us that the safeguarding officer work together to make sure that all responsible role have done their safe guarding training and we are a safe church the report for safeguarding was presented by Nicola.

### Churchwardens report was presented by Tracey

She also thanked Revd Jacqueline for her vision and care for the parish and everyone who has supported her and Irene for the upkeeping of the fabric of the church this year.

She asked if anyone had a comment but none was given. Revd Jacqueline thank Irene and Tracey for all they do and for their support.

The Chair asked if there was any comment on the reports

## Reports

- Electoral Roll
- Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
- Report on church fabric, goods and ornaments
- Financial Review
- Deanery Synod

On behalf of the Church, I'd also like to record our thanks to Anne and Mary-Anne for doing our accounts and financial planning, I have asked Mary-Ann and Ann Biggell to produce a budget for this year for the pcc, so that we can work within this budget going forward. This will help the church to cut corners on things which are not necessary.

And also Maureen for managing our planned giving and gift aid.

## 13. Elections and Appointments

- Deanery Synod

Nicola has accepted to stay on as a Deanery Synod office for another three years.

- Reconfirm appointment of PCC members for one-year terms

PCC members are elected for a one-year term and every but mostly expected to stay on for a maximum of three years and then have a break'

- PCC members elected

	<b>Nomination</b>	<b>proposer</b>	<b>Seconder</b>
1	Irene Stubbs	Hilary Prevost	Maureen Cooke
2	Anne Bignell	Hilary Prevost	Maureen Cooke
3	Maureen Egbuche	Mary- Ann Chukwuenyem	Ann Bignell
4	Mary-Anna Chukwuenyem	Daniella Egbuche	Maureen Egbuche
5	Antoinette Morgan	Irene Stubbs	Sheila Coules
6	Soulla Kwong	Tracey King	Sheila Coules
7	Angelica Chukweunyem	Josephine Mosheshe	Karen Brown
8	Vicki George	Josie Baldwin	Hanora Horan
9	Bindu Trivedy	Valerie Proroc	Daniella Egbuche
10	Micheal Haron	Irene Stubbs	Tracey King

I'm pleased to welcome as PCC members and Antoinette as our new PCC secretary. I would like to record our thanks to you Sheila for stepping in as our temporary secretary and for recruiting our new secretary.

- **Appointment of Independent Examiner of the PCC**

Rev David Green is our Independent Examiner, he has told us he his happy to continue in this role and this meeting needs to formally appoint him.

Propose by Ann Bignell, and second by Anthea Raven

I would also like to record our thanks to David for his work and advice on the accounts.

- **To receive the names of the Churchwardens elected at the meeting of parishioners just held.**

Finally, We also need to formally receive the names of the Church Wardens previously elected at the Parishioners Meeting. We welcome you Tracey King and Tina Ernestine as our new churchwardens. Thank you for a agreeing to taking on this roll, we pray that you will love and honour the church and help to grow God's Kingdom in this Parish. May God Bless you as you serve him in this wonderful place.

The Vicar would like to officially welcome new members Doreen Brown, Karen Gill, Luare and her husband Fred and their three children, Blasio and his wife Esther, Anglique, Noah, Teddy and David.

The meeting ended with a prayer of thanks led by Revd Jacqueline.

# Aims and Purposes

Our mission statement is:

**“To be the visible presence of God’s love in Jesus by deepening our relationship with God, each other and our community”.**

## Objectives and Activities

The Church of the Ascension PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Revd. Jacqueline Shalloe, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Halls and the whole church site.

## Achievements and Performance

- **Electoral Roll and Church Attendance**

The electoral roll was revised making a total of 86

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 60 adults, and 12 under 17s, this number has gone up due to memory café and Parent, Baby and toddlers being a fresh expression of Church this is a good thing and members by now should be on our electoral roll if asked to join as they have been attend for a year and half.



## **Administrative information**

The Church of the Ascension is situated in The Avenue, Wembley Park (HA9 9QL). It is part of The Diocese of London within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 319 Preston Road, Harrow, HA3 0QQ.

PCC members who have served from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

### **Ex. Officio Members**

**Incumbent:** The Revd Jacqueline Shalloe Chair (from 8<sup>st</sup> September 2022)

**Wardens:** Ms Tracey King and Ms Ernestine Allen

**Representatives on the Deanery Synod:** Nicola Kent

### **PCC Elected Members**

Mrs Anne Bignell (resigned) Mrs Mary-Ann Chukwuenym Treasurer

Mrs Maureen Egbuche Gift Aid officer

Mr Michael Haron

Ms Bindu Trevidy

Soulla Kwong

## **Independent Financial Examiner**

### **Appointed Officers**

Nicola Kent – safeguarding Officer  
Tracey King – Children’s Champion  
Mrs Maureen Egbuche -Gift Aid Officer  
Sheila Coules – Electoral Roll Officer

The Revd David Green  
Gowers Plus Limited  
The Old School House  
Bridge Road, Hunton Bridge  
Kings Langley, Herts  
WD4 8SZ

### **Architect:**

Karen Butti MA, Grad Dipl Cons(AA), RIBA, AABC  
Director, Thomas ford and Partners, 177 Kirkdale, London,  
SE26 4QH

# Review of the Year

## PCC Secretary and Church warden's report Reviewing the year

### Introduction

**“Shine as the light in the world so that others may see and glorify your father in heaven”.**

Happy Easter and a warm welcome to our Annual Report. These pages represent the living out of our Christian faith as Easter people. The strength and ventures of our church community over the past year and the wide range of contributions and enormous commitment of many people, here in our parish, deanery and the London Diocese. Take time to read this report reflectively to see and thank God for all he has done and to prayerfully seek the Holy Spirit to show you where is calling you and what is calling you to do in the new year 2024 it maybe to write a letter of thanks to others or to just sit and be nourished with God's love or to work with our incumbent and start a new vision for the church.

It is nice to be a member of a family. Today, we can come to the church of Ascension knowing that we are grounded in two families: our natural family and the family of the church what a privilege!! Much of the life of the church is 'behind the scenes. If you would like to know more about how things work and how you can be more involved, please bring your questions to our Annual Meeting on 21 April 23 or speak to Revd Jacqueline who is our incumbent, our PCC secretary, or your Churchwardens.

The running of the practical side of the church with God's blessings as named below.

### **Parish Hall and Youth Centre**

#### **Cleaning**

We have been paying Agnes Cleaning Company £245.00 per month to clean our Youth Centre and Parish Hall weekly.

#### **Hall Hirers**

We welcome our Hall Hirers: Kumon, Karate, Scottish Dancing, Brownies, Carers Group, NHS Fair, Diabetes Group, Deen Club, Jannah Club, Little Legs Dog Club, Councillour Johnson and the Nursery.

We welcome all people in the community and we had our Christmas Party in the Parish Hall for the Memory Cafe and the Chameleons performing 'Dick Whittington' over

Christmas. We have parties, funeral wakes, engagement parties, wedding parties and different celebrations. We welcome all.

### Grounds

The clearance and tidy up of the grounds added to numerous people coming to look at the gardens and comment on trees and shrubs that were planted and donated suddenly being seen again! Our deepest thanks go to Irene Stubbs who donated £2,000 to employ a landscape gardener to cut the trees, weed, power wash the tiles, clear the leaves in all the drains, mow the lawns and restore the grounds. David King has taken this on and has done a wonderful job. David has fixed all the outside security lights and tidied up the area at the back of the Parish Hall. It has shown us that the PCC need to allocate money in order to upkeep our beautiful grounds as numerous people have enjoyed coming and sitting in the garden.

### Work done with the expenditure.

- Regular bin collections twice weekly costing between £242.12 to £272.66 with Veola.
- The Youth Centre had sinks cleared by Dyno-rod cost **20<sup>th</sup> October 2023 cost £247.00**
- Dunphy's Boilers came on 6/11/23 and serviced the boilers in the Church, Meeting Room, Vestry and Vestry Office, and the Youth Centre. We now have gas safety certificates valid for 12 months. This came at a cost of £617.00 plus an extra charge for the Youth Centre.
- ZV Electrics (Jack) installed three new lights in the narthex with bulbs that will last 4 years or more. He also installed a new switch in the Church Cleaning Cupboard and a new light at a total cost of £270.00 which Tracey King has kindly donated.
- Brent Pest Control has visited the grounds and inspected the halls every 8 weeks this year and reported there to be no sign of any rodents or pests.
- The Church Lightning Conductor Test was completed on 5/6/23 and expires on 5/7/24 Cost £70
- B.T Broadband was renewed and the updated one installed on 28/7/23 We have wi-fi in the Church and Parish Hall.
- Pat Testing and fire-extinguishers were inspected on 3/2/23 with PHS Compliance and the service will need to be renewed Feb 2024. Gutters were cleared by Fitzgerald in March.
- Frank who fixed the bench outside Church. People are really enjoying sitting on it!
- Cecil Hickey from Edgware Builders was paid £50.00 donated by Tracey King to take some gardening bags away. The Church organ was tuned by BC Sheppard & Sons on 20/12/23 at a cost of £294.00

## Church celebrations and Mission outreach

For Black History Month Brent Council gave the community a grant-' love where you live', £500 which was used for the celebrations. Our vicar had given the PCC £500 to invite the community and continue to celebrate black history projects. Our thanks go to Venessa and her family who coordinated this project and Brent council who donated the grant and all those who contributed to this day. The event was attended by community leaders, The Mayor of Brent and Councillors. A wonderful Steel Band, Dancers, poetry and Singers which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

### **Homes of promise**

Soulla Kwong our PCC member has been supports the homes of promise for a long time. She held a fund-raising funday event for the Homes of Promise in Uganda, with a cream tea, face painting, different Stalls and a bouncy castle and the community had a fantastic turn out. £500 was raised and Jane the CEO of the charity was also in attendance. The vicar has called on the church to help and support good causes like this in the future and has asked the PCC for the Homes Of Promise to become one of the charities we start to support as it used to be. Thanks go to all who supported this worthy cause and for Soulla for her dedication for this worthwhile cause. If you would like to donate to the Homes Of Promise please speak to Soulla.

### **Special Services in our Parish**

#### **Coronation service**

We had a special service in Church taken by Revd.Jacqueline and we were all thrilled to share this historical event. We sang hymns that would have been sung and had readings and read poetry suitable for the day. We finished with the National Anthem 'God Save Our Gracious King!' We sold special mugs with King Charles' picture and date on it as a memorabilia and also for future generations to know that we celebrated this. After the service we had tea in the Parish Hall with tables decorated with the unionjack flags and had lovely tea and scones. We also had a fair for the community to join in these celebrations it was a lovely day.

**Friendship services:** We held a friendship service with lunch. This one needs more getting used to but it is an amazing opportunity and we need more of these.

**Memory café service:** Memory café nativity service was enjoyed by all and also Easter themed service learning about Easter and what it means to non-Christians using pancakes, eggs, plants and the cross explaining what they symbolise. We had a Coronation Short service and a memorial service for our late queen. Tracey has been licensed as a lay person and is

also on a grow course which has equipped her to lead prayers and as a singer sings hymns in every Memory café session. This is also a fresh expression of church by the church seeing what we do. Loving our neighbours as ourselves, and shining the light of Christ that others may see and glorify His name, Prayers are the biggest focus in this service, and people always give Tracey their prayer requests before she starts to pray, this has appeal to all people from different denominations, and fulfilling our 2030 vision for our church to be a compassionate community and answering Jesus' call Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me," (ESV) Memory café welcome the other to be one in Christ with us. We thank God for all on the memory café team and for our Vicar's guiding.

**Parent baby and toddler Service:** We had One Nativity Service in church, and one in the hall. We always run our group as a fresh expression of church with nursery rhymes mixed with Sunday school songs and a bible story. It is a happy carefree church service based around showing Jesus love, acceptance and community that even people from different denominations are created by our God and if they are happy to join our group we welcome them without fear and knowing that God is in control, we do use the word 'Church' but we know that where we are God is and is working. So far two mothers have joined the mainstream church.

**SCP service:** The Society of Catholic Priests held a week day service here at the Ascension where our priest was received as the member of the society and two others and after wards refreshments with lunch. Thanks goes to Assil Bakki for a lovely homemade soup which was enjoyed by all

**Mass and Meal Service** Revd Jacqueline hosted and welcomed priests from different areas for a social with a Mass and meal. This gathering is held in different churches with priests from the same churchmanship month and it was the second time our vicar has hosted. Fr Mundy was the president

**Ascension Day Service** the Red Preb. Sandra McCalla presided and led our all age service with the mother and toddler group. It was the celebration of a year since it started and members of the congregation joined in with two celebration cakes and lunch. Our thanks goes to Irene Stubbs who coordinated the refreshments.

**All saints Service:** Our children and their parents lead the first part of the service and became saints who are represented our church. St Anselm, Mary mother of God, St George, Janani Luwum, all wore white servers robes and finished with 'Oh when the saints go marching in' hymn.

**Service for all souls.** This is a service when we pray for our loved ones who have departed and also the former members of the congregation. We also welcome friends and past families who travel to come and remember their loved ones.

### **Remembrance service**

We remembered all those who gave their life in the war so that we may live in peace in this service we were joined by brownies this was part of our 10;00am service.

### **St Pauls**

Victoria George was confirmed at St Paul Cathedral on Easter Saturday and some of us who went really enjoyed this special occasion. In October Revd Jacqueline was invited to preach and then together with the congregation for a 4.00pm tea and cakes which was lovely. And the Sunday after they invited us as a church to go for prayers and our church was named and prayed for and our Priest. We have had priest from St Pauls visiting and presiding at our services. We always had a special relationship, and we thank God for this.

### **Advent service of festival of light with a Concert with Tracey's Pupils:**

We had 30 of Tracey's singing pupils performing in the Church which raised over £300.00. The children were age from 4 to 24 and performed Classical, Musical Theatre, Disney, and some beautiful carols and hymns like amazing grace. The audience loved the two hour concert and Revd. Jacqueline spoke the light having different meanings and Jesus being the light we believe in the Christian faith she closed with a prayer and chatted with pupils and prayed with them at the end, a lot of communities in Wembley were represented and this was good News for sure. Praise the Lord!!

### **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols:**

Our nine lessons and carols were led by Ian Shaw at the organ, and we sang congregational hymns and choral items. The music was heavenly, and Tracey sang all the descants! It is always good to see new readers taking part and new faces visiting the church in this beautiful season.

### **Mothers Union Service**

This was When Bishop Lusa Licensed our Priest as Chaplain of Mothers Union in the Willesden Area. We welcomed the Bishop Lusa, Sue's mothers union president, Pauline the vice president of Willesden area and many Mothers Union members from different branches and friend of our Vicar. It was an honourable service and the pcc donated the celebration drinks and snacks.

### **Normal Services**

We continue to have two communion services each week unless when we can't find weekday cover.

Sundays at 10:00 am

Wednesday 10:00 am

We thank Rev Jacqueline our Vicar for her vision and leadership in our Parish, for introducing a wider church of England family and for making our church more visible both in the parish and beyond.

We would like to thank all those who covered this year, Revd. Alison Christian, Revd Alex Volossevich, Revd. Angela Hopkins, Julia Bevis-Knowles, Sophie Schuil-Brewer, Revd Elaine Weaver, Fr. Jason, Revd Preb Sandra Macalla, Revd and director of training Andrew Corsie , Archdeacon Catherine, Bishop Win and Bishop Lusa. What a blessing!!

The vicar has retired Stuart from being a sacristan, so that he can tend to his health and enjoy time of rest and coming to worship without worrying to do all the hard work involved with this position. As a PCC we have valued your contribution to life of the church would like to express their thanks for the years of faithful service

### **Training for church ministry**

We have six members of our congregation on a grow course and we train at the Gregory centre for church multiplication CCX which is at the Old Deanery ,Deans court London

Our Vicar has been on the **Launchpad Training**

This will help our church to have a youth group although we lack volunteers, and this is stopping us to start but in every service we pray for children and youth with a prayer Revd Jacqueline has provided. We stand in faith that God will provide for what is needed for this ministry.

We thank Revd. Jacqueline for her vision for our Church and her tireless energy for opening doors and enabling work to happen. We have wonderful prayer sessions in Church for the community and for anyone who wants to come in for prayer. God is leading and guiding us in growing our gifts and working through us to reach out to others in His love. We pray that we can work in unity as a team and use His gifts to uphold His mighty name and let others see Him in all that we do.

'For to those who love God, everything works out for the good'. We pray that God will continue to work through us so that others may see.

### **Fabric and Inventory**

Thank to Stuart's hard work we have an updated paper Inventory with pictures and Revd Jacqueline has done one for online . Both have put in a lot of work and this will make it easier for future updates.

We hosted The Cursillo's the Diocese of London's AGM, The Deanery Chapter, and The Doctor's Fair with Ashford Place Charity.

Irene, Sheila and Revd Jacqueline joined Bishop Lusa on the pilgrims walk for racial justice. Revd. Jacqueline was invited to preach at St. Paul's Cathedral and the congregation enjoyed

this very much. It was wonderful to be invited, to be prayed for and to have tea with Revd Paula Holligsworth the Chaplain of St. Paul's a firm friend of our Vicar.

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

We celebrated our dear Josie's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday which was lovely. We held our May Fair and Christmas Fair with delicious food and cakes. We also had face-painting, jewellery, books, toys, cards & bric a brac. Our thanks go to all who helped on the stalls and for those who cooked and baked amazing food! Rejoice in the Lord always and a gain I say rejoice! With Social committee.

## **Sunday School and Youth**

We have nine children in the Church who needs a teacher to pass on the wisdom of God. Are you being called to take on this ministry? can you be that person? This is an urgent need. This is the future of the church and also to be a welcoming church to families in our Parish we need children's leaders. The truth is, if you know the bible stories and have a heart for children you can teach Sunday school. If you can help, please speak to the vicar or our churchwardens. Jesus our risen Lord commands us "Let the children come to me and not to hinder them as the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Matthew 19:14"Where Jesus is you will find the children so let us strive to serve them and extend God's Kingdom in our Parish.

## **Needs in the church**

Can you join our garden team? Please speak to Tracey and David  
Our garden needs help at this time as the grass is growing very quickly and we can afford a full-time gardener. Another way to help is to support by giving to the garden fund please mark the envelope clearly gardening fund.

