

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES

England & Wales · Charity number 1170687

Details

Other names	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN, WIDNES, ST JOHN'S, WIDNES, St John's PCC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2016-12-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address St. Johns Church
134 Greenway Road
Widnes
WA8 6HA

Phone 0151 345 0558

Email hello@transformwidnes.church

Website <https://www.transformwidnes.church>

Activities

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

Activities: St John's and St Paul's are Church of England churches in Widnes, Cheshire.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Halton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£481,239	£496,601	-	-
2023-12-31	£473,803	£524,475	-	-
2022-12-31	£458,204	£438,552	-	-
2021-12-31	£586,957	£279,882	£617,258	3
2020-12-31	£298,395	£253,452	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Gregory Stephen Sharples	Chair	2019-04-29
Anna Vateva		2023-11-08
Clare Elaine Moss		2022-03-30
Felicity Anne Price		2021-07-25
Gwyneth Hilary Evans		2021-05-01
Linda Ellen Hughes		2021-05-01
Nikki Twambley		2025-04-27
Steven Gordon Shuttleworth		2023-04-23

Accounts

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2024 YEAR
SUNDAY 27th APRIL 2025**

**Parish of St John and St Paul, Widnes
Diocese of Liverpool**

**Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
For the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

transform
WIDNES



ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 6HA
St Paul's Church, Victoria Square, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 7QU

The Parish of St John and St Paul is situated in Widnes. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes WA8 6HA. St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity is registered with the Charity Commission.

Registered charity name:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John and St Paul

Charity registration number: 1170687

Official contact: Reverend Gregory Sharples

Membership

From the period 01st January 2024 until date of approval for this report, the following people served as Parochial Church Council (PCC) members:

Incumbent: Reverend Gregory Sharples

Church Wardens: Miss Linda Hughes (Re-elected AGM 2021)
Miss Gwen Evans (Re-elected AGM 2021)

Secretary Mrs Felicity Price

Treasurer Mr Steve Shuttleworth

Representatives to Deanery Synod

Howard Sparks (Re-Elected 2023)
Matt Duckett (Re-elected 2024)
Linda Hughes (Elected 2024)

Elected Members: Mr Steve Shuttleworth (Re-elected AGM 2024)

Co-Opted Mrs Anna Vateva

Officers:

Parish Safeguarding Officer
Child Protection Officer
DBS Verifier
Electoral Roll Officer
Architect

Mrs Bess Smith
Mrs Sophie Sharples
Mrs Sophie Sharples
Mrs Felicity Price

The PCC met 5 times during the year with an attendance rate of 7.

Bankers:

NatWest Bank Ltd, 146 Widnes Rd, Widnes WA8 6BB

Architect:

MMA DESIGN & PROJECT MANAGEMENT LTD
6 Percy Street, Liverpool, United Kingdom, L8 7LU

Independent Examiner:

Mattocks Grindley Ltd
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue, Widnes. WA8 0WN

Day to day management control of the Church is exercised by the standing committee:

Reverend Gregory Sharples
Miss Linda Hughes
Miss Gwen Evans

Structure, Management & Governance

The PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules. It is to “cooperate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical”.

The method of appoint of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St John and St Paul. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community mainly through:

- Gathering on Sundays for real, relevant, and relatable worship celebrations
- Meeting in Connect groups during the week to encourage, learn, challenge, and support one another in our discipleship journeys and mission
- Providing opportunities to serve our community to see lives and our town enhanced and restored (Youth Groups, Tots group, Long Loaf Community lunch, Oasis Café, Connect Café, Foodbank)

Achievements and Performance

In 2024 we spent £5,972 to provide Christian Ministry across several missionary societies and charities. Planned giving this year was £71,978. We continue to meet our obligations to Stipend and Quota contributions to the Diocesan Offices at St James House, Liverpool. This is known as the 'Parish Share'. We paid £41,686 to the diocese for the year ending 31st December 2024.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The Electoral Roll as at the APCM 2025 stands at 80. 35 are resident in the parish and 45 outside of the parish.

Average attendance at Sunday Services from January 2024 to 31 December 2024 was **106**. Broken down as **94** adults and **13** children up to age 16.

Easter Sunday service **160** people joined in the service. **127** adults and **33** children up to age 16. On **Christmas eve/day** **327** people **Adults 244 and 83 Children** attended worship. **43** took communion,

There was a total of **5** funeral services conducted with **3** being held in church and **2** at Widnes Crematorium Chapel.

There were **0** **weddings**.

There were **11 baptisms** (0 children under 1yr, **1** child between 1-12yrs and **10** adults) **0** confirmed.

Across Transform Widnes there are **6** Connect Groups that meet on a weekly basis during term time.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

Vicar's Report AGM 2024

As a team, we try and do all we can to live out our Church mission, vision and values.