## **Cleaning the Church once a month**

If you look careful coming in the church you will see cobwebs take time and walk slowly around the church and you will discover that there is a great need to keep the our Church clean, we cant afford to have a cleaner as our finances are less and we have been overspending for the last 13 years, while less money is coming in.  
As a family we clean our home and this is our spiritual home. We need a team of four people to clean monthly if we get six teams that means everyone will clean only twice a year, Sheila cleans the church every Friday after memory café the part where we have the café, arranges all the hymn books and the chairs. Thank you, Sheila, for your dedication. We also want to express our gratitude to all those who came to clean and prepare the church for Easter it was much a appreciated and the church looked beautiful on Easter morning keep up the go With thanks and blessings

### **With Sympathy and Prayers**

A lot of our members have been grieved with loss of their Loved one and as a PCC we would like to express our Condolences to Bindu who lost her mum, Tracey her Brother Hanora her Brother Josephine her sister and Mary-Ann her brother Soulla her Mother and Nicola her Mother Doreen Kent who was a beloved member of this church, Sheila her dear Friend and a member of this Church Patricia she faithful took her communion by extension. Anyone we didn't mention here your Still in our continued prayers.

May your loved one's rest in peace and rise in Glory. Jesus promises **"I am the resurrection and the life those who believe in me even if they die yet they shall live, and I will raise them up at the last"** day. May this hope be the strength and comfort you need at this time till you see your loved ones again.

The vicar is always here for you whenever she is needed, and the Vicarage door is always open for you as she told us when she first came to this Parish. Please don't feel that you're alone.

**Tracey, Tina and Antoinette**

### **Ecumenical Relationships - Churches Together**

The Churches together meetings are held at the church of Ascension Vicarage mostly and we are privileged to have space and host all the churches. We have had two walks of witness which have been a great success. We now have introduced two different meeting which happen in alternate manner one for the church leaders and one with the church the lay people. This gives space for new visions for the group. Watch this space.

Unfortunately, Revd Urich moved on from St Augustine but we welcome Revd Scott and we realised that all the leaders we are new in the area apart from the Catholic leader, God is saying: Isaiah 43:18-19 "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

God never stop to amaze!!!

**Revd Jacqueline Shalloe**

### **Walk of Witness**

## Deanery Synod Report

During the year we have visited a variety of different Churches including St James Alpertton, St Catherine's Neasden, St Gabriels' Cricklewood, St Andrews Kingsbury ,St Michaels & All NGELS CHURCH, HILLSIDE NW10 and St Michaels Tokyngton. We also had the opportunity to attend The Chineke Christmas Concert via zoom.

We have had a variety of different presentations:

- **A talk on the pitfalls and Successes of fundraising:** A Talk given by The Southgate Heritage who spoke about engaging with the wider Community, while strengthening the skills and resources of the PCC.
- **A Presentation on The Diocese of London Disability Access and Inclusion** – Given by The Diocesan Disability Enabler, who pointed out that while getting into buildings with ramps, handrails etc is important, there is far more to making a Church a place and experience where disabled people are able to fully belong and take part in the life and worship of the Church.
- **A presentation on An Integrated Multi Cultural Worshipping Community**, where members of the congregation are encouraged to participate in Services, in their mother tongue, wearing their cultural dress – Something which is The Bishop Of Willesden's Mission for the Episcopal Area of Willesden.
- **A Presentation on the Work of the MU within a Parish.** Given by Pauline McCalla (Willessden Representative for the Willessden area) explained ... The benefits of having the MU in every Church. Christian led, the MU explores talent and creative thinking to bring sustainable change – from grassroot to government level to overseas. It has been a very interesting year. **Nicola Kent – Deanery Synod Representative.**

## Safeguarding

**Policy:** The PCC reviewed the Safeguarding Statement.

**Training:** PCC members as well as people in the Church working with vulnerable adults or children were supplied with various application links and asked to undertake Safeguarding training

**Home Communion Visits:** A Risk Assessment checklist has now been introduced, this is to protect both the visitor and those we visit.

**Church Lift Agreement:** We have introduced the agreement for Church members offering elderly people lifts to and from Church services. This is to protect both the driver and passenger in the car.

**Photo Permission & Feeling Safe at Church:** I introduced the photo permission forms for having your photo taken. With the introduction of social media, it is vital to ensure that people really are happy to be in a picture as they may be end up on Facebook / X / Instagram without permission. Much better to be on the safe side.

I have Risk Assessed various areas within the whole Church premises (all three buildings), with a view to feeling safe. The ethos of feeling safe I started the ethos of feeling safe by putting the message on the bottom of the service sheet reminding people to talk to me if they wanted to take a photo. The Feeling Safe ethos extended and I found myself working with our Hall Hirers.

**Meeting Room Closure:** With the ceiling and wall of the meeting room requiring work, I took the decision to close the meeting room. The fridge, tea and coffee items were re-located to the back of Church. This enables the Churchwardens to get the work done.

**Halls and Hall Hire:** I have been working with the Churchwardens, ensuring that the Churchwardens are supplied with the correct Hall Hire Agreements, Safeguarding Policy and the Roles and Responsibilities forms for hall hirers to sign.

I undertake the completion of periodic Risk Assessments on both the Parish Hall and Youth Centre. Currently there are area-based Risk Assessments in place for the Church.

**Safe Working and Safe Church:** We are fully committed to Confidentiality, Data Protection and the Privacy Policy (details of the Privacy Policy can be found on the Safeguarding Noticeboard).

**Welcome Baack to A Returning DBS Checker:** A DBS check is also required by each PCC member, Church Volunteers working with the Ascension Parent and Toddler Group and the Friday Memory Cafe. Our DBS checker is Sheila Coules and I am grateful to her for undertaking this role once more.

**A New Children's Champion:** The Diocese of London is actively committed to ensuring that all our children & young people are listened to. The Children's Champion has a key role with this, ensuring that the voices, views and needs of children and young people are heard.

Each Church has the opportunity to have a Children’s Champion, who will give children and young people this voice within the work of the Church. The Champion is there to ask “How does this impact on our Children?” We have a newly appointed Children’s Champion who is already a PCC member. They are able to bring the views of the Ascension’s children and young people to the PCC. I am really pleased that Maureen Egbuiche has agreed to be our newly appointed Children’s Champion.

Looking forward to an action-packed year ahead

**Nicola Kent (Safeguarding Officer,)**



## Charities Work

### **St Luke's Hospice**

St Luke's Hospice helps people in Brent and Harrow to have the best possible quality of life, despite living with serious illnesses which are no longer curable. All their services are completely free of charge.

As St Luke's receives only around 30% of their funding from the NHS, the rest is raised from the generosity of organisations and people in the local community through donations and fundraising alongside the dedication of volunteers. People can support the work of the hospice by making donations, taking part in events, playing the hospice lottery or shopping or volunteering in their charity shops.

St Luke's are grateful that due to local support they are able to continue their vital care to patients and families.

I attended a meeting in 2023 where there were several speakers from the Hospice; they plan to hold another meeting soon and I will be able to provide leaflets and information about their current events.

It is now several years since any members of the Church of The Ascension took part in the Midnight Walk. However, the date for this year's walk is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June – details can be found at [www.stlukes-hospice.org/midnightwalk](http://www.stlukes-hospice.org/midnightwalk) or I can find out more details nearer the time, if there might be a few people who would be interested in taking part and raising some sponsorship for this worthwhile cause.

Thank you for your continued support to St Luke's Hospice.

**Hilary Prevost**

### **The Children's Society**

The Children's Society supports children and young people who are facing problems.

The Children's Society also campaigns to ask the Government to change policies and laws to make life better for young people in the UK.

### **The Children's Society – Donations from The Church of the Ascension**

Although we have not held a Box Opening and Coffee Morning since 2019 due to the Pandemic, I am very pleased to report that I received some house boxes from our box holders and some additional donations and was able to send the sum of **£750.00** to the Children's Society in November 2023.

If anyone would like to have a collection box in their home, please let me know.

Also, if anyone has a box that is getting full, please let me know and I would be very happy to count the money and send it to the Children's Society.

The Christingle Service held just before Christmas 2023, also raised the sum of **£115.00**.

Thank you also for your support in purchasing Christmas cards in aid of the Children's Society.

The sum of **£220** was raised.

It is great news that we raised a total of over **£1000.00** in 2023.

Thank you very much for your continued support towards The Children's Society.

**Hilary Prevost**



**Afternoon Tea and update on the work of Homes of Promise on Sunday 14th April 2.30-4.30pm at The Charis Centre, Jesus Church, Forty Hill, EN2 9EU.**

The Probation Officer arrives to inspect George's Place, Ram visits the dentist, Tresor travels to Kayenga.

***'They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel." ' John 12 v13***

Dear friends

I'm travelling back from Winchester after visiting my eldest son and it's beginning to feel like Uganda, if they had trains! The train is so packed, people standing all the way to Waterloo, you can't even get into a carriage. I've found a seat in a corridor, collapsible, opposite the loo! Giving thanks.

This week the probation officer for Wakiso District, Joanne, went to George's Place, she had said she would arrive at 8am Tuesday but didn't actually get there until 4pm. Peace and Benard had spent all day waiting for her! She inspected the home and wants us to take in more boys which is obviously a big commitment and needs a lot of thought and prayer.

Tresor travelled to Kayenga to pay George and Shilla's school fees, (Dan's brother and sister), he also visited the family and met the new baby -Jane. He took some of our baby clothes, T-shirts for the younger children, a pair of shoes for the dad, from our store, which they really appreciated. The father has built a small outside kitchen.

The boys at George's Place went to the football academy this morning (Saturday) and Dani the trainer spoke to them before the practise, sharing Psalm 119 v73-74 about knowing who created them and the reason why they should be happy for each other.

Last Sunday, Sue and her friends visited George's Place, spending time with the boys and being shown around by Benard, this gave Ronald and Robert the opportunity to clean my car.

o Ram has been taken to the dentist this week and had a tooth removed, he also needed some root canal treatment - I think he must be feeling very sorry for himself.

o Robert has returned to Malaba to look for work and stay with his grandmother who has promised to help him approach some hairdressing salons.

- o Tresor visited Johnson last Sunday for visiting day at Trinity High School, and I had an opportunity to speak with them.
- o Jovan was also taken to the hospital to receive some medication.
- o Godfrey had come in on Monday and helped with the general cleaning to make sure everything was spic and span for the visitor - he gets paid in meals.

It looks and sounds like everything is running smoothly whilst I'm here, I've spoken to Peace, Petra and Tresor this week, who are all fine, also received calls and messages from Augustine, Tim, Emma and Ivan (some of the older boys who are working).

Thank you for all your loving support and kindness for our work and as we approach Easter, 'May your Holy Week be a sacred time and may God bless us as we make this journey to Easter Sunday together. Stay safe and stay well.'

With love **Jane** x

## Church Groups

### **The Ascension Parent, Baby and Toddler**

The Ascension Parent & Toddlers group has been an amazing success! We have a weekly session running on Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 11.00am.

We usually have around 16 children and parents. They play from 9.30am to 10.20am with toys while parents have a coffee and a chat.

We all help tidy up and then have snack time which consists of fruit: apples, bananas, strawberries, blueberries, and grapes chopped up with a glass of water. We have a chat and sing our 'please and thank you' song! We then read a short story. At around 10.40am we sit in a circle and have our singing time where we sing all our favourite nursery rhymes. A firm favourite is 'Hokey Cokey' and 'Sleeping Bunnies'. After singing we always end with a prayer and sing 'My God is so Big'.

We learn colours and counting. We also learn that sharing is caring! We have lovely toys which they all enjoy playing with including train sets, soft toys, bricks, a cooker with all the pots and an ironing board.

Parents share their advice and concerns with each other and we provide pastoral care by praying with them and talking through problems. Two families have joined the Church and have become volunteers. We have parents from all faiths and we have moved from Daniel's Den to running our own Ascension Parent & Toddler Group and this has become a wonderful fresh expression of Church where we share God's love in our community and build relationships between the Church and parents in our community.

We had a wonderful nativity service in Church where the parents and children all dressed up. Father Christmas arrived at the end to give out presents to everyone! (Revd. Jacqueline in disguise!) our we thank God for his guidance and provisions .

### **Children's Team**



**Church of the Ascension Wembley**  
**Sofa Separate Designated**  
**For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and legacies	31,468	-	167	31,635	16,042
Income from charitable activities	2,131	-	1,030	3,161	5,441
Other trading activities	45,813	-	-	45,813	41,324
Investments	19	10,114	18	10,151	13,564
<b>Total income</b>	<b>79,431</b>	<b>10,114</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>90,759</b>	<b>76,371</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Raising funds	582	-	-	582	74
Expenditure on charitable activities	72,862	-	667	73,529	88,895
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>73,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>74,111</b>	<b>88,969</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>5,988</b>	<b>10,114</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>16,648</b>	<b>(12,598)</b>
<b>Transfers:</b>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	-	-	-	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains / losses</b>					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	(5,520)	-	(5,520)	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>5,988</b>	<b>4,594</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>11,128</b>	<b>(12,598)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>(11,494)</b>	<b>271,525</b>	<b>2,974,684</b>	<b>3,234,715</b>	<b>3,247,313</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>(5,507)</b>	<b>276,119</b>	<b>2,975,231</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>	<b>3,234,715</b>

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

# Church of the Ascension Wembley

## Balance Sheet detailed

	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
6430: Hall	2,960,000	2,960,000
6435: M&G Trust Fund	229,383	234,903
<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>3,189,383</b>	<b>3,194,903</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
6501: Bank current account	21,039	18,254
6510: CCLA (CBF) Fabric Fund	5,876	5,693
6511: CCLA (CBF) Youth Centre Reserve	2,044	1,980
6512: CCLA (CBF) Parish Hall Reserve	226	219
6513: CCLA (CBF) COTA Deposit	3,383	3,278
6514: CCLA (CBF) Bequests & Donations	576	558
6515: CCLA (CBF) Trust Fund	23,317	13,561
6590: Cash in hand	-	2,908
<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>56,460</b>	<b>46,451</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
6601: Loans received	-	2,500
6602: Uncleared Cheques	-	4,139
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,639</b>
<b>Net Asset surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>	<b>3,234,715</b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Excess/(deficit) to date	16,648	-
Z01: Starting balances	3,234,715	3,234,715
Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	(5,520)	-
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>	<b>3,234,715</b>

<b>Represented by Funds</b>		
General (Unrestricted)	(5,507)	(11,494)
Designated	276,119	271,525
Restricted	2,975,231	2,974,684
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,245,843</b>	<b>3,234,715</b>

**Church of the Ascension Wembley**  
**Fund movement summary**  
**Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Outgoing Resources</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Gains and Losses</b>	<b>Journal Entries</b>	<b>Fund balances Carried forward</b>
<b>Bequests</b>							
Restricted	558.24	17.89	-	-	-	-	576.13
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>558.24</b>	<b>17.89</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>576.13</b>
<b>Designated</b>							
Designated	11,890.51	-	-	-	-	-	11,890.51
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>11,890.51</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,890.51</b>
<b>Fabric</b>							
Designated	5,693.35	182.46	-	-	-	-	5,875.81
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>5,693.35</b>	<b>182.46</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,875.81</b>
<b>Flowers</b>							
Restricted	-	166.50	119.80	-	-	-	46.70
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>166.50</b>	<b>119.80</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46.70</b>
<b>Hall</b>							
Restricted	2,960,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,960,000.00
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>2,960,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,960,000.00</b>
<b>Hall Reserve</b>							
Designated	219.44	7.03	-	-	-	-	226.47
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>219.44</b>	<b>7.03</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>226.47</b>
<b>Inspection</b>							
Designated	1,139.30	25.16	-	-	-	-	1,164.46
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>1,139.30</b>	<b>25.16</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,164.46</b>
<b>Memory</b>							

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Restricted	-	1,029.74	547.33	-	-	-	482.41
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,029.74</b>	<b>547.33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>482.41</b>
<b>Project</b>							
Designated	2,138.37	79.88	-	-	-	-	2,218.25
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>2,138.37</b>	<b>79.88</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,218.25</b>
<b>Retention</b>							
Restricted	14,126.00	-	-	-	-	-	14,126.00
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>14,126.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,126.00</b>
<b>Trust</b>							
Designated	248,464.00	9,755.62	-	-	(5,519.85)	-	252,699.77
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>248,464.00</b>	<b>9,755.62</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,519.85)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>252,699.77</b>
<b>Youth Centre</b>							
Designated	1,980.08	63.46	-	-	-	-	2,043.54
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>1,980.08</b>	<b>63.46</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,043.54</b>
<b>General</b>							
Unrestricted	(11,494.34)	79,431.14	73,443.42	-	-	-	(5,506.62)
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>(11,494.34)</b>	<b>79,431.14</b>	<b>73,443.42</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,506.62)</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,234,714.95</b>	<b>90,758.88</b>	<b>74,110.55</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,519.85)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,245,843.43</b>

Church of the Ascension Wembley

Analysis of income and expenditure  
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations and legacies</b>					
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	18,766	-	-	18,766	10,942
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	1,455	-	-	1,455	-
0201 - Other planned giving	129	-	-	129	245
0301 - Loose plate collections	3,990	-	-	3,990	2,017
0410 - Giving through church boxes	10	-	-	10	-
0550 - Donations appeals etc	2,651	-	167	2,817	2,838
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	4,468	-	-	4,468	-
<b>Donations and legacies Totals</b>	<b>31,468</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>31,635</b>	<b>16,042</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>					
0305 - Sumup donations	1,232	-	-	1,232	-
0555 - Special Donations	649	-	-	649	3,606
0560 - Memory Café donations	-	-	1,030	1,030	936
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	250	-	-	250	899
<b>Income from charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>2,131</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>3,161</b>	<b>5,441</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>					
0910 - Fundraising	2,595	-	-	2,595	1,980
1230 - Church hall lettings - Occasional	9,288	-	-	9,288	6,164
1240 - Church hall lettings - Regular	9,444	-	-	9,444	14,064
1245 - Youth Centre lettings occasional	3,701	-	-	3,701	190
1247 - Youth Centre lettings Regular	20,785	-	-	20,785	18,926
<b>Other trading activities Totals</b>	<b>45,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>45,813</b>	<b>41,324</b>
<b>Investments</b>					
1001 - Dividends	-	9,191	-	9,191	13,267
1020 - Bank and building society interest	-	922	18	940	297
1030 - Rent from lands or buildings	19	-	-	19	-
<b>Investments Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10,114</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10,151</b>	<b>13,564</b>
<b>Receipts Grand totals</b>	<b>79,431</b>	<b>10,114</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>90,759</b>	<b>76,371</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
<b>Raising funds</b>					
1701 - Fees paid to fund raisers	522	-	-	522	-
1720 - Costs of stewardship	60	-	-	60	74
<b>Raising funds Totals</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
1801 - Giving Charities	-	-	-	-	406

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Total Last year
1830 - Donations from special collections	150	-	54	204	-
1901 - Common Fund	25,004	-	-	25,004	25,000
2101 - Working expenses of incumbent	392	-	-	392	921
2150 - Vicar's telephone	805	-	-	805	-
2170 - Education	24	-	-	24	-
2201 - Parish training and mission	12	-	-	12	259
2210 - Memory café expenses	-	-	547	547	-
2301 - Church running - insurance	4,751	-	-	4,751	4,588
2310 - Church office - telephone	263	-	-	263	-
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	-	-	-	-	540
2321 - Organist	2,870	-	-	2,870	4,130
2330 - Church maintenance	2,153	-	-	2,153	1,739
2331 - Cleaning	68	-	-	68	-
2332 - Cleaning Materials Church	106	-	-	106	-
2340 - Upkeep of services	6,378	-	66	6,443	1,531
2350 - Upkeep of churchyard	576	-	-	576	945
2360 - Administration	418	-	-	418	-
2361 - Loan Repayment	-	-	-	-	3,000
2362 - Photocopier costs	580	-	-	580	-
2365 - Bookkeeper	2,708	-	-	2,708	-
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	88	-	-	88	-
2401 - Church running - electric	945	-	-	945	876
2410 - Church running - gas	3,383	-	-	3,383	1,716
2420 - Church running - water	1,085	-	-	1,085	-
2501 - Magazine expenses	-	-	-	-	1,073
2520 - Hall running - Cleaner wages	745	-	-	745	3,033
2522 - Hall Running - cleaning materials	115	-	-	115	316
2530 - Hall running - electricity	757	-	-	757	866
2540 - Hall running - gas	1,483	-	-	1,483	1,716
2550 - Hall running - insurance	1,068	-	-	1,068	1,159
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	2,479	-	-	2,479	662
2562 - Hall running - Performing rights	44	-	-	44	-
2570 - Hall running - telephone & administration	1,112	-	-	1,112	3,044
2580 - Hall running - water	1,833	-	-	1,833	30
2590 - Hall running - Waste Collection	1,621	-	-	1,621	1,534
2591 - Hall running - Sundries	10	-	-	10	-
2601 - Youth Centre Running - Electricity	767	-	-	767	428
2610 - Youth Centre Running - Gas	1,011	-	-	1,011	1,144
2620 - Youth Centre Running - Cleaner wages	745	-	-	745	1,066
2630 - Youth Centre Running - Administration	630	-	-	630	2,015
2640 - Youth Centre Running - Water	1,222	-	-	1,222	20
2650 - Youth Centre Running - Cleaning Materials	49	-	-	49	78
2660 - Youth Centre Running - Waste collection	1,353	-	-	1,353	1,023
2670 - Youth Centre Running - Insurance	583	-	-	583	624
2680 - Youth Centre Running - Maintenance	2,010	-	-	2,010	554
2699 - Governance costs examination/audit fee	468	-	-	468	1,279
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	-	-	-	-	1,440
2835 - Youth Centre Major Repair	-	-	-	-	20,140
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>72,862</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>73,529</b>	<b>88,895</b>
<b>Payments Grand totals</b>	<b>73,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>74,111</b>	<b>88,969</b>

# Treasurers' Report

## Reserves Policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain reserves to cover anticipated future expenses incurred in running the parish and maintaining its structures. This applies to all three buildings and grounds of the church. It is our policy to invest our funds' balances, where this is possible, with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England (CBF).

As of 31 December 2023, total reserves held in various funds were £35,422. These figures include income from the trust fund (coded 6515), shown on page 2 of 6 of the financial statements) of £23,317 held at CBF.

## Financial Review

**As expected, and outlooked in my 2022 report, 2023 has shown significant improvement on the prior year as the effects of the COVID downturn dissipate and normality fully return both in the ad-hoc Halls hiring activity and the stability of longer term lets that have driven much improved income stream for the church. Return of parishioners, and now highly active Memory café, as well Mothers and Toddlers group, the latter having been introduced during the reporting year, helped bolster our church community, growing our diverse congregation at both ends. This receipts improvement, compounded by Gift Aid Tax relief that slipped from 2022, fully covered expenditure for the year and returned the church to a small but positive net income position overall. That said, we should tread with caution and continue to take steps to grow our congregation and expand our outreach in the community in order to ensure we are prepared to manage the challenges that 2024 will bring, particularly, as we exit our low 3-year energy contractual period and feel the full force of the energy crisis, and its monumental cost increases, as well as the general cost of living challenges faced by all.**

**During the year we commissioned Ogilvie Bookkeeping Services to provide bookkeeping support**

Examining the accounts attached - page 1 of 6 (Sofa Separate Designated) summary, total income for the year, taking all receipts regardless of designation into account, stand at £90,759 (2022, £76,371) an increase of £14,388 year on year.

This large increase, when compared to last year, is explained by: increase in Donations and legacies of £15,593 (mainly Planned Giving £9,163, Loose plate collections £1,973, Gift Aid Tax recoverable £4,468 (though this excess partially relates to delayed recovery of Gift Aid tax in 2022); increase in Other trading activities £4,489 (mainly Halls lets income £3,873 and Fundraising £615); netted by reductions in Income from charitable activities **-£2,280** (mainly donations **-£1725**, Fees **-£649**), and Investments **-£3,413**.

Breaking the numbers down further and focusing on the "General" column of the accounts - page 5 of 6 (Analysis of income and expenditure), the total income under this column, at £79,431 (2022, £60,065), is some £19,366 better than last year.

This increase in income is driven by Halls letting income (codes 1230/1240/1245/1247), which at a combined total of £43,218 (2022 £39,344) shows an increase of £3,874 over last year (itself driven by Parish Hall and Youth Centre lets increases of **-£1,496** and £5,370, respectively) and increase in Church Receipts, which at £36,214 (2022, £20721) is some £15,493 better than last year. Further, this increase in Church Receipts is explained, as noted in the above paragraph, by a year-on-year increase in Regular giving totalling £9,163 and a net increase in other giving and receipts (including Gift Aid Tax recoverable), of £6,330.

As with prior years, our reliance on Halls letting income to meet the day-to-day running cost of the Parish continues. For 2023 we have been fortunate, unlike last year, to find that the income from hall lets, together with Church receipts, were sufficient to fund the Parish expenditure in full. This is clear by examining the “General” (Unrestricted) funds column of the accounts - page 5 of 6, where the total combined income from Church and Halls at £79,431 (2022 £60,065) when compared to total expenditure on the same basis, of £73,443 (2022 £64,911) represents an excess of income over expenditure for the year of +ve£5,988 (2022 was a loss of -£4,846).

Further, to clarify the reserves, and capital assets, included in the following financial statements, the PCC has a Trust Fund with monies invested in a Unit Trust with M&G Charifund under a Deed of Trust with the Diocesan Board as Custodian Trustees.

The current figures (in summary) are: -

<b>Market Value at</b>	<b>27.04.1988</b>	<b>31.12.2022</b>	<b>31.12.2023</b>
Chari fund Units (15,985.00)	£80,000.00	£234,903	£229,383
Deposit Account at CBF	£4,973.00	£14,174	£13,561
Plus, income from Charifund		£13,267	£9,191
Plus, interest		£120	£565
Less grant to PCC		-£14,000	
<b>Balance held on deposit</b>		<b>£13,561</b>	<b>£23,317</b>
<b>Total values</b>		<b>£248,464</b>	<b>£252,700</b>

Investments in Unit trusts are subject to Stock market movements and can go down as well as up. This year, unfortunately, the capital value of our Chari fund units has decreased by -£5,520 when compared to 2022. This represents a capital erosion of -2.35%, which is testament to the challenging economic climate impacted by various elements not least the Russian/Ukrainian war. However, £9,756 of income (and interest) was generated in the year, adding to the balance of income held on deposit at the beginning of the year.

### **Church Hall buildings valuation**

Current Charity commission instructions require that we annotate our accounts with Church Halls buildings valuation. As such the PCC maintain the revised valuation of the Church Halls, in 2021, by EIG Insurance of £2,960,000 (2020, the Hall buildings’ valuation was set at £1,747,011). These valuations are set out on page 2 of 6, Balance sheet detailed, and page 3 of 6, Fund movement summary, on the attached financial statements.

### **The year(s) ahead – 2024 and beyond**

The PCC is hoping that 2024 will present a better future for the Church and its finances, where we continue to grow our congregation, contribute more to our common fund, and achieve normality in our overall church community.

As we continue to challenge ourselves to maintain a stable but vibrant financial posture, we should temper our outlook with a little bit of caution with significant costs already under our belt. 2024 has so far seen a huge investment in our church fabric with repairs to the flat roofs around the meeting room and other areas of the church.

Also, with the change in the demography of our church community where legacy parishioners, and unfortunately their significant contributions, are being replaced by newer and younger community with many commitments, we should be prepared in 2024 to leverage other income sources that bridge any gap that this paradigm shift may introduce.

As such, we must turn our attention to other areas to manage and maximise our net income. We must continue our efforts to improve the volume of our one-off lets, move and/or benchmark all our regular and longer term lets to prevailing market rates as soon as possible, explore avenues to drive more income from “Church” activities, and accelerate other fund-raising efforts.

We must, in addition, continue to perform a forensic review of our cost base and execute efficiencies where and when we can such that we streamline, align, or match normal costs, wherever this is achievable, to changing revenue profiles, and thus contain and/or improve our net cash.

Further, we as parishioners should again stretch ourselves this year to increase our regular giving, reduce the use of planned giving envelopes but instead embrace fully, where possible, the CofE Parish Giving Scheme to ensure all our donations and regular giving, where appropriate, are gift aided and we maximise the additional benefits use of this scheme provides. We should look to execute all measures that improve our financial position, and posture, through 2024 and beyond.

We should continue our commitment to review stewardship on an annual basis.

The following accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis and I present it to the APCM.

Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem – Treasurer

These accounts were presented and approved by a meeting of the PCC convened on October 23, 2024, and signed on their behalf by

*jacqueline*

.....  
The Rev. Jacqueline Shalloe (Chair)

A.M

.....  
Antoinette Morgan (Secretary)

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# Accounts

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**Part 1 - Annual report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended.  
31st December 2022**

**Aims and Purposes**

Our mission statement is:

**“To be the visible presence of God’s love in Jesus by deepening our relationship with God, each other and our community”**

**Objectives and Activities**

The Church of the Ascension PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Revd. Jacqueline Shalloe, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Halls and the whole church site.

**Achievements and Performance**

**Electoral Roll and Church Attendance**

**The electoral roll stands 75 During the review 14 names were removed and 5 names added**

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 25 adults, and 4 under 17s, but this number is particularly low due to Coronavirus and the loss and moving away but numbers. increased with special services.

**Brent Deanery Synod**

**Our PCC representatives are Ms Nicola Kent. three meetings were attended. which focused on a discussion for our 2030 vision.**

**Ecumenical Relationships - Churches Together**

Revd Jacqueline Shalloe is our representative till a new member takes over.

## **PCC Secretary's Report**

We thank you Lord for your vision and achievements you have enabled us to fulfil in one year with the guidance of your spirit and as a church working together with the guidance of our Vicar the Revd Jacqueline Shalloe.

Her determination and faith has given the church more confidence in Christ to be forward thinking and significant improvements have been made including outreach within our local parish/community. A positive start for the year, when the Vicar visited the Ark Academy school and took part in collective worship with a group of 600 pupils and their teachers. Our Vicar is committed, together we do outreach work within our local community as well as to be on target for our 2030 vision. The Vicar introduced us to the idea of using contactless then as a PCC we voted and now we have a contactless machine, this means that the donation given by contactless goes straight to our bank.

## **The Memory**

(Dementia) Café was launched in February 2022 and is held every Friday where our Vicar and Church members and our actively supporting people from parish and beyond, who have been impacted with this illness and their cares. This has been well received by the attendees. We also have worked in partnership with Brent Council who have been able to assist with the delivery of the Café by bringing young people to support this group.

Another new Vision that has been launched and running successfully at our Church is a Parents and toddler group called Daniels Den, which takes place every Thursday, where families are welcomed and enjoy networking with others who are similar circumstances and can take comfort of attending in the presents of our Lord so far we have had 80 families this year visiting and we have prayed with them and also had a Christmas service with nativity where Sheila for the first time had an opportunity to be Mary.

There was also discussions with the CPS surrounding a Community Payback Scheme, where people who are on probation could assist in the upkeep of the general grounds and also any refurbishment that needed to be undertaken, however the consideration was how this may impact on the hall hires, and also there was no one in the Church to supervise them while on the premises unfortunately for that reason the Idea was dismissed by the PCC.

On the 31 January, distressingly 1/3 of the Youth Centre ceiling fell down. Thanks be to God there were no injuries. The money had to come from our reserve. We received three quotes and it was decided by the PCC to remove the whole suspended ceiling and just have the original ceiling lined with Insulated Plaster Board and all new LED lights fitted. This came to a cost of £22,000. The contractor was Sullivan Builders and the funds came out of Church reserves. The work was completed to a high standard and the Youth Centre re-opened in April after Easter.

In March, on Psalm Sunday, there was a procession where we received enough donations that we could hire a donkey and had a service of 'From Darkness to light', which took place on Easter Saturday.

The PCC discussed the plans for the Platinum Jubilee weekend, where it was proposed that we could hold a street fair and on the Sunday a street party. Mary-Ann, Irene and the social committee offered to coordinate

## CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

this event which included activities for children, a raffle, stall and a barbeque. This was another success...

At the pcc meeting on the 22nd May it was noted that the electoral roll increased by 5 which now totalled 75 members. The financial review was completed thanks to Anne Bignell and Mary-Ann. The conclusion was that our income had reduced to £6019 due to the COVID pandemic, however the treasures predictions were for improvement, with the majority coming from Hall renting and parishioner contributions.

Suggestions for new PCC members were, nominated, proposed and seconded. Special congratulations were given to Daniella and David who are our young people to be elected members of the PCC for a long time and were elected for one year. Tracey King was received as our new Church Warden and thanks were given to our previous wardens Irene Stubbs and Nicola Kent. In July Irene Stubbs stood for one year again as a Churchwarden to give the Church time to find a Church warden for 2023 and help and train Tracey King in her new Role.

Nicola offered to be Tracey's kings assistant and has helped in many areas and mainly with setting the heating for the church and the hall hires which is a time-consuming task and the PCC is grateful for her support and dedication.

One new committee was created in July 2022. This is the social committee and a part from the mission committee other committees were put on the pause by the PCC Chair as it didn't make sense to have the same people on the PCC as the committees. It was suggested by the chair that as we are a small PCC all items and Jobs can be decided by all on the PCC and voted on to save time. Churchwardens can always ask for help where needed.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and in September, Nicola Kent, our Safeguarding lead: raised the concern that no one members should be left on the premises alone and provided a comprehensive report in this regard and informed all PCC members to undertake training . The Safeguarding training is available on the Church of England on-line portal. As a PCC we have also been advised to approve two policies to continue to be a safe Church, this has been done.

This building is an oasis of God's grace in this community, and as disciples of Jesus we want everyone to feel welcome to drink from Jesus the river of life. We are a blessing to others and in blessing others we are blessed.

So as you read these reports look for the words BLESSING, WORSHIP, GROWTH, FAITH and ask who is all this centred around? I hope your response will be the same as mine - Jesus, the source of everything. Be assured of his word "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1) So let us live by faith not by sight.

The chair of the PCC would like to express her thanks to the churchwarden the PCC and all members of the parish community who have worked with her for a better community and future it has been a fruitful year of our Lord and glory goes to him.

**The Revd Jaqueline Shalloe      PCC Secretary Antoinette Morgan**

**Administrative Information**

The Church of Ascension is situated in the Avenue, Wembley Park (HA9 9QL). It is part of the Diocese of London we are a church of England. The correspondence address is the Vicarage,319 Preston Road, Harrow, HA3 0QQ.

PCC members who have served 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022

**EX. Officio Members**

Incumbent The Revd Jacqueline Shalloe  
(Chair)

**Wardens:**

Tracey King  
Irene Stubbs

**Deanery Synod Representative (2)**

Nicola Kent  
Tim Woolford

**Architect:**

KarenButti MA, Grad DiplCons9AA).  
RIBA,AABC Director,Thomas Ford and  
Partners, 177 Kirkdale, London, SE26 4QH

**PCC members elected**

Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem- Treasurer  
Anne Bignell- Treasurer and bookkeeper

Daniella Egbuche  
David Chukwuenyem  
Sheila Coules  
Anthea Revans  
Antoinette Morgan- PCC Secretary  
Egbuche and David Chukwuenyem.

Members have been elected for one year.

**Independent Financial Examiner**

The Revd David Green  
Gowers Plus Limited,  
The Old School House,  
Bridge Road,  
Hunton Bridge,  
Kings Langley  
Hert WD4 8SZ

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

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At the Ascension the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (Chair), Churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members with the chairman are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 70%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include pastoral care, and, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

## **Churchwardens Report on the fabric**

On February the 7<sup>th</sup> we had our 5 yearly Quinquennial Inspection. The flat roof over the meeting room, vestry, and office had been inspected as part of the Quinquennial survey by our architect Karen Butt. She reported that water was getting in under the felt and the guttering runaway needed enlarging so that the water would drain away more quickly and would not sit on the flat roof and seep through to the walls. Walls and ceiling are damaged in these areas.

She reported different areas which needed attention to have the fabric in order, the PCC has started to work through the list and we are waiting for different quotes to decide the best company to take on the task.

### **This has been done.**

**A radiator** leak in the Lady Chapel was repaired.

**All boilers** in the Church and Halls were serviced by Dumphy's at a cost of £517.00 + vat.

**Guttering** cleaned out in the Church, Halls and Vicarage.

**Annual Lighting Conductor** test completed.

**Pest Control** Regular visits from the Brent Pest Control.

**Lighting** Bulbs were replaced in Church by Pulse Electrics.

**PAT testing** in Church, Parish Hall and Youth Centre have been completed.

**Fire equipment**/extinguishers maintained in all buildings.

**The Organ was tuned.**

We would like to thank Paul Davies who plays on occasion and for replacing the bulbs on the organ. Ian and Paul oversaw the tuning and repairing of the organ.