They are set out here, and we believe this is what Jesus has commissioned us into here in 21st Century Widnes:

Our Mission

'Leading people into the transforming love of Jesus'

Our Vision

To see Widnes transformed with 700 people engaging in Connect Groups with 50% of people under 25yrs old and setting up three new church communities by the end 2024.

Our Values

- Devoted to Jesus and each other
- Developing faith-stretching leaders
- Together, engaging the young
- Modelling vulnerability so everyone can grow
- Having fun reaching Widnes

Our Numbers

OUTREACH GROUPS	208	189	250	170	204	189	267	132	109	169
MEMBERS CONNECT GROUPS	89	112	109	93	101	89	89	75	75	82
WORSHIP IN PERSON SERVICES	144	151	138	166	150	160	141	146	229	169
TOTAL	441	452	496	429	454	418	497	354	413	426

The red circled figure was our total numbers at the end of 2023 and the yellow highlighted figure is our end of 2024 (and end of project numbers).

You can see there has been a drop of in Connect groups and Outreach, but Worship services show a slight increase. This is partly due to some bumper Christmas figures.

The reality on the ground is that 2024 was a real mixed bag for us as a church. We had the undisputed highs of the Sunday testimonies and Easter day baptisms. Many were deeply encouraged, and this gave us real momentum into Pentecost. My Sabbatical followed, and the team did an amazing job steering the church during that period.

However, one reflection was that our low-key August was a moment when momentum was slowed. Coupled with this some historically, key figures in the life of Transform have left the church. I think as a whole community we suffered because of people being called or moving on to different things. We pray God's blessing over them but feel the gap they leave.

This means that the situation on the ground has been that Sundays have felt quieter and in the last 6 months of 2024 we cycled through two Worship teams. This has been a challenge for Adam who invests deeply in those people.

John 15 says:

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes^[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

I believe that we are in a season of deep pruning where even fruitful things are being pruned back. The Lord does this to strengthen our connection with him. The word remain, literally means abide – where we get “abode” from. The Lord wants us to make our home in him. So often we get defined by our fruitfulness but maturing work he is doing in us is to make us a people defined and validated by what he has done for us on the cross and through his glorious resurrection. John 15 reveals that

this pruning happens, we abide in a deeper and, ultimately, we bear more fruit, but the key is that deepened connection with the Lord who called us, is faithful and will do it (Thess 5:24).

Sundays (On Location Worship)

Our Sundays continue in a settled pattern:

1 st Sunday	9.30am Traditional Communion Service 11am Transform Worship
2 nd Sunday	9.30am Traditional Communion Service 11am Transform Worship
3 rd Sunday	9.30am Traditional Communion Service 11am Transform Worship
4 th Sunday	Family Sunday
5 th Sunday	Baptism Sunday

This has brought stability and balance to our Sunday’s.

We have seen a number of people coming through leading services and preaching and I have been deeply encouraged by the pool of people we have available to lead times of worship and bring God’s word.

Community Outreaches (CO’s)

You can also see that our number for Community outreaches (CO) has dropped, averaging 169 people per week over the year. At all these events people are receiving some kind of teaching, prayer or worship. However, for the second year running numbers are down and over the course of the first 6 months of 2025 we are doing a systematic review of all CO’s discerning what needs further pruning so it can be more fruitful. Our current CO’s are Tots, Oasis, Long Loaf, Transform Minds, Connect Café (although this sort of straddles Connect Group’s as well) and Youth. At the end 2024 we said good bye to ‘Raised From The Bed’ (the gardening project) as a CO but use of the garden will continue.

Connect groups (CG’s)

Historically numbers for our connect groups have been pretty stable but 2024 did say goodbye to Crossroads which had drawn a number of people into the early stages of discipleship. We have some groups that are real stalwarts and other new ones emerging. In total there are 7 Connect groups. In 2025 there are a lot of plans for growth with groups multiplying and people running CG’s out of their work places. Our emphasis is shifting slightly in some groups where we are working to embed a deeper level of passion for the scriptures – as a key area of breakthrough in discipleship.

Youth and kids work

The one growing area of church life is our youth and kids work. Sophie continues to raise up the team and invests incredibly in our young people. Having taken on Youth Work one day a week, assisted by Adam Ballard as intern, we have seen the already healthy and dynamic youth team grow, the work develop structure and numbers increase and we now have an established Youth Connect also lead by a fantastic team.

Core Team

We have a really settled Core Team who oversee the day to day running of the Church and report to the PCC. The team consists of:

Felicity Price – Hall Manager and Administrator (3 days 8am – 1pm, Mon-Fri)
Linda Hughes – Warden (Volunteer)
Steve Shuttleworth – Treasurer (Volunteer)
Anna Vateva – Ops and Finance (2.5 days)
Adam Sowerby – Worship and Comms (4 Days)
Sophie Sharples – Kids and Youth (4 Days)
Sarah Beaney – Volunteer Manager (1 Day)
Adam Ballard – Intern
Greg Sharples – Vicar

This team does deliver various aspects of Church life, but our main function is to release the gifts and calling of the people. We are so grateful for 84 Volunteers who serve the life of the Church. You do tremendous work as we reach our town for Jesus.