### **Youth Centre**

New ceiling has been put up and decorated.

## **PARISH HALL**

**All Lights were replaced in the Parish Hall** by Pulse Electrics at a cost of £1,400. This also included new bulbs in Church.

The bathroom, kitchen and entrance hall tiles a deep clean and both halls are kept clean. Please if you see anything which needs doing do not hesitate to tell your churchwardens. Church, God knows you by

## **The Services**

Our Vicar continue to leader our services and has introduced new liturgy from the modern and new liturgy book.

We work with the sacristan and responsible in Church for changing the altar frontals; the hymn numbers on the 3 boards; Setting up the altar with wine and breads in readiness for the Holy Eucharist on Sundays & Wednesday mornings and extra services at Christmas, Holy Week and Easter also changing the Septalight above the altar; checking/replacing the candles on the altar. Also doing the Church Rota covering:- Readers; Intercessors; Altar Assistants; Sidespersons and Coffee makers on Sunday mornings.

## **SERVERS**

## CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We have had Seven servers this year

### **Chalice**

This year We had seven altar assistants covering the Eucharist services

### **READERS**

We have had fifteen church members who read regularly either at the 10am Sunday Holy Eucharist Services and mid-week services including Holy Week, Easter and Christmas services. They are

We warmly welcomed two new people who have joined the rota.

### **INTERCESSORS**

Over the last year we had five intercessors covering the 10am Sunday sung Holy Eucharist services and additional week-day services including Christmas, Holy Week and Easter.

### **SIDESPERSIONS**

We have had five Church members over the last year who dutifully welcome members and new visitors as part of their sides persons duty including arranging the collection on Sunday

### **Holy Cloth.**

And last but not least a big thank you goes to Patricia for always taking and wash and iron all the holy communion Cloths immaculately clean, Thank you for your humility and service.

### **WEDNESDAY LUNCH**

On the third Wednesday every month following the 10am morning service and coffee.

At about 12noon we go off to the Preston pub for lunch with good company and interesting chat. There are usually a good number of regular diners; we are always on the outlook for new diners You are most welcome to join us.

### **FOOD BANK**

The Food Bank each month continues to be well supported by our Ascension Church members and we know they are very grateful to everyone who has given such generous contributions over the past years. In the Autumn last year due to closure of the Food Bank at Christ Church with St. Laurence, Brondesbury NW6.. we now take any Food Bank items to Lyndsey Park Baptist Church, The Mall Following our contribution in December to Foodbank located at Lyndsey Park Baptist Church

### **Prayer of St. Francis.**

Lord make me an instument of your peace,

Where there is hatred let me sow love,

Where there is injury, pardon,Where there is doubt, faith:

Where there is despair, hope,

Where there is darkness, light,and where there is darkness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console:

to be understood as to understand,to be loved, as to love:

for it is in giving that we receive,it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Tracey King and Irene Stubbs- Churchwardens.

**Irene and Tracey King (churchwardens)**

## **Safeguarding report**

Policies and practice The Priest and PCCs of the church of Ascension continue to meet the requirement to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults to be a safe Church. Whilst safeguarding is a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting, the incumbent and the safeguarding office are considering how its profile may be raised in the future to ensure safeguarding continues to be promoted effectively, whilst maintaining a proportional balance with other important parish business. All safeguarding policies were updated and approved at the PCC meeting. They are all in line with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and meet statutory requirements whilst remaining relevant to our context. The next reviews will be in January 2023.

### Guidance.

DBS certificates are required by members of the Church who work with children and ideally members of the PCC. I would like to progress the process of obtaining a DBS, so that holders are proactive in getting their DBS renewed. During this process, it is vital to give our DBS Checker, documents for checking. If your DBS is checked elsewhere, your certificate will not qualify for the role you do at the Ascension you need to obtain our the church of England DBS for the role you do.

During the year, we dealt with a security breach when the doors of the Church were found wide open, the Church empty and nothing disturbed. With the incident reported to the Police as a potential break in, the key barrel of the Church door was changed immediately. We took the decision to limit the number of key holders. No further keys will be cut.

It was voted on the PCC that no one at any time should go to the alone Church, and that a rota should be in place to be with the incumbent when she goes to pray.

**Nicola Kent – Parish Safeguarding Officer**

### **Deanery Synod Report**

I have attended with some members from the church this meetings:

**St Cuthbert** the theme was on racial Justice and

was led by the Revd Wilson Gill with discussion groups and looking at ways we can be more welcoming to everyone, and finding ways to work together. Jacqueline Revd Trevor's wife sang a song she has put together and Revd Trevor closing in prayer.

**St Andrews Sudbury** Welcomed by the Vicar Greville Thomas and the Archdeacon spoke about the 2030 vision and how the money is spent to support God's work in the church of England

### **St Catherine's church**

The meeting was opened by the Area Dean, Fr Andrew Teather who introduced the speaker for the evening Alison Tsang who is the head of Compassionate Communities which is part of the Diocese of London. The Compassionate Communities initiative is dedicated to supporting churches in the Diocese of London, with being confident to reach out to the needs of the community. As Alison says "we don't grow in faith unless we put into action."

Examples of looking outward were explored among those present, ideas which came up included:

Mental Health: Dementia Cafes,

Isolation: Chat Cafes

Debt: People are living with 0% contracts now ... help via getting help with benefits.

Poor housing: Providing homeless men with take aways, the Food bank was mentioned.

Keeping young people safe: Youth club.

the environment: Planting trees, avoiding the use of paper cups / plates etc.

Homeless: Support people in hotels

Alison also spoke about an initiative where a homeless person is hosted for a specified time, this is with the aim of enabling the homeless person to obtain an address & bank account, which in turn enables them to obtain work.

Keeping people safe – training is available via Diocese (Safeguarding Training).

(Many of the above are interlinked).

To enable Churches to expand looking outward, training is available via Diocese, we are glad to see that some of these initiatives are already happening in our church, for example the memory café and mothers and toddlers and myself and the Vicar have been on training for mental health first aid course, to equip our Church.

**Tuesday, 8th November.** The synod was hosted by our church on a much needed topic

**Children and Youth Work in the Post Pandemic Church**

After the major changes brought about by lockdowns and the Pandemic, *how do we reach out again to the children and young people in our communities?*

How do we encourage those who have become used to their own company, or fearful of mixing with others?

Our speaker for the evening was from the **London Diocese Children and Youth Ministry Support Team**, and helped us to think through the challenges churches face, and how we all need not to fear but work hard together to grow younger as our 2030 vision, we are happy to see that our Church has grown younger through our evangelism through Mothers and toddlers we have younger parents and their children filling in that much needed gap

I have attended all the meetings with the support of our Vicar Thursday 10th March.

Monday 7th June, Tuesday 8th November thanks to Carole Bevis-Smith our Synod secretary and the Brent team, for organising the much needed training every is always welcome to attend these meeting.

**Nicola Kent**

## **The Children's Society**

The Children's Society supports children and young people who are facing problems.

The Children's Society also campaign to ask the Government to change policies and laws to make life better for young people in the UK.

Specially trained Project Workers help children and young people who are facing dangers like:

- Being victims or in danger of sexual exploitation
- Drug and alcohol problems
- Mental health issues
- Being a carer for someone
- Leaving care
- Running away from home or care

The Children's Society – Donations from The Church of the Ascension

Although we have not held a Box Opening and Coffee Morning since 2019 due to the Pandemic, I am very pleased to report that I received some house boxes from our box holders and some additional donations and was able to send the sum of £700.00 to the Children's Society in December 2022.

The Christingle Service held just before Christmas 2022, also raised the sum of £130. There were some new people there who had seen the service advertised on the Children's Society website "Find a Christingle Service Near you".

Thank you also for your support in purchasing Christmas cards in aid of the Children's Society.

The sum of £258 was raised and all the cards were sold. Many thanks.

If anyone would like to have a collection box in their home, please let me know.

Also, if anyone has a box that is getting full, please let me know and I would be very happy to count the money and send to the Children's Society.

Thank you very much for your continued support towards The Children's Society.

It is great news that we have raised over £1000.00 in 2022. Thank you.

**Hilary Prevost**

### **St Luke's Hospice**

St Luke's Hospice helps people in Brent and Harrow to have the best possible quality of life, despite living with serious illnesses which are no longer curable.

All their services are completely free of charge.

As St Luke's receives only around 30% of their funding from the NHS, the rest is raised from the generosity of organisations and people in the local community through donations and fundraising alongside the dedication of volunteers. People can support the work of the hospice by making donations, taking part in events, playing the hospice lottery or shopping or volunteering in their 18 charity shops.

St Luke's are grateful that due to local support they are able to continue their vital care to patients and families.

It is now several years since any members of the Church of The Ascension took part in the Midnight Walk. However, the date for this year's walk is Friday 16 th June – details can be found at [www.stlukes-hospice.org/midnightwalk](http://www.stlukes-hospice.org/midnightwalk) or I can find out more details nearer the time, if there might be a few people who would be interested in taking part and raising some sponsorship for this worthwhile cause.

Thank you for your continued support to St Luke's Hospice.

**Hilary Prevost**

## **Treasurers' Report**

### Reserves Policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain reserves to cover anticipated future expenses incurred in running the parish and maintaining its structures. This applies to all three buildings and grounds of the church. It is our policy to invest our funds' balances, where this is possible, with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England (CFB).

As of 31 December 2022, total reserves held in various funds were £25,290. These figures include income from the trust fund, net of withdrawals, (shown on note 3 (notes page 16-7) of £13,561 held at CFB.

### Financial Review

As expected, and outlooked in my 2021 report, 2022 has shown some improvements with some sense of normality returning in the active use of the church halls, resulting in increased incomes. Introduction of the Memory café, the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and return of the Winter fair activities during the period all helped to bolster further our receipts in the year. However, these receipts improvement, compounded by the fact that we did not have the benefit of receipt of the gift tax relief monies earned in the year, were not enough to cover the resources used to run the church as an ordinary activity in the year and was not nearly enough to return common fund contributions to anywhere near the pre-COVID levels. That said we will continue to take steps, to grow our congregation and expand our outreach in the community, to try and ensure 2023 is a better year for COTA, even as we battle the energy crisis and its monumental costs increases (full brunt expected in the 4 th quarter of the year) as well as general cost of living challenges.

Examining the accounts attached on page 16-1, Receipts and Payments Summary, total income for the year stands at £76,371 (2021, £60,096) an increase of some £16,275 year on year. This large increase, when compared to last year, is explained by increases in Halls let income £13,882; Jubilee and Winter fair receipts £1,980; Memory Café receipts £936; Other giving £263; Other Church receipts £700 (mainly from funeral and other services); and receipts from Investments £1,714, netted by drops in Missions -£263; Regular giving -£2,850 (though main driver for this was the absence of gift aid tax relief in 2022, 2021 was £3,845); and Other receipts -£87.

Breaking this down further and focusing on the "Unrestricted" column of the accounts, the total income under this column, at £60,065 (202, £43,886), is an increase of some £16,179 year on year. This increase in income is driven by Halls letting income, pages 16-4 and 16-5, which at a combined £39,344 (2021 £25,462) is £13,882 better than last year (itself driven by Parish Hall and Youth Centre lets increases of £12,979 and £903, respectively) and reduction in Church

## CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Receipts, page 16-2, which at £20,721 (2021, £18,724) is some -£1,997 worse than last year. This reduction in Church Receipts is further explained, as noted in the above paragraph, by a year-on-year decrease in Regular giving totalling -£2,850 and increase in Other giving and receipts of £853.

As with prior years, our reliance on Halls letting income to meet the day-to-day running cost of the Parish continues. Unfortunately, for 2022, fuelled by the COVID-19 impact on all activities further expanding this gap, income from lets was insufficient to fund the Parish expenditure in full. This is clear by examining the “Unrestricted” column on page 16-1 of the accounts where the total combined income from Church and Halls sits at £60,065 compared to total expenditure, on the same basis, of £64,911 (2021, £57,642) representing a total loss for the year of -£4,846.

However, it must be noted that the reduction in costs year on year was solely due to COTA not maintaining its common fund contributions at the regular, and 2020, levels of £54,000 – had this not been the case then the total excess of income over expenditure in 2022 would have been -£33,846!!

Further, to clarify the reserves, and capital assets, included in the following financial statements, the PCC has a Trust Fund with monies invested in a Unit Trust with M&G Charifund under a Deed of Trust with the Diocesan Board as Custodian Trustees.

The current figures (in summary) are: -

Market Value at 27.04.1988 31.12.2021 31.12.2022

Chari fund Units (15,985.00) £80,000.00 £248,758.57  
£234,902.77

Deposit Account at CBF £4,973.00 £7,339.94 £14,173.54

Plus income from Charifund £11,828.91  
£13,267.56

Plus interest £4.69 £120.03

Less grant to PCC -£5,000 -£14,000

Balance held on deposit £14,173.54 £13,561.13

Total values £262,932.11 £248,463.90

Investments in Unit trusts are subject to Stock market movements and can go down as well as up. This year, unfortunately, the capital value of our Chari fund units has decreased by -£13,859 when compared to 2021. This represents a capital erosion of some -5.6%, which is testament to the challenging economic climate impacted by various elements not least the Russian/Ukrainian war. However, £13,388 of income (and interest) was generated in the year, adding to the balance of income held on deposit at the beginning of the year. An income withdrawal totalling -£14000 was also made during the year to meet COTA liabilities, mainly related to funding the common fund, that were otherwise not able to be met from “free” cash due to low income from ordinary activities.

Church Hall buildings valuation

Current Charity commission instructions require that we annotate our accounts with Church Halls buildings valuation. As such the PCC maintain the revised valuation of the Church Halls, in 2021, by IG Insurance of £2,960,000 (2020, the Hall buildings’ valuation was set at

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

£1,747,011). These valuations are set out on page 16-6, Assets & Liabilities, and note 2, Notes page 16-7, on the attached financial statements.

The year ahead – 2023

The PCC is hoping that 2023 will present a better future for the Church and its finances, where we continue to grow our congregation, contribute more to our common fund, and achieve normality where hirers return to pre-COVID-19 activity levels, and more, and disruptive church fundraising activities is leveraged.

As we continue to challenge ourselves to return to a vibrant financial posture, we should temper our outlook with a little bit of caution and expect that 2023, although we should see improvements against 2022 from a Receipts perspective, would still not return Church and Halls activities, and income, to the levels seen in 2019!

However, delivering a 2020 financial receipts results level should be a minimum, and reachable, target.

Given our dependency on Halls letting income, and the challenges we face in this space with our regular lets, and energy costs increase impact to our accounts, we must turn our attention to other areas to manage and maximise our net income. We must continue our efforts to improve the volume of our one-off lets, explore avenues to drive more income from “Church” activities, and accelerate other fund-raising efforts. We must, in addition, continue to perform a forensic review of our cost base and execute efficiencies where and when we can such that we streamline, align, and/or match normal costs, wherever this is achievable, to changing revenue profiles, and contain our net cash outflow.

Further, we as parishioners should again stretch ourselves this year when filling up planned giving envelopes, gift aid all our donations, and regular giving, wherever possible, and continue to execute measures that improve our financial position, and posture, through 2023 and beyond. We should continue our commitment to review stewardship on an annual basis.

Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem – Treasurer

The following accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

These accounts were presented and approved by a meeting of the PCC convened on April 2023, and signed on their behalf by

..........

**The Rev. Jacqueline Shalloe (Chair)**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WEMBLEY PARK**

**Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council  
of the Church of the Ascension Wembley Park**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 16-16.7

**Respective responsibilities of Parochial Church Council and examiner**

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- 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
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.



Revd David M Green FCA  
Gowers Limited  
The Old School House  
Bridge Road



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

-	-	-	-	-
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Other receipts

			-	
			-	
			-	
Donation for Palm Sunday donkey		90	90	
Refund of sequestration expenses	1,821		1,821	
Tax on garden maintenance donations	<b>B</b> -		-	113
Donation for garden plants		8	8	
Donations for church boiler replacement	-			1,750
Garden donation from Brent	-	1,000	1,000	1,830
Donation for Bursery and Veil	-	447	447	
Donation for Lectern Fall	<b>B</b>	215	215	
Donation for Altar Frontal	<b>B</b> -	25	25	
			-	
			-	
	<u>1,821</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,785</u>	<u>3,606</u>
			<u>3,606</u>	<u>3,693</u>
<b>Total Church receipts for year</b>	<u>£ 20,721</u>	<u>£ 21</u>	<u>£ 1,785</u>	<u>£ 22,527</u>
	<u>£ 20,721</u>	<u>£ 21</u>	<u>£ 1,785</u>	<u>£ 22,527</u>
<b>Less Church payments for year</b>	<u>(£ 44,159)</u>	<u>(£ 3,021)</u>	<u>(£ 488)</u>	<u>(£ 47,668)</u>
	<u>(£ 44,159)</u>	<u>(£ 3,021)</u>	<u>(£ 488)</u>	<u>(£ 47,668)</u>
<b>Surplus/deficit for year</b>	<u>(£ 23,438)</u>	<u>(£ 3,000)</u>	<u>£ 1,297</u>	<u>(£ 25,141)</u>
	<u>(£ 23,438)</u>	<u>(£ 3,000)</u>	<u>£ 1,297</u>	<u>(£ 25,141)</u>

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Church Payments

	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED	2022	2021
Notes	£		£	£	£
<b>Church Payments</b>					
<b>Cost of generating voluntary income</b>					
Stewardship envelopes	74	-	-	74	65
Stewardship campaign printing	-	-	-	-	-
<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Fund raising &amp; trading costs</b>					
Magazine and publicity	1,073	-	-	1,073	746
Fund raising costs	-	-	-	-	-
<b>1,073</b>	<b>1,073</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,073</b>	<b>746</b>
<b>Church activities</b>					
<b>Ministry costs</b>					
Diocesan Quota / contribution	25,000	-	-	25,000	20,004
Clergy expenses	921	-	-	921	548
<b>25,921</b>	<b>25,921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,921</b>	<b>20,552</b>
<b>Upkeep of Church</b>					
Gas	1,713	-	-	1,713	1,653
Electricity	876	-	-	876	587
Insurance	4,588	-	-	4,588	4,249
Organists fees	4,130	-	-	4,130	1,540
<b>11,307</b>	<b>11,307</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,307</b>	<b>8,029</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>					
Organ & piano tuning	540	-	-	540	-
Routine maintenance & repairs	1,739	-	-	1,739	2,310
<b>2,279</b>	<b>2,279</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,279</b>	<b>2,310</b>
<b>Training costs</b>					
Young Church and Youth	-	-	-	-	-
Training	-	-	-	-	-
Confirmation	115	-	-	115	15
<b>115</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Administration	1,279	-	-	1,279	2,568
<b>1,279</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>2,568</b>
<b>Other Payments</b>					
Upkeep of services	1,127	21	352	1,500	960
Upkeep of grounds, general	840	-	105	945	595
General outreach	144	-	-	144	466
Advertisement in the Church Times	-	-	-	-	777
Sequestration expenses	-	-	-	-	1,378
Expenditure of donated flower money	-	-	31	31	-
Refund of loan	-	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
<b>2,111</b>	<b>3,021</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>5,620</b>	<b>7,176</b>	<b>7,176</b>
<b>Total general Church payments for year</b>	<b>£ 44,159</b>	<b>£ 3,021</b>	<b>£ 488</b>	<b>£ 47,668</b>	<b>£ 41,461</b>
<b>Major repairs</b>					
Replacement of church boiler	-	-	-	-	10,981
<b>Total major Church payments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,981</b>
<b>Total Church payments for year</b>	<b>£ 44,159</b>	<b>£ 3,021</b>	<b>£ 488</b>	<b>£ 47,668</b>	<b>£ 52,442</b>

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Parish Hall Account

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Lettings - regular	14,064		6,281	
<b>Letting - short term</b>	6,164		668	
Donation for roof repair			300	
		20,228		7,249
		<u>£ 20,228</u>		<u>£ 7,249</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>£ 20,228</u>		<u>£ 7,249</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Electricity	866		644	
Gas	1,716		1,795	
Cleaner	3,033		1,866	
Administration	1,743			
Water	30		130	
Cleaning materials	316		53	
Performing Rights Society	41		40	
Insurance	1,159		1,074	
Plumbing & boiler service	360		250	
Pest control	302		824	
General maintenance			90	
Wireing & appliance testing			300	
Waste collection	1,534		1,498	
Other supplies			7	
Solar lights			88	
Roof repair			300	
Letting valuation advice	1,260			
		12,360		8,959
Replacement lighting	1,440	1,440		
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>£ 13,800</u>		<u>£ 8,959</u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<u>£ 6,428</u>		<u>(£ 1,710)</u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**Youth Centre Account**

	<b>2022</b>		<b>2021</b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Lettings - regular	18,926		18,213	
Lettings - short term	190			
		19,116		13,678
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u><u>£ 19,116</u></u>		<u><u>£ 18,213</u></u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Electricity	428		629	
Gas	1,144		1,197	
Cleaner	1,066		890	
Administration	1,175			
Water	20		87	
Cleaning materials	78		35	
Pest control	202		550	
Plumbing repairs & Boiler Service	320		230	
Insurance	624		578	
Wireing and appliance testing			262	
General repairs	5		60	
Waste collection	1,023		999	
Other supplies			5	
Solar lights	27			
Letting evaluation advice	840			
		6,952		5,522
<b>Ceiling repair</b>		20,140		
<b>Total payments</b>		<u><u>£ 27,092</u></u>		<u><u>£ 5,522</u></u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<u><u>(£ 7,976)</u></u>		<u><u>£ 12,691</u></u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

				2022		2021 <i>restated</i>
	Notes	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED		
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Assets:</b>						
Investments	1		234,903		234,903	248,759
Fixed Asset - Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	2			2,960,000	2,960,000	2,960,000
Bank Accounts	3	(10,185)	36,623	14,684	41,122	53,718
				£ 3,236,025		£ 3,262,477
<b>Represented by:</b>						
Restricted Funds	3			14,684	14,684	20,318
Designated Funds	1 & 3		271,526		271,526	287,498
Fixed Asset - Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	2			2,960,000	2,960,000	2,960,000
Unrestricted Funds	3	(10,185)			(10,185)	(5,339)
				£ 3,236,025		£ 3,262,477
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Diocesan Loan					2,500	5,500
Hall hirers						1,753

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1 - Investments Opening Introduction of Gains Closing at valuation Halls as an Asset Book Value

£ £ £ £

Designated Funds - see note C below

Trust Fund - Non Permanent Endowment - - - - Capital (holding 15985 units) 248,759 - (£ 13,856)  
234,903

£ 248,759 - (£ 13,856) £ 234,903

Note 2 - Fixed Asset

Halls- as per EIG Insurance valuation 2021 - £ 2,960,000 £ 2,960,000

Note 3 - Bank Accounts Opening Receipts & Transfers Closing Balances Expenditure Balances  
(restated)

£ £ £ £

Restricted Funds

Missions Fund (held in Current A/c) 406 (406) - Retentions Funds (held in Current A/c) 4,472 2,232  
7,422 14,126 Bequests & Donations Fund 7,948 32 (7,422) 558 £ 12,826 £ 1,858 £ 0 £ 14,684

Designated Funds

Designated Funds (held in Current A/c) 8,453 (23,140) 26,578 11,891 Trust Fund - (held at CBF\*)  
14,174 13,387 (14,000) 13,561 Fabric Fund 5,620 73 5,693 COTA Deposit Fund 43 3,235 3,278  
Bequests & Donations Fund 12,578 (12,578) - Parish Hall Reserve (held at CBF\*) 217 3 - 220  
Youth Centre Reserve (held at CBF\*) 1,954 26 - 1,980 £ 46,231 (£ 9,608) £ 0 £ 36,623

Unrestricted Funds

Church funds (held in Current and CBF A/c) (£ 5,339) (£ 4,846) (£ 10,185)

\*CBF=Central Board of Finance of C of E

Total Bank Balances £ 53,718 (£ 12,596) - £ 41,122 Note A - Missions breakdown 2021

2022

Unrestricted Restricted Total Rec'd Total  
£ £ £ £

Opening balance - 406 406 406 Income - 0 534 Gift tax recovered - 0 79 Expenditure - - - - Christian  
Aid (406) (406) - London Diocesan Fund Lent Appeal - 0 (185) Water Aid - 0 (428) Balance (liability)  
carried forward £ 0 £ 0 £ 0 £ 406

Unrestricted Restricted Total Rec'd Total

Note B - Gift Aid - tax received breakdown 2022 2021 Planned giving - 3,845 Donations 508

Missions - 79 Total received £ 4,432

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**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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# Accounts

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## **Part 1 - Annual report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021**

### **Aims and Purposes**

Our mission statement is:

**“To be the visible presence of God’s love in Jesus by deepening our relationship with God, each other and our community”**

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Church of the Ascension PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Revd. Jacqueline Shalloe, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Halls and the whole church site.

### **Achievements and Performance**

- **Electoral Roll and Church Attendance**

The electoral roll stands 75 During the review 14 names were removed and 5 names added

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 25 adults, and 4 under 17s, but this number is particularly low due to Coronavirus and the loss and moving away but numbers increased with special services.

- **Brent Deanery Synod**

Our PCC representatives are Ms Nicola Kent and Tim Woolford. three meetings were attended which focused on a discussion for our 2030 vision.

### **Ecumenical Relationships - Churches Together**

Rosemary is our representative.

With the Covid restrictions we were unable to meet together.

## **Review of the Year 2021**

When 2021 started we were in lockdown, with Churches closed, some people shielding, so our PCC meetings were held on zoom and it wasn't until September that we met, socially distant, in Church.

The Standing Committee met regularly to agree the PCC Agenda. We held 11 PCC meetings and the average attendance was 80%. Instead of our usual subcommittees, the PCC worked well as a team led by our Lay Chair Tim Woolford. Each month we had a monthly finance statement from Anne. Regular costs were approved.

In January the PCC decided that we would open the Church on Sundays and Wednesdays for silent prayer at 10am and regularly review this at subsequent PCC meetings. No rotas would be needed. The Confirmation Service was not able to go ahead so was postponed until a new date could be arranged with the Bishop.

The Churchwardens completed the Mission part of the Annual Return online.

We agreed to pay our 2021 Common Fund Pledge of £20,000 by Standing Order.

The Parish Profile for a new Incumbent, was sent to the Bishop by 14<sup>th</sup> January, and the Section 12 meeting was held on Zoom, and went well.

In February the timescale for the appointment of Vicar was adjusted so that we could interview in person on 15<sup>th</sup> June. The revised Profile had been sent in.

There had been no change in Lockdown and we continued having the Church open for private prayer on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Expenditure was agreed for a new boiler to be installed in the Church, as well as for such domestic work as, pest control; gutter cleaning; lightening conductor test; and answerphone. It was decided we would ask Church members for donations for the new boiler and Mike was thanked for producing that letter.

At last we could look at the possibility of opening up. It was proposed that we continue with silent prayer until Good Friday when Archdeacon Catherine would be with us for the 'last hour at the Cross' and Revd Alison Christian had agreed to come on Easter Day, then we would go back to having services on Wednesdays and Sundays. Approval was given by Bishop Pete, and Churchwarden Nicola started finding priests for the subsequent services

To keep the congregation updated Mike Revans produced a Newsletter for everyone on the Electoral Roll. Then we were back to signing in; sanitising; wearing masks; and social distancing but with no congregational singing. Nicola and Irene were thanked for their massive commitment in opening up the Church 2 days a week throughout the double difficulties of pandemic and interregnum.

In April the Accounts and Annual Report were accepted and approved. The Electoral Roll would be updated in time for the APCM.

Thanks were given to Bindu Trivedi and Maureen Cooke, who stood down at the APCM and we welcomed Mary-Anne Chukwuenyem and Tracey King to the PCC.

All officers were covered and sub committees elected but even without meetings all necessary work was done and appreciated.

After risk assessments, a few of the regular lets were returning to their slots in the Church halls but due to uncertainties of Covid restrictions we decided not to let the Halls for one off lets. We were not able to have the May Fair.

Amanda, our Halls Administrator decided to stand down after 10 years. She was warmly thanked and would be much missed. Nicola would hold the phone with the Hall Administrator's number

and she or Irene would check it regularly and hold the paperwork. We started to look for a new Administrator. Eventually Andrew was appointed and would hold the Church smart phone for bookings. He would be working from home initially.

We heard that Bishop Pete was retiring from the See of Willesden and considered the Consultation paper and felt it imperative that the post should be filled due to the large geographic area it covers and the diverse nature of the area.

After a certain amount of work was done on the Vicarage, it was let until the end of August. 2 members of the PCC had been chosen for the Interview panel for our next Priest in June. Offers were made for taking the candidates to the Vicarage; We then heard that Revd Jacqueline Shalloe had accepted the appointment and would be joining us in September. It was decided that the organ and congregational singing would start again on Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup> in time for Jacqueline's Collation on the 8th September.

Mike agreed to produce a Newsletter for the Parish to introduce Jacqueline. There would be refreshments after the Service under Covid guidelines.

We were grateful to Tracey and Angel for their singing and to all the priests who came to help us during the interregnum and to our Pastoral Assistants Sheila and Nicola took services when no priest was available and distributed the reserve sacrament.

At last, the PCC was able to meet in person to welcome new Vicar, Jacqueline, to the September meeting after all those months on zoom. Tim welcomed her and said how excited we were to have her and her family as part of our Church family.

### **Outreach in the Community**

Jaqueline talked about her immediate plans to grow and nurture the people; She has kept the Church open for prayer and also lets people know we are here to support our Parish. Tracey has worked with the vicar to lead worship in Kenbrook care home and Geraldine has worked very hard to introduce the vicar to local members and leaders in our Parish. The PCC supports our local pub, The Preston, with regular monthly lunches on the third Wednesday of the month.

The Mission Committee met; we can start collecting bottle tops again for the Air Ambulance, At Harvest we held a soup and rolls lunch and donations would be shared between the Food Bank and Water Aid. We were able to send £390 to Water Aid. Our regular donations to the Food Bank continue and we are pleased that Stuart is able to take them to St Lawrence Larder each month.

We held a Christmas Tree Festival in Church from Advent to Epiphany and invited the local community. The children from the Pre-school in the Youth Centre came in to sing. Some of our hall users came to decorate their trees even if they were not yet meeting. There was a Christingle Service in December, with a collection (£240) for the Children's Society. £184 had been collected in our Lent purses for the Diocesan Charity. The remaining mission Funds would go to Christian Aid.

We also felt a Service of Remembrance was necessary for those who had died and not able to have a funeral in lockdowns. This Service was held on November 8<sup>th</sup> when we remembered particularly Joyce Hull; Betty Mdoe; and Walter Saunders and Gillian Burrows. Thomas Culkeen, Clare Ahern and Jean Hailes had also sadly died this year and we remember them all with affection. May they Rest in Peace.

Grateful thanks were given to all those who had worked on the garden particularly Irene, John

and Tracey. Mike also offered to help organise a working party. We have also had paid help from Steve, as it is necessary to keep the garden under control. Mike has found that Community Payback will help maintain our Gardens and we are actively pursuing this.

Fulfilling our 2030 and our church vision of Deeping our relation with the community, We have come together with the Ashford Place charity after training with the charity and also our deanery we now a Dementia friendly Church.

We are also looking at the possibility of a Daniel's Den Mother and Toddler club.

Jacqueline reported that she had visited Kenbrook where she has continued to go till December when there was another covid outbreak . With Sheila, she had been on a pre-Baptism visit and Sheila has led this as a pastoral assistant and also, we had a baptism, and a confirmation and we have introduced that each child being baptised should have a sponsor from the Congregation and Tracey has been the first sponsor, this has helped to build relationship and families feel cared for by the church family. We celebrated Black History month with a service in October, and thanks goes to our amazing cooks and the service was well attended. We have a Facebook service and a zoom service which are not well attended

Sadly, our PCC Secretary, Jean Hailes, died at home after a short period in hospital. She will be remembered for her helpfulness and friendship and her wonderful note-taking whilst on zoom. Sheila stepped in and has taken notes of meetings from October.

The boilers have been serviced, a wire test done, and Safeguarding certificates obtained when requested by Nicola. The Insurance Society had re-evaluated our premises and contents and the increased annual payment was made in September.,

Our new Architect, Karen Butti, was appointed

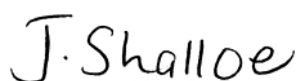
After so long without lets in the Halls, our church wardens contacted all our regular users about their return.

Solar energy lights have been installed outside the Church Halls.

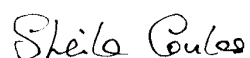
Anjali Maldonado from Holy Cross is training had a placement with us as she attended St, Edmunds course, during her time with us Jacqueline was her Mentor, this was agreed by the PCC. She has assisted the pastoral team. Anjali has been offered another placement at All Hallows Church, Greenford.

We agreed our pledge for the 2022 Common Fund of £25,000

The Chair and the PPC would like to express their thanks to our Churchwardens, Treasurers, pastoral assistants and all members of the congregation for all they have done during Covid and during the Interregnum. We look forward to a fruitful and blessed New year.



Jacqueline Shalloe



Sheila Coules



## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At the Ascension the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (Chair), Churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met nine times during the year with an average level of attendance of 70%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include pastoral care, and, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

## **Churchwardens Fabric Report**

We are able to report that the Inventory has been checked and that all listed items and ornaments of the Church are present

### **Church**

From January – March the Church remained in lockdown c/o the Covid-19 Pandemic and the buildings were maintained. The Church was open for Private Prayer on Sundays and Wednesdays 10am -11am.

As the Interregnum continued, lockdown rules were lifted but restrictions still remained. Our thanks are owed to The Ven. Catherine Pickford, Archdeacon of Northolt and also to Fr Andrew Teather, Area Dean, for their Guidance and support.

Archdeacon Catherine assisted with the re-start of our services on Good Friday with a Eucharist where the Host alone was distributed for Communion in keeping with Covid restrictions. The Archdean has also Celebrated at a few of our services.

Thanks are owed to Rev'd Alison Christian, who guided us through a Covid secure service on Easter morning and also presided at a Christening during the Interregnum. We have benefitted from wisdom from visiting Clergy and owe gratitude to Rev'd Helen Askwith, Fr Jason Rendell, Rev'd Trevor Goddard, Rev'd Richard Young, Rev'd Vicky Bastidas, Rev'd Paul Hullyer, Rev'd Mark Arnold, Rev'd Keith Stephenson, Rev'd Dave Byrne and Rev'd Hyacinth Young; our Pastoral Assistants Sheila Coules and Nicola Kent also took services using Reserved Sacrament.

During lockdown, the Pastoral assistants found themselves contacting members of the congregation by phone, email or text in order to keep in touch. When lockdown eased, coordinating Home Communion / visits could re-start. Although our usual link with the Nursing Homes remained difficult to maintain. Additionally, safeguarding both the Church and our members has been a priority throughout.

Stuart Ransom, our Sacristan has adapted constantly and kept on top of Covid requirements and the various needs of visiting Clergy during the Interregnum, and then when our Vicar arrived, the needs of Rev'd Jacqueline. We owe him a huge thank you for keeping on top of things so effectively.

Since Jacqueline arrived, we have had our first Black History service. At our Harvest Festival we raised £270 for Water Aid and donated food to the Food Bank – We would like to thank Stuart, our food bank coordinator for delivering our all-year donations to the food bank. We held our Christingle service in aid of Children's Society. We fundraise with boxes all year additionally to raise funds. Thanks are owed to Hilary and Ian Prevost, our Children Soc.

### **Coordinators**

With the reintroduction of services, the churchwardens found themselves helping out as our sidespeople juggled with the key roles of ensuring that hand sanitiser was used, masks worn and people signed in, in addition to their vital meet and greet role, counting the congregation, the collection and completing the register. We owe a huge thank you to this vital and very small team of people and would like to see the team grow in numbers.

Our Sunday, sung Eucharist is led musically by organ and Choir... We have recently introduced the Organist and choir rehearsing after the service. This is to give the congregation an opportunity

to learn next week's hymns. We would like to thank both the organist and choir for their input. Our Wednesday service is a said Eucharist

We are grateful to our flower arrangers who work discretely behind the scenes, our Church looks beautiful.