We are also extremely grateful to all those who give to the life of the Church financially – we long to sow into all God is doing in our town and your gifts facilitate our partnership with Spirits work in Widnes. Thank you.

We look forward with excitement as to what the Lord will do in 2025 and these words of blessing from Hebrews 13 come to mind:

²⁰ Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Receive this blessing as you continue to make your home with Jesus allowing him to grow his fruit in you.

Reverend Gregory Sharples

Wardens Annual Report 2024/25

Main points: -

- **St Paul's Tower**

The condition of St Paul's Tower has been on-going all year. High Life Ropes were on site on 19th September 2024 to remove vegetation and it was discovered that parts of the tower had loose brickwork which in turn meant fittings and bricks could possibly come away and fall to the ground. This becomes a major health and safety issue. Therefore, fencing was purchased, and area is now cordoned off and the gate is locked.

Our newly appointed architects (Design Project Management Ltd) are assisting us with option for the tower. On their advice a drone was hired to assess the current state of the tower and the church building as a whole. The Architect has the report and we are discussing next steps to include funding options and how we move forward.

Design Project Management Limited will also undertake Quinquennial review

- **Leaks**

Both sites have had issues with leaks. Costs for repairs (approx.£2,485.00) Building must be monitored constantly to catch these leaks before too much damage is done.

- **Lighting**

As a church we want to become as ECO friendly and efficient as possible. We are replacing old style lighting with LED lights over both sites. We are replacing old lights with LED lights when the old ones fail,

Long term this will save money and manpower.

Outside lighting has been installed between St Paul's Church and St Paul's church hall

- **Garden at St Paul's**

Due to various reasons, 'Raised from the Bed' will be discontinued. The current plots will be converted to cut flower plots. A Gardening Tidy Up date is arranged for Saturday 22nd March 2025.

- **95 Cooper Street**

The solicitors, Simpson and Millar have been contacted for an update on current position on 95 Cooper Street. This was bequeathed to St Paul's a number of years ago however with the codicil that the housekeeper would remain living in the house during her lifetime and the property would then revert to St Paul's. We currently hold the deeds.

Many other buildings maintenance work has been done over the two sites over the past year to keep the buildings in a relative state of repair given the funds available. Approx. £13500.00 has been spent on repairs over both sites.

We would like to say a big thanks to the Buildings Maintenance Team and to Sarah Beaney for arranging church tidy up days and garden tidy up day. Everyone plays a part and we thank God we have solid members of our congregation who give up their precious time for our projects.

God bless,

Gwen Evans and Linda Hughes
Church Wardens – Transform Widnes

Preschool Report

St John's Preschool – Annual Report 2025 (Draft)

St John's Preschool is a not-for-profit Ofsted registered preschool (Registration no. RP520953, Setting Reference No. EY245131). The preschool started life as a playgroup, set up by the congregation of St John's Church, in 1978 as a way of serving the needs of the local community. It has been a constant presence since, becoming an Ofsted registered provision in 2003. The preschool is overseen by a delegated sub-committee of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). It is a 'pack-away setting' utilising the main hall, kitchen, office, garden in St John's Church Centre between 8.30am and 4pm on weekdays and term time only. Claire Speakman (manager@stjps.co.uk) is the Preschool Manager responsible for the day-to-day operations and managing the seven preschool employees.

It is a joy to see and hear the toddlers and preschoolers flourishing within the setting and we recognise the preschool is a great addition to our church building. The staff turnover has been very low, with only one employee moving on, for a career step, during 2024. Attracting and retaining staff in the Early Years sector is a challenge. We recognise we have a very good team who work well together, and we continue to endeavour to reward them, where possible, in this very underfunded sector.

The key challenges for 2024 were to build back the intake of toddlers and preschoolers, from a low in 2022/3, through improving our signage (£1,642), advertising (Facebook boosts £592) and a new website (£1,800).

Income successfully increased by £42.9k, from £196.3k (2023) to £239.2k (2024). The preschool made a £1.3k profit in 2024 (£25.9k loss in 2023) and cash reserves increased from £56.8k (2023) to £70.6k (2024).

The National Living Wage increased by £1.02 per hour in 2024. In previous years we have strived to reflect an equivalent pay increase in all staff wages. However, in April 2024, we were unable to confidently offer this full increase and instead gave each member of staff a 75p per hour pay rise, with the promise that this would be reviewed at the calendar year end. We are pleased to report that the increased income and profit permitted the remaining 27p per hour rise to be paid to all staff in January 2025 and back paid from April 2024.