We have introduced tea / coffee after the service at the back of Church and would like to thank the rota of volunteers. It provides the essential fellowship of the Church. We would like to increase the number of people on the rota and develop this role so that those on the coffee rota set up for coffee before the service. This would enable good team work

We use our meeting room for smaller activities i.e. smaller coffee groups and Bible Study.

We would like to thank our PCC members for their commitment and participation during the year. During the Pandemic it became necessary for PCC meetings to be on zoom. Most subcommittee meetings were put on hold, but as Covid restrictions relaxed further, the subcommittees began to meet, it is hoped this will continue. A particular thank you goes to Tim Woolford, PCC Lay Chairman for Chairing our meetings prior to Jacqueline's arrival.

Our Church would not operate without the input of Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem and Anne Bignell – Joint Treasurers and Maureen Egbuche as Planned Giving Coordinator. The PCC began the year with the death of the late Jean Hailes who was PCC secretary. Jean worked tirelessly, minuting our meetings, (made harder on zoom) and was willing to be available as a resource for various rules and regulations. She is greatly missed. We would like to thank Sheila Coules for stepping into minute subsequent meetings following Jean's death.

We would like to thank the team of people who do the discreet, vital and unseen things like counting the collection and paying in the money, cutting the grass, forever doing the garden and tidying up both inside the Church as well as outside. In particular, we would like to thank Mike Revans and Tracey King.

During the year the following works / maintenance / management of the Church, have taken place

- The annual lightning conductor test was completed.
- The Church Boiler was replaced by Dunphy contractor.

## **Parish Hall**

At the beginning of Covid, we were required to close both our halls. This meant a loss in income for us and led to difficulty in payments of bills.

In the middle of Lockdown, our Hall Administrator handed in her notice. Having advertised, and interviewed candidates, we were very pleased to welcome Andrew Mangaram to the team as the new Hall Administrator. When the restrictions eased, we were grateful to see the return of some of our regular hall hirers who worked with us to maintain Covid restrictions. It was also good to see Brownies and Guides return to using our Parish Hall for free, as part of our mission to the community.

The gas cooker in the Parish Hall was condemned as it did not meet gas safety standards. After a major effort to remove the old cooker, a new cooker was installed.

The following works have been undertaken during the year:

- Roof leak: new flashing fitted around the Parish Hall tower.
- Roof leak: over Gent's toilets. New flashing fitted
- External solar lights were fitted.

## Youth Centre Hall

When schools returned during the pandemic, the kindergarten based at the Ascension, had sole use of the Youth Centre. We have benefitted from the rent they have paid.

- External solar lights were fitted.
- Combination padlock was fitted to the gate on the gate to the playgroup area, to stop intruders.

During the year, the following general issues have been dealt with:

- General cleaning to building and grounds have been ongoing.
- PAT testing in Church, Parish Hall and Youth Centre have been completed.
- Guttering cleaned out of Church, Parish Hall and Youth Centre.
- 5 yearly electrical tests completed in all buildings.
- Fire equipment / extinguishers maintained in all buildings.
- Gas pipes were replaced from the road to the Church, Parish Hall and the Youth Centre. This work was carried out by the Gas Company.

Future issues needing consideration:

- The plaster and decoration of bare brickwork and ceilings in Church vestry area and meeting room does need rectifying.

We began the year while in an Interregnum and while coping with the Covid-19 Pandemic. We will be leaving the year with our new Incumbent Rev'd Jacqueline Shalloe in place.

We would like to thank our Cleaner who has worked so effectively throughout the year in maintaining the Church, the Parish Hall and the Youth Centre in keeping with the various, ever changing Covid restrictions.

***“Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth, but yours. Yours are the eyes through which God looks, compassion into the world. Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world.”***  
***(St Teresa of Avila)***

**Nicola Kent and Irene Stubbs – Churchwardens**

## Treasurers' Report

### Reserves policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain reserves to cover anticipated future expenses incurred in running the parish and maintaining its structures. This applies to all three buildings and grounds of the church. It is our policy to invest our funds' balances, where this is possible, with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England (CFB).

As of 31 December 2021, total reserves held in various funds were £45,726. These figures include income from the trust fund (shown on note 3 (notes page 16-7) of £14,174 held at CFB.

### Financial Review

As expected, and outlooked in my 2020 report, 2021 has also been impacted by the lockdown measures introduced by the UK government to contain the COVID-19 pandemic up and down the country. Although the phased lifting of lockdown measures during the year brought hope, a return to business as usual is still a while away for most organisations. For COTA, some hirers (in particular pre-school) returned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year, however, this was not enough to return our finances to pre-COVID levels when looking at the full year in total. That said, we are confident, and taking steps, to grow our congregation and expand our outreach in the community, to ensure 2022 is a better year for the Church, providing, we are spared further lockdowns and continue to see traction in hall hirers' return pattern!!

Examining the accounts attached on page 16-1, Receipts and Payments Summary, total income for the year stands at £60,096 (2020, £68,034) a decrease of some -£7,938 year on year.

This large reduction, when compared to last year, is explained by reductions in Halls let income -£1,965; Regular giving -£2,122; Other giving -£2,000; Other receipts -£2,445 (due mainly to the removal of the 2020 notice board donations receipt) and Missions -£458, mitigated by an increase in Investment income £1,124.

Breaking this down further and focusing on the "Unrestricted" column of the accounts, the total income under this column, at £43,886 (2020, £50,205), is a decrease of some -£6,319 year on year. This decrease in income is driven by Halls letting income, pages 16-4 and 16-5, which at a combined £25,462 (2020 £27,427) is -£1,965 worse than last year (itself driven by Parish Hall lets reduction of -£6,500 mitigated by an improvement in Youth Centre Halls income of £4,535, pre-school in the Youth Centre returning earlier than other hirers); and reduction in Church Receipts, page 16-2, which at £18,724 (2020, £22,778) is some -£4,054 worse than last year. This reduction in Church Receipts is further explained, as noted in the above paragraph, by a year-on-year decrease in Planned giving totalling -£2122, and reductions in Other giving and receipts of -£1,932.

As with prior years, our reliance on Halls letting income to meet the day-to-day running cost of the Parish continues. Unfortunately, for 2021, fuelled by the COVID-19 impact on all activities further expanding this gap, income from lets was insufficient to fund the Parish expenditure in full. This is clear by examining the "Unrestricted" column on page 16-1 of the accounts where the total combined income from Church and Halls sits at £43,886 compared to total expenditure, on the same basis, of £57,642 (2020, £90,286) representing a total loss for the year of -£13,756.

However, it must be noted that the reduction in costs year on year was solely due to COTA not maintaining its common fund contributions at the regular, and 2020, levels of £54,000 – had this not been the case then the total excess of income over expenditure in 2021 would have been -£47,756!!

Further, to clarify the reserves, and capital assets, included in the following financial statements, the PCC has a Trust Fund with monies invested in a Unit Trust with M&G Charifund under a Deed of Trust with the Diocesan Board as Custodian Trustees.

The current figures (in summary) are:-

Market Value at	27.04.1988	31.12.2020	31.12.2021
Chari fund Units (15,985.00)	£80,000.00	£219,405.31	£248,758.57
Deposit Account at CBF	£4,973.00	£39,471.09	£7,339.94
Plus income from Charifund		£10,709.95	£11,828.91
Plus interest		£158.90	£4.69
Less grant to PCC		(£43,000)	(£5,000)
Balance held on deposit		£7,339.94	£14,173.54
Total values		£226,745.25	£262,932.11

Investments in Unit trusts are subject to Stock market movements and can go down as well as up. This year, the capital value of our Chari fund units has increased by £29,353 when compared to 2020. This represents a capital growth of some 13%, which is a welcomed and impressive performance in a year that was largely impacted by COVID-19 with most economies and markets, including the UK, struggling to recover lost positions. In addition, £11,834 of income (and interest) was generated in the year, adding to the balance of income held on deposit at the beginning of the year. An income withdrawal totalling £5,000 was also made during the year to meet COTA liabilities, mainly related to boiler repairs, that were otherwise not able to be met from “free” cash due to low income from ordinary activities.

### **Church Hall buildings valuation**

Current Charity commission instructions require that we annotate our accounts Church Hall buildings valuation. As such the PCC approached EIG Insurance which has revised their valuation for the Church Halls for 2021 to £2,960,000 (2020, the Hall buildings’ valuation was set at £1,747,011). These valuations are set out on page 16-6, Assets & Liabilities, and note 2, Notes page 16-7, on the attached financial statements.

### **The year ahead – 2022**

The PCC is hoping that 2022 will present a better future for the Church and its finances, where we hope to grow our congregation and begin to return to some sort of normality where hirers, by the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year, return to pre-COVID-19 activity levels and normal Church fundraising activities is resumed.

However, we should temper our outlook with a little bit of caution and expect that 2022 when taken as a whole, although we should see improvements against 2021, would still not return Church and Halls activities, and income, to the levels seen in 2019 and perhaps even 2020!

Although we should see an improved level of activity this year, having re-opened our Halls earlier this year to one-off lets, and the Queen’s Jubilee celebrations later this year presents a channel for COTA to harness fundraising opportunities which it must indeed do, delivering even 2020 results will be a challenge that must be worked to overcome especially if regular hirers do not return to normal levels by the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year.

Given our dependency on Halls letting income, and the challenges we face in this space with our regular lets, we must turn our attention to other areas to manage and maximise our net income. We must double our efforts to improve the volume of our one-off lets, explore avenues to drive more income from “Church” activities, and accelerate other fund-raising efforts. We must, in

addition, continue to perform a forensic review of our cost base and execute efficiencies where and when we can such that we streamline, align, and/or match normal costs, wherever this is achievable, to changing revenue profiles, and contain our net cash outflow.

Further, we as parishioners should again stretch ourselves this year when filling up planned giving envelopes, gift aid all our donations, and regular giving, wherever possible, and continue to execute measures that improve our financial position, and posture, through 2022 and beyond.

We should continue our commitment to review stewardship on an annual basis.

**Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem – Treasurer**

The following accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

These accounts were presented and approved by a meeting of the PCC convened on May 4, 2022, and signed on their behalf by

*J. Shalloe*

.....  
The Rev. Jacqueline Shalloe (Chair)

*Sheila Coules*

.....  
Sheila Coules (Secretary)

**Part 2 - Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet**  
**(including Independent Examiners Report)**

## **PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WEMBLEY PARK**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of the Church of the Ascension Wembley Park**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 16-1 to 16-7.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Parochial Church Council and examiner**

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

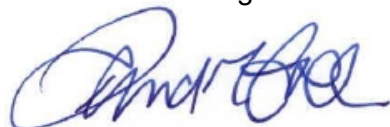
#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

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
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.



Revd David M Green FCA  
Gowers Limited  
The Old School House  
Bridge Road  
Hunton Bridge  
Kings Langley  
Herts. WD4 8SZ

Date: 7th May 2022

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Receipts and Payments Summary**

	Note No.	UNRESTRICTED £	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED £	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Receipts</b>						
<b>Voluntary receipts</b>						
Regular Giving		16,054	-	-	16,054	18,176
<b>Other voluntary receipts</b>						
Other giving		2,471	-	104	2,575	4,570
<b>Missionary and charitable</b>						
Missions	A	-		263	263	721
<b>Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>						
Church		-			-	
Parish Hall		6,949		300	7,249	13,749
Youth Centre		18,213			18,213	13,678
<b>Receipts from Church Activities</b>						
Church activities		199		-	199	
<b>Receipts from investments</b>						
Investment income		-	11,829		11,829	10,710
Bank account			17	4	21	292
<b>Other receipts</b>						
Other receipts			1,830	1,863	3,693	6,138
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£ 43,886</b>	<b>£ 13,676</b>	<b>£ 2,534</b>	<b>£ 60,096</b>	<b>£ 68,034</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
<b>Costs of generating voluntary income</b>						
Stewardship envelopes		65		-	65	43
<b>Fund raising &amp; trading costs</b>						
Magazine, Publicity and Fairs		746		-	746	1,129
<b>Church Activities</b>						
Missions	A	-		263	263	542
Church costs		35,082			35,082	68,757
Refund of loan			3,000		3,000	3,000
Parish Hall trading		8,659		300	8,959	10,780
Youth Centre trading		5,522		-	5,522	6,540
					-	
Major Church payments		5,000	5,981		10,981	4,968
Major Parish Hall payments		-			-	
Major Youth Centre payments		-			-	
					-	
<b>Governance costs</b>						
Governance costs		2,568		-	2,568	3,437
<b>Total resources used</b>		<b>£ 57,642</b>	<b>£ 8,981</b>	<b>£ 563</b>	<b>£ 67,186</b>	<b>£ 99,196</b>
<b>Excess Receipts/(payments)</b>		<b>(13,756)</b>	4,695	1,971	<b>(7,090)</b>	<b>(31,162)</b>
Bank balances B/F		3,417	29,954	27,437	60,808	91,970
Transfer Trust fund money		5,000	(5,000)		-	
Other fund transfers			1,750	(1,750)		
Trust Fund in current A/c B/F			7,492	(7,492)		
Trust Fund B/F			7,340	(7,340)		
<b>Bank balances C/F</b>		<b>(£ 5,339)</b>	<b>£ 46,231</b>	<b>£ 12,826</b>	<b>£ 53,718</b>	<b>£ 60,808</b>
<b>Gains/(losses) on investments in year</b>			<b>£ 29,354</b>		<b>£ 29,354</b>	<b>£(46,056)</b>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Church Receipts**

	Note No	UNRESTRICTED £	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED £	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Voluntary receipts - regular giving</b>						
Planned giving - gift aided		10,177		-	10,177	11,711
Planned giving non gift aided		1,058		-	1,058	1,847
Collections		974		-	974	790
Tax recovered - planned giving	B	3,845		-	3,845	3,828
Church boxes		-		-	-	-
		<u>16,054</u>	-	<u>-</u>	<u>16,054</u>	<u>18,176</u>
<b>Other voluntary receipts</b>						
Donations		2,088		92	2,180	3,874
Tax recovered on donations	B	383		12	395	696
Legacies		-		-	-	-
		<u>2,471</u>	-	<u>104</u>	<u>2,575</u>	<u>4,570</u>
<b>Receipts from Church activities</b>						
Parish magazine				-	-	
Fees		199		-	199	
		<u>199</u>	-	<u>-</u>	<u>199</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>						
May Fair				-	-	
Winter Fair				-	-	
Band concerts		-		-	-	-
Preserves		-		-	-	
Afro Caribbean Evening				-	-	
Tax received on fund raising donations				-	-	
		<u>-</u>	-	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Receipts from investments</b>						
		<u>-</u>	-	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Other receipts</b>						
		-		-	-	
		-		-	-	
		-		-	-	
Donation for Palm Sunday donkey		-		-	-	210
Donation for garden maintenance		-		-	-	600
Tax on garden maintenance donations	B	-		113	113	150
Donations for notice boards						5,000
Donations for church boiler replacement				1,750	1,750	
VAT refund on boiler expenditure		-	1,830		1,830	
Donation for heating		-			-	100
Tax on garden fund donations	B	-			-	25
Tax on Palm Sunday donkey donations	B	-			-	53
		-			-	
		<u>-</u>	<u>1,830</u>	<u>1,863</u>	<u>3,693</u>	<u>6,138</u>
<b>Total Church receipts for year</b>		<u>£ 18,724</u>	<u>£ 1,830</u>	<u>£ 1,967</u>	<u>£ 22,521</u>	<u>£ 28,884</u>
<b>Less Church payments for year</b>		<u>(43,461)</u>	<u>(8,981)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(52,442)</u>	<u>(81,334)</u>
<b>Surplus/deficit for year</b>		<u>£ 24,737</u>	<u>(£ 7,151)</u>	<u>£ 1,967</u>	<u>(£ 29,921)</u>	<u>(£ 52,450)</u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Church Payments**

	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED	2021	2020
Notes	£		£	£	£
<b>Church Payments</b>					
<b>Cost of generating voluntary income</b>					
Stewardship envelopes	65	-	-	65	43
Stewardship campaign printing	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>65</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>43</u>
<b>Fund raising &amp; trading costs</b>					
Magazine and publicity	746	-	-	746	1,089
Fund raising costs	-	-	-	-	40
	<u>746</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>746</u>	<u>1,129</u>
<b>Church activities</b>					
<b>Ministry costs</b>					
Diocesan Quota / contribution	20,004	-	-	20,004	54,000
Clergy expenses	548	-	-	548	1,416
	<u>20,552</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,552</u>	<u>55,416</u>
<b>Upkeep of Church</b>					
Gas	1,653	-	-	1,653	3,232
Electricity	587	-	-	587	588
Insurance	4,249	-	-	4,249	4,349
Organists fees	1,540	-	-	1,540	910
	<u>8,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,029</u>	<u>9,079</u>
<b>Maintenance</b>					
Organ & piano tuning	-	-	-	-	246
Routine maintenance & repairs	2,310	-	-	2,310	1,377
	<u>2,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,310</u>	<u>1,623</u>
<b>Training costs</b>					
Young Church and Youth	-	-	-	-	-
Training	-	-	-	-	18
Confirmation	15	-	-	15	-
	<u>15</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Administration	2,568	-	-	2,568	3,437
	<u>2,568</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,568</u>	<u>3,437</u>
<b>Other Payments</b>					
Upkeep of services	960	-	-	960	1,016
Upkeep of grounds, general	595	-	-	595	574
General outreach	466	-	-	466	312
Advertisement in the Church Times	777	-	-	777	-
Sequestration expenses	1,378	-	-	1,378	719
Refund of loan	-	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
	<u>4,176</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,176</u>	<u>5,621</u>
<b>Total general Church payments for year</b>	<u>£ 38,461</u>	<u>£ 3,000</u>	<u>£ 0</u>	<u>£ 41,461</u>	<u>£ 76,366</u>
<b>Major repairs</b>					
Notice Boards	-	-	-	-	4,968
Replacement of church boiler	5,000	5,981	-	10,981	-
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,981</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,981</u>	<u>4,968</u>
<b>Total major Church payments</b>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,981</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,981</u>	<u>4,968</u>
<b>Total Church payments for year</b>	<u>£ 43,461</u>	<u>£ 8,981</u>	<u>£ 0</u>	<u>£ 52,442</u>	<u>£ 81,334</u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Parish Hall Account**

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Lettings - regular	6,281		11,444	
<b>Letting - short term</b>	668			
Donation for roof repair	300		2,305	
		<u>7,249</u>		<u>13,749</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u><u>£ 7,249</u></u>		<u><u>£ 13,749</u></u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Electricity	644		920	
Gas	1,795		2,293	
Cleaner	1,866		1,516	
Water	130		707	
Cleaning materials	53		62	
Performing Rights Society	40		39	
Insurance	1,074		1,099	
Toilet rolls			32	
Plumbing & boiler service	250		315	
Pest control	824			
General maintenance	90		320	
Wireing & appliance testing	300		75	
Waste collection	1,498		1,329	
Other supplies	7			
Solar lights	88			
Roof repair	300			
New boiler pump			665	
Blocking up door			1,408	
		8,959		10,780
<b>Total payments</b>		<u><u>£ 8,959</u></u>		<u><u>£ 10,780</u></u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<u><u>(£ 1,710)</u></u>		<u><u>£ 2,969</u></u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Youth Centre Account**

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>			
Lettings - regular	18,213		13,243
Lettings - short term			435
		18,213	13,678
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>£ 18,213</u>	<u>£ 13,678</u>
<b>Payments</b>			
Electricity	629		588
Gas	1,197		1,528
Cleaner	890		812
Water	87		472
Cleaning materials	35		49
Pest control	550		
Plumbing repairs & Boiler Service	230		425
Insurance	578		592
Toilet rolls			21
Wireing and appliance testing	262		54
General repairs	60		135
Waste collection	999		886
Other supplies	5		
Decorating			828
Refrigerator			150
		5,522	6,540
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>£ 5,522</u>	<u>£ 6,540</u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<u>£ 12,691</u>	<u>£ 7,138</u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

		2021	2020			
	Notes	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	restated £
<b>Assets:</b>						
Investments	1		248,759		248,759	219,405
Fixed Asset - Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	2			2,960,000	2,960,000	1,747,011
Bank Accounts	3	(5,339)	46,231	12,826	53,718	60,808
					<u>£ 3,262,477</u>	<u>£ 2,027,224</u>
 <b>Represented by:</b>						
Restricted Funds	3			12,826	12,826	27,437
Designated Funds	1 & 3		294,990		294,990	249,359
Fixed Asset - Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	2			2,960,000	2,960,000	1,747,011
Unrestricted Funds	3	(5,339)			(5,339)	3,417
					<u>£ 3,262,477</u>	<u>£ 2,027,224</u>
 <b>Liabilities</b>						
Diocesan Loan					5,500	8,500
Hall hirers					1,753	3,110

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

<b>Note 1 - Investments</b>	<b>Notes to the Accounts</b>			
	<b>Opening at valuation £</b>	<b>Introduction of Halls as an Asset £</b>	<b>Gains £</b>	<b>Closing Book Value £</b>
<b>Designated Funds - see note C below</b>				
Trust Fund - Non Permanent Endowment	-	-	-	-
Capital (holding 15985 units)	219,405	-	29,354	248,759
	<b>£ 219,405</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,354</b>	<b>£ 248,759</b>
<b>Note 2 - Fixed Asset</b>				
Halls- as per EIG Insurance valuation 2021	-	<b>£ 2,960,000</b>	-	<b>£ 1,747,011</b>
<b>Note 3 - Bank Accounts</b>	<b>Opening Balances (restated) £</b>	<b>Receipts &amp; Expenditure £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>Closing Balances £</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Missions Fund (held in Current A/c)	406			406
Retentions Funds (held in Current A/c)	11,747	(7,275)		4,472
Bequests & Donations Fund	7,944	4		7,948
	<b>£ 20,097</b>	<b>(£ 7,271)</b>	<b>£ 0</b>	<b>£ 12,826</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
Designated Funds (held in Current A/c)	6,362	2,091		8,453
Trust Fund - (held at CBF*)	7,340	11,834	(5,000)	14,174
Fabric Fund	5,617	3		5,620
COTA Deposit Fund	3,234	1		3,235
Bequests & Donations Fund	12,571	7		12,578
Parish Hall Reserve (held at CBF*)	217		-	217
Youth Centre Reserve (held at CBF*)	1,953	1	-	1,954
	<b>£ 37,294</b>	<b>£ 13,937</b>	<b>(£ 5,000)</b>	<b>£ 46,231</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
Church funds (held in Current and CBF A/c)	<b>£ 3,417</b>	<b>(£ 13,756)</b>	<b>£ 5,000</b>	<b>(£ 5,339)</b>
<b>Total Bank Balances</b>	<b>£ 60,808</b>	<b>(£ 7,090)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£ 53,718</b>
<b>Note A - Missions breakdown</b>		<b>2021</b>		<b>2020</b>
	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Total Rec'd £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Opening balance	-	406	406	227
Income	-	534	534	542
Gift tax recovered	-	79	79	179
Expenditure	-	-	-	-
London Diocesan Fund Lent Appeal	-	(185)	(185)	(55)
Water Aid	-	(428)	(428)	(487)
<b>Balance (liability) carried forward</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£ 406</b>	<b>£ 406</b>	<b>£ 406</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Rec'd</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Note B - Gift Aid - tax received breakdown</b>			<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Planned giving	3,845	-	3,845	3,828
Donations	383	125	508	924
Missions	-	79	79	179
<b>Total received</b>	<b>£ 4,228</b>	<b>£ 204</b>	<b>£ 4,432</b>	<b>£ 4,931</b>
<b>Note C - investments - designated funds</b>				

Following recent research, it is now understood that the funds held both in income unit investments and in the CBF for the Trust fund are not restricted funds as had previously been thought. Historically these funds were disclosed as restricted funds. These accounts, therefore, include a restated 2020 position within the notes and balance sheet.

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# Accounts

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## **Part 1 - Annual report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

### **Aims and Purposes**

Our mission statement is:

***“to be the visible presence of God’s love in Jesus by deepening our relationship with Him, each other and our community”***

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Church of the Ascension PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Revd. Preb. Olwen Field, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Halls and the whole church site.

### **Achievements and Performance**

- **Electoral Roll and Church Attendance**

The electoral roll was revised making a total of 90

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 21 adults, and 2 under 17s, but this number is particularly low due to the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus including people having to shield.

- **Brent Deanery Synod**

Our PCC representatives are Mrs Maureen Cooke and Mrs Bindu Trivedi. The Synod was only able to meet twice in 2020 instead of the usual three times. The date of the second planned meeting was moved so many times it became the September meeting and due to further lockdowns it was not possible to fit in a third meeting.

The February meeting was held at Christ Church Brondesbury and focussed on Safeguarding as well as celebrating the Eucharist together. It was a well attended meeting and as it was expected to be the end of the triennium we gave thanks for those who had served on the Synod for that period. However this soon proved to be premature.

At the September meeting which was held at St Matthew’s Willesden we enjoyed a presentation from Jonathan Mann, who is the Relationship Manager for London and the South East at The Children’s Society. Jonathan was really engaging and he talked about the new ways he was having to find to keep in touch with the vulnerable young people during the pandemic when they couldn’t meet up as easily. The meeting was very well attended and many people said it was the first time they had been in a church building since March. This was followed by a general discussion on how different churches were adapting to holding services during the pandemic.

## **Ecumenical Relationships - Churches Together**

Our parish representative is Rosemary Sheldrick.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 the Church of the Ascension hosted the Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service was well attended and members from most of the Churches in the group gave a resume of what had been happening during the year. Refreshments followed with lively chatter.

We had a meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> February where it was decided The Ascension would not host the United Service in 2021 as we had been the host for two years.

It was also agreed to change the time of the Walk for Witness on Good Friday to 10.45am but sadly this did not take place due to the Pandemic.

## Review of the Year

2020 was an unusual and somewhat difficult year for us all with the Coronavirus affecting much of what we were able to do. The PCC met nine times in total, twice at the vicarage before we went into lockdown, twice when we were not able to have a full meeting because some members were shielding, then three times when we were able to have the meeting in church but socially distanced and finally two meetings on Zoom. The average attendance was 69%. In addition to these meetings sub committees and working parties met in between and reported back to the full PCC.

At the beginning of the year we had our usual services with the organ, choir and Young Church on a Sunday morning with healing and anointing on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, as well as Mother's Union meetings, our Prayer Circle, Silent prayer and Lent group and our Brownies and Guides. In January we hosted the ecumenical service for Churches Together during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. When we went into lockdown and could no longer hold services in church, Olwen, with Tim Woolford's expert help, was able to record a weekly short homily which went out on YouTube and was much appreciated by those who were able to watch it. When we were able to open the church again we resumed our Sunday and Wednesday services with social distancing and sadly without any singing and without the organ. We would like to thank our churchwardens, Nicola and Irene, for all they have done to make the church as safe as possible adhering to government guidelines during the epidemic. Our Confirmation service, originally planned for July, was moved to September and then moved again to January 2021.

Our APCM which was going to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> April had to be deferred until the 26<sup>th</sup> July. In the intervening time, at the end of June, Olwen was unexpectedly taken ill but happily felt recovered enough to Chair the APCM. At this meeting we were pleased to welcome back to the PCC Sheila Coules and myself, Jean Hailes. We would like to express our thanks to Anthea Revans who has decided to stand down as PCC Secretary after around 20 years, with a few gaps, of dedicated work and we are pleased to say she will continue to serve as a member of the PCC.

In the early part of the year, Olwen together with a small team of people, made regular visits to three of our local care homes, Birchwood, Kenbrook and Preston Lodge, to take services and give communion. Our pastoral assistants, Anthea Revans, Nicola Kent and Sheila Coules, together with other members of our church, have been keeping in contact with members of our congregation throughout the time the church has been closed or only partly open.

At the end of September Olwen retired and moved to Suffolk. Not wanting to leave us without a vicar during the pandemic, she considered delaying her retirement but her bout of ill health made her realise that the right decision was to retire as planned. We were delighted to have Bishop Pete with us on the 27<sup>th</sup> September for Olwen's final service. She is now settled in her new home and enjoying retirement. We would like to express our thanks to Olwen for all she did here at the Ascension in her eight years ministry with us especially for her pastoral care which many of us benefitted from.

Nicola has done an excellent job in getting clergy to cover our services during the interregnum and we thank Rev'd Helen Askwith (St Augustines), Rev'd Jason Rendell (St Andrews), Rev'd Sheenagh Burrell, Rev'd Dave Byrne (Chaplain at NPH), Rev'd Mark Arnold (Pinner Parish church), Rev'd Alison Christian, Rev'd Paul Hullyer (Pinner Parish church) and our Archdeacon Ven. Catherine Pickford, for all their help and support during this time. Thank you also to Nicola and Sheila for covering services when clergy were not available.

Our social events were unfortunately curtailed but we were able to have our annual lunch at the Preston on New Year's Day, the Mother's Union annual dinner also at the Preston, and Olwen

kindly invited everyone to the vicarage for pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. The monthly lunch after the Wednesday morning service also took place in February and March, again at the Preston.

We remember fondly and keep in our prayers Keith Gerry, Ron Newell, Richard Proctor, Nita Michelmore and David Scanes who have sadly died during the year. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

It was a busy year for the PCC in spite of lockdowns. All our meetings were led by the Chair, Olwen, or the Lay Chair, Tim. At every PCC meeting we receive a finance report, a report on the premises from the Churchwardens, reports from the various sub committees and approval of any expenditure. As well, in January we discussed repairs needed to the Nativity set (which were duly carried out), our Stewardship campaign, a Lent course and Easter services. In February we were already thinking about the May Fair. By March we were having to consider Coronavirus restrictions and how we could open the church for private prayer and we looked at the possibilities for Olwen recording a homily each week. We also had to consider the effects of hall hirers not being able to use the hall and the way that would impinge on our income. Several meetings were held to discuss this.

At the May meeting Olwen announced to the PCC that she would be retiring at the end of September and that she would tell the congregation by email or hand delivered letter. (In the end she telephoned everyone on the electoral roll individually).

In August we had the first meeting following the APCM, at which we have to elect people to positions and committees and nominate officers. We also looked at having to postpone the Confirmation for a second time and at whether we could re-open the church halls, as well as the appointment of a new Architect. The church halls were again discussed at the September meeting with particular regard to how, if we did let hirers back, we could sanitise properly between hirers. With reduced income from hall lettings we also had to look at how we would pay the outstanding Common Fund payment for 2020.

Tim took over as Lay chair from the October meeting where we discussed again the Common Fund and started to think about the Parish Profile which we needed to present to Bishop Pete before our vacancy could be advertised. We also looked at how we could have our annual memorial service and our Christingle service and keep everyone safe and within the restrictions of Coronavirus.

By November we had moved to having the PCC meeting on Zoom. We were joined by Archdeacon Catherine who gave us general information on how the process of selecting a new vicar works. And yet more discussion on the Common Fund for both 2020 and our pledge for 2021. Finally, in December we were looking at whether we could safely hold services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

We are grateful to our church wardens, Nicola and Irene, and to our Lay Chair, Tim, for all they have done especially during the interregnum. Our hopes and prayers were that early in 2021 we could get back to having music and singing in our worship and to be able to see everyone in person. As well as missing our worship in church and Holy Communion we have also been missing the social contact which is so important for our congregation here at the Ascension.

We pray for God's guidance over the coming months as we anticipate getting back to some sort of normality and appointing a new vicar.

**Jean Hailes – PCC Secretary**

## **Administrative information**

The Church of the Ascension is situated in The Avenue, Wembley Park (HA9 9QL). It is part of The Diocese of London within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 319 Preston Road, Harrow, HA3 0QQ.

PCC members who have served from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Incumbent                      The Revd Olwen Field      Chair (from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020)

Churchwardens              Miss Nicola Kent  
   Mrs Irene Stubbs

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Mrs Maureen Cooke  
Mrs Bindu Trivedi

Elected Members

Mr Tim Woolford                      Acting Chair  
Mrs Anne Bignell                      Joint Treasurer  
Mrs Maureen Egbuche  
Mrs Anthea Revans  
Mr Michael Revans  
Miss Rosemary Sheldrick

and from the APCM on 26<sup>th</sup> July  
Mrs Jean Hailes                      (PCC Secretary from 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020)  
Mrs Sheila Coules

Elected Office Holder (not member of PCC)

Mrs Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem      Treasurer

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At the Ascension the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met nine times during the year with an average level of attendance of 69%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include mission, youth, worship, pastoral care, premises and finance, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

## **Churchwardens Fabric Report**

We are able to report that the Inventory has been checked and that all listed items and ornaments of the Church are present. A new desk and two filing cabinets are in the vestry. We confirm that the terrier and log book is up to date.

Work which has been carried out includes

### **Church**

- The periodic lightning conductor test was successfully completed in January 2020
- All Church doors have been prepared and re-oiled
- External steps and area up to the church pressure washed, steps repainted
- External hand rails up to the doorway of the Church rubbed down and repainted
- External benches have been re varnished
- Electric lights changed where necessary
- A new heating timer/programmer was fitted

### **Parish Hall**

- The interior of the Parish Hall has been renovated
- The iron framed door next to the old Council Room has been removed and the area bricked up and redecorated
- Water leak in ceiling of toilets rectified
- A new pump was fitted to the heating system and the cooker was disconnected
- Hand sanitisers have been installed

### **Youth Centre**

- The interior of the Youth Centre has been redecorated
- New handle fitted in toilet
- Hand sanitisers have been installed
- New padlock fitted to the door; extra bolt fitted on the inside of fire door

### **General**

- Grounds have been maintained & donated bark spread across the gardens
- Three new external notice boards have been installed
- Garden fences treated with wood preservative
- All toilets/sinks flushed through regularly during lockdown
- Additional smoke alarms have been installed
- A chain has been fitted across the entrance of the car park to enhance security

## **Churchwardens Fabric Report cont.**

### **Future issues needing consideration:**

- Redecoration of water damaged areas in the Church vestry and meeting room is required
- The south side of the Church has old power wiring which in the future may require replacement

2020 has been like no other year. From March 2020, we ensured the Church & halls were safe & closed for the first lockdown. Eventually reopening, our halls were made available to three hall users with social distancing, a strict cleaning regime compliant to Covid-19 in place. We value the work of our two cleaners for maintaining the Government required standard for cleaning. We would both like to thank those who have done the vital unseen things - you know who you are.

**Nicola Kent and Irene Stubbs - Churchwardens**

## Reserves Policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain reserves to cover anticipated future expenses incurred in running the parish and maintaining its structures. This applies to all three buildings and grounds of the church. It is our policy to invest our funds' balances with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England (CFB). At December 2020 total reserves were £38,876. These figures include income from the trust fund, shown in note 3 (notes page 16-7) of £7,340.

## Financial Review

As expected, and predicted in my 2019 report, 2020 has been hugely impacted by the lockdown measures introduced by the UK government to contain the COVID-19 pandemic up and down the country – and, unfortunately, CotA has not been spared in this with the Church, and most revenue generating activities, being shut down for majority of the year !!

Examining the accounts attached on page 16-1, Receipts and Payments Summary, total income for the year stands at £68,034 (2019, £120,069) a decrease of some **-£52,035** year on year. This large reduction, when compared to last year, is explained by reductions in: Halls let income - **£32,757**; Regular giving **-£5,756**; Other giving **-£11,296**; May and Winter fair fundraising income - **£3,359**; Investments income **-£2,659** and Missions **-£687**, mitigated by net increase in Other receipts (mainly donations for notice boards) £4,525.

Total income under the "Unrestricted" column of the accounts, at £50,205 (2019, £92,887), is a decrease of **-£42,682** year on year. This decrease in income is driven from Halls letting income, accounts page 16-4 and 16-5, which at a combined £27,427 (2019 £60,184), is **-£32,757** worse than last year; and reduction in Church Receipts, accounts page 16-2, which at £22,778 (2019 £32,703) is **-£9,925** worse than last year. This reduction in Church Receipts is further explained, as noted in the above paragraph, by year on year decrease in Planned giving and May/Winter fair income not repeated, totalling **-£9,115**, and reductions in "unrestricted" Other giving of **-£798**.

As with prior years, our reliance on Halls letting income to meet the day to day running cost of the parish continue. Unfortunately, for 2020, fuelled by the COVID-19 impact on all activities further expanding this gap, income from lets were insufficient to fund the Parish expenditure in full. This is clear examining the "Unrestricted" column on page 16-1 of the accounts where, total combined income from Church and Halls sit at £50,205 compared to total expenditure, on same basis, of £90,286, this represents a total loss for the year of **-£40,081**.