The financial challenges for 2025

There will be the new increase in the National Minimum Wage (by 77p per hour) and the relative staff wage increases, the increased employer NICs percentage and additional pension costs. These equate to an increase of ~£12.5k for the year compared to 2024. This will be slightly offset by the increase of Employment Allowance in 2025 from £5k to £10.5k per annum. In addition, the contribution to Church finances, towards the running of the centre (utilities, insurance, cleaning, external HR and financial services), will increase by 3% to £21,888 per year in 2025 (£21,252 in 2024).

If there is no additional government grant funding for Early Years places, the preschool forecasts to break even by the end of 2025

The plans for 2025

The preschool is looking to recruit additional volunteer members to the Preschool Committee in 2025, ideally a parent committee member and a member with Early Years' experience and knowledge. Some investment is required in new furniture and there are plans to revamp the nature garden using some additional funding available.

The local council is encouraging local settings to apply for Capital Grants to increase Early Years capacity in the Borough. The preschool committee will be assessing the opportunities being offered, and if appropriate, will make recommendations to the church PCC for consideration in early 2025.

Clare Bedford
Preschool Chair

Safeguarding Annual Report 2024

Safeguarding concerns last year was busy with several different safeguarding concerns followed up and resolved satisfactorily or referred on to other relevant authorities. In all cases advice has been sought and received from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, to whom I am very grateful.

Safer Recruitment

As new staff have been employed at Church and Pre-School they have been through the Safer Recruitment process, completing DBS and the appropriate level of Safeguarding Training. There have been 10 successful applications for DBS from volunteers and employees this year. The records of these and the previous 30 have all been passed on to Sarah for recording purposes. Since the appointment of a Volunteer Manager, Sarah Beaney, in 2023, a firmer policy for recruitment of volunteers is now being implemented. She has arranged an in-person safeguarding session for volunteers who could not access the online version, and records of the training are being maintained centrally by the Volunteer Manager going forward. The collation of past records and current is quite a volume of work.

Bess Smith Parish safeguarding Officer

Treasurer's Report

2024 Financial Review

General comments

The published set of accounts for 2024, as approved by our Independent Examiner, Mattocks Grindley Ltd, are included at the very end of the APCM report (pages 15-23), and include all financial activities, for the Church and St John's Preschool as a combined charity.

Apart from referencing to the total St Johns Preschool Income and Expenditure for 2024, this 'Treasurers Report' section only contains details relating to the pure 'Church Activities', i.e. it excludes any detailed analysis of the St Johns Preschool. Comments referring the St Johns Preschool financial accounts for 2024 can be found on pages 9-10 of the APCM report, in the section headed 'Preschool Report'.

See page 22 and the appropriate note reference, that will correspond to the comments below.

INCOME 2024

We managed to exceed our Income budget for 2024. We budgeted for income totalling £219,366. We actually achieved £242,022. A great result. Thank you to all those who have given money to the church this year.

Ref Comment

I1 Total Giving - In 2024 our total Giving Income totalled £111,562 compared to £121,708 in 2023. A reduction of £10,146 (8.33%). This is mainly attributable to some people leaving church and the Planned Giving Scheme (PGS) in the fourth quarter of 2024.

I2 Planned Giving - Early in 2024 we saw some good growth in planned giving, as some people moved over from giving via the 'Sunday collection baskets.' In 2024, planned giving rose by 8.4% to £71,978. This resulted in a small reduction in cash collections on a Sunday.

I3 One Off Gifts - In 2024 these reduced by 47.8% to £8,214

Category Connector Group	Category Connector	2024	2023	NOTES
GIVING	GIVING ACTIVITIES	£ 5,244	£ 6,663	
	GIVING ONE-OFF	£ 8,214	£ 15,755	I3
	GIVING PLANNED	£ 71,978	£ 66,411	I2
	GIVING SERVICE COLLECTIONS	£ 5,695	£ 6,058	I2
	GIVING TAX RECOVERED	£ 20,431	£ 26,821	
GIVING Total		£ 111,561	£ 121,708	I1

I4 Grants - Our Grant income in 2025 reduced significantly, 33.7%, to £49,896. Made up from:

Church Commissioners SDF Grant of £47,920 – Used to help cover staffing costs.

Halton Borough Council - £1,976 for an Easter Holiday Club

Liverpool One Community Fund of £15,000 – for youth worker staffing was received in 2023, but we have only just started to use at the end of 2024 for Sophie Sharples working extra hours to cover Youth work.

The John Moore’s Foundation grant, towards staffing costs, and the Henry Smith Grant towards staff costs, have both now been exhausted completed and closed

I5 Hire Of Premises Income – Increased by 11% to £46,667. This is split between External Hires £23,307 and Preschool premises rental of £23,360.

I6 Cross Charges – This year I have isolated the money we receive from the Preschool, £29,549 for the costs we pay out on their behalf to HMRC, along with the Vicarage gas costs, £595, that the Sharples family reimburse us for, as the Vicarage gas is on the same supply as St Johns church gas supply. These total £30,144.

I7 Projects – Money given towards the St Pauls Garden Project (Raised from the Bed) and the St Pauls Tower repairs reduced by 73.6%, to £2,743.

I8 Other Income – Bank interest increased by 78% to £1,010.

EXPENDITURE 2024

We managed to come in under budget for our Expenditure in 2024.

The 2024 Expenditure budget was set at £264,026.

We actually spent £258,658, £5,368 under budget.

Ref Comment

E1 Staffing - Our largest piece of Church Expenditure in 2024 was for staff costs. These amounted to £87,880 compared to £87,883 in 2023. The full breakdown of staff costs is as follows:

Row Labels	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	Grand Total
SALARIES & WAGES	£ 15,875	£ 47,097	£ 62,973
PENSIONS	£ 3,091	£ 5,872	£ 8,963
HMRC TAX/NI	£ (1,753)	£ 8,705	£ 6,952
HOUSING	£ 3,097		£ 3,097
HR COSTS	£ 2,520		£ 2,520
TRAINING	£ 424	£ 1,820	£ 2,244
PAYROLL COSTS	£ 639		£ 639
METINGS	£ 300	£ 15	£ 316
TRAVEL	£ 7	£ 140	£ 147
TELEPHONE	£ 30		£ 30
Grand Total	£ 24,231	£ 63,649	£ 87,880

The staff costs are met in two ways. The first is from unrestricted general funds totalling £24,231 and the second is from restricted funds, totalling, £63,649 made up of grants we have received from various organisations including the Church Commissioners.

Please note that any Vicars/Curate salaries and pension are paid by the Diocese and not by the church. Our Parish Share payments help with Vicar and Curate costs.

E2 Buildings – Our next largest expense in 2024 was the money spent on our church premises. We spent £64,524 compared to £84,551 in 2023, a reduction of nearly 24%. No building projects in 2024 and spent less on repairs, along with some reduced utility costs.

Building Maintenance amounted to £ 26,498 and Utilities & Insurance totalled £38,026

E3 Diocesan Fees – Once again we are pleased to report that we have met our 'Parish Share' payments to the Diocese in full in 2024. Total Diocesan costs were £41,666, slightly less than in 2023.

E4 Cross Charges – This year I have isolated the money we receive from the Preschool, £29,549 for the costs we pay out on their behalf to HMRC,

E5 Outreach – Under the heading of outreach the following are included KIDS & YOUTH, LONG LOAF, MISSIONAL GIVING, PEOPLE IN NEED, TOTS. Our expenditure for 2024, £15,563, is down from the 2023 Expenditure of £22,572. This is due to only one Holiday Club in 2024 compared to 2023, and less requests for funding people in need.

E6 Administration – Costs have reduced in 2024 by 6.9% to £8,538.

E7 Projects - Also project costs are down by 75% this year, as we only had expenditure on the 'Raised from the Bed' Garden project at St Paul's.

E8 Training - Training expenditure reduced by 66% to £1,804

E9 Hospitality – At church services and events totalled £2,293 in 2024, compared to £2,740 in 2023.

E10 Services - Expenditure on services was also down in 2023.

E11 Teams - We spent slightly more on volunteer events this year £813, it's good to celebrate with our volunteers, who do such a wonderful job.

Risk Assessments, Controls and Procedures

The PCC operates under a mature system of controls and procedures develop over many years of operation, and the PCC monitors finance and operational issues routinely as part of its regular PCC meetings.

Financial Risk

The PCC receives routine updates on the cash balance of all funds at every PCC meeting, and a full report as part of the annual accounts and APCM.

Urgent and in-budget expenditure is discussed and agreed by the Standing Committee, whilst non-urgent and out of budget expenditure is agreed by the PCC.

Collections are always counted by two people; all payments are authorised by two people via Expense Plus. Banking of Income is ordinarily managed by the Churchwardens.

The Church holds Ecclesiastical general insurance to cover its key liabilities and risks.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to endeavour to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to around three months of church workers' salary costs £22,420.

It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

The PCC is aware that major repairs to the church tower are required.

CONCLUSIONS

Income 2024

We managed to exceed our Income budget for 2024. We budgeted for income totalling £219,366. We actually achieved £242,022. A great result. Thank you to all those who have given money to the church this year.

The Parish Giving Scheme continues to be a blessing in helping us to budget better and the amount given by this method however did increase. PGS giving in 2024 totalled £88,920 compared to £86,849 in 2023. Some people left church in the final quarter of 2024, which may have a significant effect on PGS giving in 2025.