Further, to clarify the reserves, and capital asset, included in the following financial statements, the PCC has a Trust Fund with monies invested in a Unit Trust with M&G Charifund under a Deed of Trust with the Diocesan Board as Custodian Trustees. Under the terms of the trust the monies can only be used for the benefit of the parish and the community as a whole; they cannot be used for day to day running expenses. The current figures (in summary) are:-

<b>Market Value at</b>	<b>27.04.1988</b>	<b>31.12.2019</b>	<b>31.12.2020</b>
Charifund Units (15,985.00)	£80,000.00	£265,461.30	£219,405.31
Deposit Account at CBF	£4,973.00	£25,971.28	£39,471.09
Plus income from Charifund		£13,267.57	£10,709.95
Plus interest		£232.24	£158.90
Less grant to PCC			<b>(£43,000)</b>
<b>Balance held on deposit</b>		<b>£39,471.09</b>	<b>£7,339.94</b>
<b>Total values</b>		<b>£304,932.39</b>	<b>£226,745.25</b>

Investments in Unit trusts are subject to Stock market movements and can go down as well as up. This year, the capital value of our Charifund units has decreased by **-£46,056** when compared

to 2019. This represent a capital implosion of some **-17%**, which is not unexpected given the COVID driven economic contraction faced by many world economies, including the UK. However, around £10,870 of income (and interest), was generated in the year and added to the balance of income held on deposit at the beginning of the year. This allowed CotA to make an income withdrawal totalling **£43,000** during the year to meet the massive shortfall (from ordinary activities) on the 2020 common fund commitment, as well fund other day to day liabilities.

### **Church Hall buildings valuation**

Current Charity commission instructions require that we annotate our accounts Church Hall buildings valuation. As such the PCC approached EIG Insurance and the valuation received for the Church Halls is set at £1,747,011 and is included on page 16-6, Assets & Liabilities, and note 2, notes page 16-7 on the attached financial statements.

### **The year ahead – 2021**

2021 will continue to be a hugely challenging year for CotA, as indeed all the country, due to COVID-19 and the third lockdown measures implemented by the government to contain it in the first half of 2021. Although with the advent of the vaccine we may begin to see a chink of light at the end of the tunnel and an upturn, perhaps, in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, it is unlikely that we will see a recovery that will deliver results much better than that achieved in 2020.

So we should continue to anticipate a depletion in Halls letting income along the lines experienced in 2020, with both church halls expected to be closed for a significant part of the year, as well as little or no improvement, above 2020 levels, for regular and/or other church giving, as a result of the church being closed to parishioners, new and old, for the same reason.

It is imperative therefore that we prepare to double efforts to improve the volume of our one-off lets once the Church re-opens for “business”, hopefully during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, explore avenues to drive more income from “Church” activities and accelerate other fund-raising efforts to try and bridge the significant income gap that is expected again in 2021.

We must also, do a deep dive on our cost base and continue to root out areas of cost savings that can safely be executed, delayed and/or postponed, to next year, including non urgent maintenance and repair works and also manage down variable costs, such that we streamline and better align normal costs to our declining revenue profile, wherever this is achievable, and contain our cash outflow.

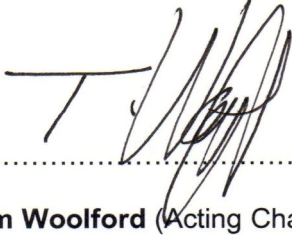
Further, we as parishioners should stretch ourselves even more this year when filling up planned giving envelopes, gift aid all our donations and regular Giving wherever possible and, continue to execute measures that improve our financial position through 2021 and beyond.

We should continue our commitment to review stewardship on an annual basis.

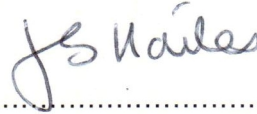
**Mary-Ann Chukwuenyem – Treasurer**

The following accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

These accounts were presented and approved by an online meeting of the PCC convened on March 23, 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T Woolford', written over a horizontal dotted line.

**Tim Woolford** (Acting Chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Hailes', written over a horizontal dotted line.

**Jean Hailes** (PCC Secretary)

**Part 2 - Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet**  
**(including Independent Examiners Report)**

## **PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WEMBLEY PARK**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of the Church of the Ascension Wembley Park**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 16-1 to 16-7.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Parochial Church Council and examiner**

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- 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
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.



Revd David M Green FCA  
Gowers Limited  
The Old School House  
Bridge Road  
Hunton Bridge  
Kings Langley  
Herts. WD4 8SZ

Date: 18th March 2021

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Receipts and Payments Summary**

	Note No.	UNRESTRICTED £	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED £	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Receipts</b>						
<b>Voluntary receipts</b>						
Regular Giving		18,176	-	-	18,176	23,932
<b>Other voluntary receipts</b>						
Other giving		4,570	-	-	4,570	15,868
<b>Missionary and charitable</b>						
Missions	A	-		721	721	1,408
<b>Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>						
Church		-			-	3,359
Parish Hall		13,749			13,749	33,447
Youth Centre		13,678			13,678	26,737
<b>Receipts from Church Activities</b>						
Church activities		-		-	-	44
<b>Receipts from investments</b>						
Investment income		-		10,710	10,710	13,268
Bank account			100	192	292	393
<b>Other receipts</b>						
Other receipts		32	-	6,106	6,138	1,613
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£ 50,205</b>	<b>£ 100</b>	<b>£ 17,729</b>	<b>£ 68,034</b>	<b>£ 120,069</b>
	<i>check</i>	£ 0				
<b>Payments</b>						
<b>Costs of generating voluntary income</b>						
Stewardship envelopes		43		-	43	103
<b>Fund raising &amp; trading costs</b>						
Magazine, Publicity and Fairs		1,129		-	1,129	1,221
<b>Church Activities</b>						
Missions	A	-		542	542	1,608
Church costs		68,357		400	68,757	71,621
Refund of loan				3,000	3,000	500
Parish Hall trading		10,780		-	10,780	11,495
Youth Centre trading		6,540		-	6,540	7,802
				-	-	
Major Church payments				4,968	4,968	
Major Parish Hall payments		-		-	-	1,250
Major Youth Centre payments		-		-	-	
				-	-	
<b>Governance costs</b>						
Governance costs		3,437		-	3,437	5,035
<b>Total resources used</b>		<b>£ 90,286</b>	<b>£ 0</b>	<b>£ 8,910</b>	<b>£ 99,196</b>	<b>£ 100,635</b>
	<i>check</i>	£ 0				
<b>Excess Receipts/(payments)</b>						
Movement in the year		(40,081)	100	8,819	(31,162)	19,434
Bank balances B/F		(9,830)	40,182	61,618	91,970	72,536
Transfer Trust fund money		43,000		(43,000)		
Reclassified funds		10,328	(10,328)			
<b>Bank balances C/F</b>		<b>£ 3,417</b>	<b>£ 29,954</b>	<b>£ 27,437</b>	<b>£ 60,808</b>	<b>£ 91,970</b>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Church Receipts**

	Note No	UNRESTRICTED £	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED £	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Voluntary receipts - regular giving</b>						
Planned giving - gift aided		11,711		-	11,711	14,448
Planned giving non gift aided		1,847		-	1,847	1,696
Collections		790		-	790	1,490
Tax recovered - planned giving	B	3,828		-	3,828	6,298
Church boxes		-		-	-	-
		<u>18,176</u>	-	-	<u>18,176</u>	<u>23,932</u>
<b>Other voluntary receipts</b>						
Donations		3,874		-	3,874	4,696
Tax recovered on donations	B	696		-	696	1,172
Legacies		-		-	-	10,000
		<u>4,570</u>	-	-	<u>4,570</u>	<u>15,868</u>
<b>Receipts from Church activities</b>						
Parish magazine		-		-	-	-
Fees		-		-	-	44
		<u>-</u>	-	-	<u>-</u>	<u>44</u>
<b>Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>						
May Fair		-		-	-	1,436
Winter Fair		-		-	-	1,923
Band concerts		-		-	-	-
Preserves		-		-	-	-
Afro Caribbean Evening		-		-	-	-
Tax received on fund raising donations		-		-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	-	-	<u>-</u>	<u>3,359</u>
<b>Receipts from investments</b>						
		<u>-</u>	-	-	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Other receipts</b>						
		-		-	-	-
		-		-	-	-
		-		-	-	-
Donation for Palm Sunday donkey		-		210	210	80
Donations for garden fund		-		-	-	79
Donation for garden maintenance		-		600	600	600
Tax on garden maintenance donations	B	-		150	150	150
Donations for notice boards		32		4,968	5,000	-
Donations in memory of a parishioner		-		-	-	365
Donation for heating		-		100	100	-
Donations		-		-	-	150
Tax on garden fund donations	B	-		25	25	1
Tax on Palm Sunday donkey donations	B	-		53	53	188
		-		-	-	-
		<u>32</u>	-	<u>6,106</u>	<u>6,138</u>	<u>1,613</u>
<b>Total Church receipts for year</b>		<u>£ 22,778</u>	<u>£ 0</u>	<u>£ 6,106</u>	<u>£ 28,884</u>	<u>£ 44,816</u>
<b>Less Church payments for year</b>		<b>(72,966)</b>		<b>(8,368)</b>	<b>(81,334)</b>	<b>(78,480)</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit for year</b>		<u><b>(£ 50,188)</b></u>	<u>£ 0</u>	<u><b>(£ 2,262)</b></u>	<u><b>(£ 52,450)</b></u>	<u><b>(£ 33,664)</b></u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Church Payments**

	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED	2020	2019
Notes	£		£	£	£
<b>Church Payments</b>					
<b>Cost of generating voluntary income</b>					
Stewardship envelopes	43		-	43	103
Stewardship campaign printing	-		-	-	-
	<u>43</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>103</u>
<b>Fund raising &amp; trading costs</b>					
Magazine and publicity	1,089		-	1,089	881
Fund raising costs	40		-	40	340
	<u>1,129</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>1,129</u>	<u>1,221</u>
<b>Church activities</b>					
<b>Ministry costs</b>					
Diocesan Common Fund	54,000		-	54,000	53,800
Clergy expenses	1,416		-	1,416	1,418
	<u>55,416</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>55,416</u>	<u>55,218</u>
<b>Upkeep of Church</b>					
Gas	3,232		-	3,232	2,123
Electricity	588		-	588	852
Insurance	4,349		-	4,349	4,377
Organists fees	910		-	910	3,675
	<u>9,079</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>9,079</u>	<u>11,027</u>
<b>Maintenance</b>					
Organ & piano tuning	246		-	246	
Routine maintenance & repairs	1,277		100	1,377	1,073
	<u>1,523</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>1,623</u>	<u>1,073</u>
<b>Training costs</b>					
Young Church and Youth			-	-	
Training	18		-	18	-
Confirmation			-	-	
	<u>18</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Administration	3,437		-	3,437	5,035
	<u>3,437</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>3,437</u>	<u>5,035</u>
<b>Other Payments</b>					
Upkeep of services	1,016			1,016	1,277
Upkeep of grounds, general	274		300	574	1,665
Upkeep of grounds, plants	-			-	83
Upkeep of grounds, fence				-	1,100
General outreach	312		-	312	178
Sequestration expenses	719			719	
Refund of loan	-		3,000	3,000	500
	<u>2,321</u>		<u>3,300</u>	<u>5,621</u>	<u>4,803</u>
<b>Total general Church payments for year</b>	<u><u>£ 72,966</u></u>		<u><u>£ 3,400</u></u>	<u><u>£ 76,366</u></u>	<u><u>£ 78,480</u></u>
<b>Major repairs</b>					
Notice Boards			4,968	4,968	
<b>Total major Church payments</b>	<u><u>-</u></u>		<u><u>4,968</u></u>	<u><u>4,968</u></u>	
<b>Total Church payments for year</b>	<u><u>£ 72,966</u></u>		<u><u>£ 8,368</u></u>	<u><u>£ 81,334</u></u>	<u><u>£ 78,480</u></u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Parish Hall Account**

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Lettings - regular	11,444		29,517	
Lettings - short term	2,305		3,930	
		<u>13,749</u>		<u>33,447</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u><u>£ 13,749</u></u>		<u><u>£ 33,447</u></u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Electricity	920		1,112	
Gas	2,293		1,775	
Cleaner	1,516		3,007	
Water	707		1,109	
Cleaning materials	62		169	
Performing Rights Society	39		38	
Insurance	1,099		1,106	
Toilet rolls	32		91	
Plumbing & boiler service	315		385	
Mice control			270	
General repairs	320		206	
Fire extinguishers	34		56	
Appliance testing	41			
Waste collection	1,329		1,573	
Other supplies			298	
New boiler pump	665			
Blocking up door	1,408		300	
		10,780		11,495
<b>Total payments</b>		<u><u>£ 10,780</u></u>		<u><u>£ 11,495</u></u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<u><u>£ 2,969</u></u>		<u><u>£ 21,952</u></u>
<b>Roof repair paid from Trust Fund money</b>				£ 1,250
<b>Parish hall heating &amp; decorating</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Trust fund money				<u>1,250</u>
<b>Total income</b>				<u>1,250</u>
<b>Total payments</b>				<u><u>£ 1,250</u></u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Youth Centre Account**

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Lettings - regular	13,243		25,067	
Lettings - short term	435		1,670	
		13,678		
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>£ 13,678</u>		<u>£ 26,737</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Electricity	588		892	
Gas	1,528		1,183	
Cleaner	812		1,408	
Water	472		740	
Cleaning materials	49		98	
Plumbing repairs & Boiler Service	425		915	
Insurance	592		596	
Toilet rolls	21		61	
Appliance testing	34			
General repairs	135		646	
Fire extinguishers	20		28	
Waste collection	886		1,049	
Other supplies			186	
Decorating	828			
Refrigerator	150			
		6,540		7,802
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>£ 6,540</u>		<u>£ 7,802</u>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<u>£ 7,138</u>		<u>£ 18,935</u>

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

		2020			2019	
Notes	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED			
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Assets:</b>						
Investments	1			80,000	80,000	80,000
Fixed Asset - Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	2			1,747,011	1,747,011	1,747,011
Bank Accounts	3	3,417	29,954	27,437	60,808	91,970
				<u>£ 1,887,819</u>	<u>£ 1,918,981</u>	
 <b>Represented by:</b>						
Restricted Funds	1 & 3			107,437	107,437	141,618
Designated Funds	3		29,954		29,954	40,182
Fixed Asset - Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	2			1,747,011	1,747,011	1,747,011
Unrestricted Funds	3	3,417			3,417	(9,830)
				<u>£ 1,887,819</u>	<u>£ 1,918,981</u>	
 <b>Liabilities</b>						
Diocesan Loan				8,500		11,500
Hall hirers				3,110		

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020**

<b>Note 1 - Investments</b>	<b>Notes to the Accounts</b>			
	<b>Opening</b>	<b>Introduction of</b>	<b>Disposals</b>	<b>Closing</b>
	<b>Book Value</b>	<b>Halls as an Asset</b>		<b>Book Value</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Trust Fund - Non Permanent Endowment	-	-	-	-
Capital (holding 15985 units)	80,000	-	-	80,000
Market value 219,405 (2019 265,461)	<b>£ 80,000</b>	-	-	<b>£ 80,000</b>
<b>Note 2 - Fixed Asset</b>				
Halls - as per EIG Insurance valuation	-	<b>£ 1,747,011</b>	-	<b>£ 1,747,011</b>
<b>Note 3 - Bank Accounts</b>	<b>Opening</b>	<b>Receipts &amp;</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Closing</b>
	<b>Balances</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Balances</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Missions Fund (held in Current A/c)	227	179	-	406
Retentions Funds (held in Current A/c)	14,009	(2,262)		11,747
Trust Fund	39,472	10,868	(43,000)	7,340
Bequests & Donations Fund	7,910	34		7,944
	<b>£ 61,618</b>	<b>£ 8,819</b>	<b>(£ 43,000)</b>	<b>£ 27,437</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>				
Designated Funds (held in Current A/c)	16,690		(10,328)	6,362
Fabric Fund	5,593	24		5,617
COTA Deposit Fund	3,220	14		3,234
Bequests & Donations Fund	12,518	53		12,571
Parish Hall Reserve (held at CBF*)	216	1	-	217
Youth Centre Reserve (held at CBF*)	1,945	8	-	1,953
	<b>£ 40,182</b>	<b>£ 100</b>	<b>(£ 10,328)</b>	<b>£ 29,954</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
Church funds (held in Current A/c)	<b>(£ 9,830)</b>	<b>(£ 40,081)</b>	<b>£ 53,328</b>	<b>£ 3,417</b>
<b>Total Bank Balances</b>	<b>£ 91,970</b>	<b>(£ 31,162)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£ 60,808</b>
<b>Note A - Missions breakdown</b>	<b>2020</b>		<b>2019</b>	
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Rec'd</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£	£
Opening balance	-	227	227	427
Income	-	542	542	1,182
Gift tax recovered	-	179	179	227
Expenditure	-	-	-	-
London Diocesan Fund Lent Appeal	-	(55)	(55)	(422)
Christian Blind Mission	-			(100)
Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust	-		-	
St. Laurence Larder	-			(223)
DEC	-			(92)
Medecins Sans Frontieres	-		-	
Water Aid	-	(487)	(487)	(332)
Missions to Seafarers	-		-	
Homes of Promise	-			(331)
St. Lukes Hospice	-			(109)
<b>Balance (liability) carried forward</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£ 406</b>	<b>£ 406</b>	<b>£ 227</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Rec'd</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Note B - Gift Aid - tax received breakdown</b>			<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Planned giving	3,828	-	3,828	6,298
Donations	696	228	924	1,511
Missions	-	179	179	227
<b>Total received</b>	<b>£ 4,524</b>	<b>£ 566</b>	<b>£ 4,931</b>	<b>£ 8,036</b>

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WEMBLEY PARK

### Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of the Church of the Ascension Wembley Park

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 16-1 to 16-7.

#### Respective responsibilities of Parochial Church Council and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- 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
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.



Revd David M Green FCA  
Gowers Limited  
The Old School House  
Bridge Road  
Hunton Bridge  
Kings Langley  
Herts. WD4 8SZ

Date: 18th March 2021