In 2024 PGS accounted for nearly 79.8% of our voluntary giving.

Expenditure 2024

We managed to keep below our budget in 2024. Our budget was £264,026, we actually spent £258,658

In 2024 we budgeted for a deficit of -£44,660, we actually improved on that by achieving a much smaller deficit of -£16,636

We still rely heavily on grant funding to resource our staff and volunteers involved in providing much of our excellent missional work, apart from one grant, these will all come to an end at the end of 2025.

Steve Shuttleworth

Treasurer St John & St Paul Widnes (Transform Widnes)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1170687

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2024

MATTOCKS GRINDLEY
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John and St Pauls, Widnes

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

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I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 18 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The churches PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The churches PCC considers that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The 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 Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 next statement.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.

Mr G Mattocks
FCA
Mattocks Grindley
18 Mulberry Avenue
Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0WN


G Mattocks

24/4/25

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2024	2023
Donations & Legacies	£ 105,896	£ 55,872	£ -	£ 161,568	£ 203,280
Charitable Activities	£ 1,885	£ 750	£ -	£ 2,635	£ 1,208
Investments	£ 433	£ 380	£ -	£ 813	£ 568
Trading Activities	£ 23,307	£ -	£ -	£ 23,307	£ 71,871
Other	£ 53,502	£ 197	£ -	£ 53,699	£ 543
Preschool Income	£ 239,217	£ -	£ -	£ 239,217	£ 198,333
Total Incoming resources	£ 424,240	£ 56,999	£ -	£ 481,239	£ 473,803
Resources Used					
Charitable Activities	£ 136,159	£ 80,813	£ -	£ 216,972	£ 280,056
Raising Funds	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Governance costs	£ 41,686	£ -	£ -	£ 41,686	£ 42,217
Support	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Preschool Resources Used	£ 237,943	£ -	£ -	£ 237,943	£ 222,202
Total resources used	£ 415,788	£ 80,813	£ -	£ 496,601	£ 524,475
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before transfers)	£ 8,452	£ (23,814)	£ -	£ (15,362)	£ (50,672)
Fund Transfers In	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000
Fund Transfers Out	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before gains/losses)	£ 8,452	£ (23,814)	£ -	£ (15,362)	£ (50,672)
Investment Gains (or Losses)	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before Asset Revaluation)	£ 8,452	£ (23,814)	£ -	£ (15,362)	£ (50,672)
Asset Revaluation	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Movement of Funds	£ 8,452	£ (23,814)	£ -	£ (15,362)	£ (50,672)
Total Funds Brought Forward	£ 143,219	£ 93,963	£ -	£ 237,182	£ 287,854
Total Funds Carried Forward	£ 151,671	£ 70,149	£ -	£ 221,820	£ 237,182

Represented By	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2024	2023
General (Unrestricted)	£ 78,869	£ -	£ -	£ 78,869	£ 72,467
St Paul's Building Fund (Restricted)	£ -	£ 28,952	£ -	£ 28,952	£ 27,078
TNW SDF (Restricted)	£ -	£ 690	£ -	£ 690	£ 2,804
Transform Tots (Restricted)	£ -	£ 1,159	£ -	£ 1,159	£ 1,894
Kids & Youth (Restricted)	£ -	£ 6,694	£ -	£ 6,694	£ 7,391
Youth by the Park (Restricted)	£ -	£ 3,085	£ -	£ 3,085	£ 2,494
Liverpool One Community Fund (Restricted)	£ -	£ 12,430	£ -	£ 12,430	£ 15,017
Long Loaf (incl Christmas Meal) (Restricted)	£ -	£ 3,031	£ -	£ 3,031	£ 4,198
Transform Minds (Restricted)	£ -	£ 8,474	£ -	£ 8,474	£ 8,793
People In Need (Designated)	£ 1,852	£ -	£ -	£ 1,852	£ 1,080
St Paul's Gardens (Restricted)	£ -	£ 1,300	£ -	£ 1,300	£ 4,966
Designated Funds (Designated)	£ 339	£ -	£ -	£ 339	£ 339
Misc Restricted Funds & Projects (Restricted)	£ -	£ 3,670	£ -	£ 3,670	£ 6,318
Holiday Activity Fund HBC (Restricted)	£ -	£ 664	£ -	£ 664	£ 1,516
JMF Grant (Restricted)	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 3,107
Pre School	£ 70,611	£ -	£ -	£ 70,611	£ 69,334
Henry Smith Grant (Restricted)	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 8,788
TOTAL FUNDS	£ 151,671	£ 70,149	£ -	£ 221,820	£ 237,182


**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

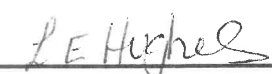
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BALANCE SHEET BY FUND	NOTES	Total 2024	Prior Year 2023
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		£ 94,203.00	£ 112,258.00
Accounts Receivable		£ 3,078.00	£ 690.00
Pre school accounts receivable		£ 4,477.00	£ 10,025.00
Prepayments		£-	£-
Pre School Bank/Cash		£ 70,748.00	£ 57,098.00
Current Assets Total		£ 172,506.00	£ 180,071.00
Non-Current Assets			
Fixed Assets		£ 57,292.00	£ 59,873.00
Pre School Fixed Assets		£ 504.00	£ 3,853.00
Investments		£-	£-
Non-Current Assets Total		£ 57,796.00	£ 63,726.00
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		£ 3,363.00	£ 1,927.00
Deferred Income		£-	£-
Pre School Liabilities		£ 5,119.00	£ 4,688.00
Current Liabilities Total		£ 8,482.00	£ 6,615.00
Non-Current Liabilities			
Long Term Loan / Mortgage		£-	£-
Non-Current Liabilities Total			
Total Net Assets (Assets Minus Liabilities)		£ 221,820.00	£ 237,182.00

Represented By	NOTES	2024	2023
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General (Unrestricted)		£78,869	£72,466
People In Need (Designated)		£1,852	£1,080
Designated Funds (Designated)		£339	£339
Pre School Unrestricted		£70,611	£69,334
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS TOTAL		£151,671	£143,219
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
St Paul's Building Fund (Restricted)		£28,952	£27,079
TNW SDF (Restricted)		£690	£2,604
Transform Tots (Restricted)		£1,159	£1,694
Kids & Youth (Restricted)		£6,694	£7,391
Youth by the Park (Restricted)		£3,085	£2,494
Liverpool One Community Fund (Restricted)		£12,430	£15,017
Long Loaf (incl Christmas Meal) (Restricted)		£3,031	£4,196
Transform Minds (Restricted)		£8,474	£8,793
St Paul's Gardens (Restricted)		£1,300	£4,966
Misc Restricted Funds & Projects (Restricted)		£3,670	£6,318
Holiday Activity Fund HBC (Restricted)		£664	£1,516
JMF Grant (Restricted)		£0	£3,107
Henry Smith Grant (Restricted)		£0	£8,788
Pre School Restricted		£0	
RESTRICTED FUNDS TOTAL		£70,149	£93,983
FUNDS TOTAL		£221,820	£237,182

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24th April 2025 . And signed on its behalf by:


Miss G Evans (Trustee)


Miss L Hughes (Trustee)

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

Endowment Funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained. *Restricted Funds* are funds which may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. *Unrestricted Funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. *Funds designated* for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Bookstall income is on the basis of commission received as the stock is on a sale or received basis.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

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

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Resources expended

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Grants

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish quota is accounted for when paid. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's Inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to (2000) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January (2000) have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their currently anticipated useful economic life.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £1,000, or on the repair of moveable church furnishings is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years and on a 15% reducing balance basis in some cases. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. The church Hall building is being depreciated over 50 years, straight line basis.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current assets

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

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

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

INCOME						NOTES
		Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total	
GIVING	GIVING PLANNED	£ 71,978	£ -	£ 71,978	£ 72,469	H, I2
GRANTS	GRANTS	£ -	£ 49,896	£ 49,896	£ 75,238	M
CROSS CHARGES	ST JOHNS PRE SCHOOL HMRC	£ 29,549	£ -	£ 29,549	£ 27,457	16
HIRE OF PREMISES	ST JOHNS PRESCHOOL PREMISES	£ 23,360	£ -	£ 23,360	£ 20,698	15
HIRE OF PREMISES	EXTERNAL HIRES	£ 23,307	£ -	£ 23,307	£ 21,315	15
GIVING	GIVING TAX RECOVERED	£ 20,253	£ 178	£ 20,431	£ 26,821	H
GIVING	GIVING ONE-OFF	£ 5,359	£ 2,855	£ 8,214	£ 15,755	H, I3
GIVING	GIVING ACTIVITIES	£ 4,894	£ 750	£ 5,244	£ 6,663	H, I1
PROJECTS	ST PAULS TOWER & ROOF PROJECT	£ -	£ 1,493	£ 1,493	£ 6,081	I7
PROJECTS	ST PAULS GARDEN PROJECT	£ -	£ 1,250	£ 1,250	£ 4,044	I7
OTHER INCOME	BANK INTEREST	£ 483	£ 577	£ 1,010	£ 567	16
CROSS CHARGES	ST JOHNS VICARAGE RECHARGE	£ 595	£ -	£ 595	£ 198	16
OTHER INCOME	OTHER	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 164	
GIVING	GIVING SERVICE COLLECTIONS	£ 5,695	£ -	£ 5,695	£ -	H
PRE SCHOOL	PRE SCHOOL INCOME	£ 239,217	£ -	£ 239,217	£ 196,333	
	INCOME TOTALS	£ 424,240	£ 56,999	£ 481,239	£ 473,603	

EXPENDITURE						NOTES		
Category	Connector	Category	Connector	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total	
STAFFING		STAFF COSTS CHURCH		£ 24,231	£ 83,648	£ 87,879	£ 87,833	E1
DIOCESAN COSTS		DIOCESAN FEES		£ 41,696	£ -	£ 41,696	£ 42,218	E3
BUILDINGS		BUILDINGS-UTILITIES/INS		£ 37,676	£ 350	£ 38,026	£ 41,649	E2
CROSS CHARGES		ST JOHNS PRE SCHOOL HMRC		£ 29,549	£ -	£ 29,549	£ 25,941	E4
BUILDINGS		BUILDINGS - MAINTENANCE		£ 26,498	£ -	£ 26,498	£ 42,902	E2
ADMINISTRATION		ADMINISTRATION		£ 7,923	£ 615	£ 8,538	£ 9,173	E8
OUTREACH		MISSIONAL GIVING		£ 5,972	£ -	£ 5,972	£ 6,199	E5
PROJECTS		GARDEN PROJECT		£ -	£ 4,916	£ 4,916	£ 165	E7
OUTREACH		KIDS & YOUTH		£ -	£ 4,749	£ 4,749	£ 7,487	E5
OUTREACH		LONG LOAF		£ -	£ 3,350	£ 3,350	£ 5,157	E6
HOSPITALITY		HOSPITALITY		£ 1,652	£ 441	£ 2,293	£ 2,740	E9
TRAINING		TRAINING/GROUP RESOURCES		£ 54	£ 1,751	£ 1,805	£ 5,327	E8
OUTREACH		TOTS		£ -	£ 992	£ 992	£ 890	E8
TEAMS		TEAMS/VOLUNTEERS		£ 813	£ -	£ 813	£ 599	E11
SERVICES		OCCASSIONAL OFFICES		£ 735	£ -	£ 735	£ 661	E10
OUTREACH		PEOPLE IN NEED		£ 500	£ -	£ 500	£ 2,839	E5
SERVICES		WORSHIP/SERVICES		£ 356	£ -	£ 356	£ 863	E10
OTHER		OTHER		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
PROJECTS		BUILDING PROJECTS		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 19,630	E7
PROJECTS		ST PAULS ROOF PROJECT		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
PROJECTS		ST PAULS TOWER PROJECT		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
PRE SCHOOL		PRE SCHOOL EXPENDITURE		£ 237,943	£ -	£ 237,943	£ 222,202	
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS		£ 413,788	£ 90,813	£ 496,601	£ 514,475	

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES**
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

4 STAFF COSTS	2024			2023
	£			£
Wages and Salaries	62,973			61,009
Social Security Costs (NIC)	8,952			2,501
Pension Costs	6,952			7,200
	<u>76,877</u>			<u>70,710</u>
				0
				<u>70,710</u>
5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC				
	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Equipmant £	Total £
<i>5(a) Tangible fixed assets</i>				
GROSS BOOK VALUE				
At 1 January 2024	122,735	13,747	31,084	167,566
Additions		0	318	318
Disposals		0		0
At 31 December 2024	<u>122,735</u>	<u>13,747</u>	<u>31,402</u>	<u>167,884</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2024	83,898	12,910	27,232	103,840
Charge for the year	2,455	125	3,668	6,248
Depreciation on disposals				0
At 31 December 2024	<u>86,353</u>	<u>13,035</u>	<u>30,900</u>	<u>110,088</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2024	<u>56,582</u>	<u>712</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>57,796</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>56,037</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>3,652</u>	<u>60,526</u>
<i>5(b) Investments</i>				
	2024			2023
	£			£
Samuel Kidd Legacy & Diocesan Repair Fund				
Historical Cost	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>
Market Value	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	57,796	0	0	57,796
Current Assets	102,357	70,149		172,506
Current Liabilities	-8,482	0		-8,482
Fund balance	<u>151,671</u>	<u>70,149</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>221,820</u>

7 DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income Tax Recoverable re Gift Aid	0	0
Trade debtors	7,555	10,715
Other Debtors - TNW Youth Worker grant	0	0
	<u>7,555</u>	<u>10,715</u>

8 LIABILITIES: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,363	1,927
Accruals		0
Pre school liabilities	5,119	4,688
	<u>8,482</u>	<u>6,615</u>

9 FUND DETAILS

Restricted Funds are shown at note 11.
Other funds held are unrestricted but designated as shown below or general funds.

10 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2024	2023
	£	£
The closing balance of Unrestricted Funds comprised the follow		
General Fund	149,480	141,800
St Paul's Building Fund	Designated 0	0
Womens Fellowship	Designated 0	0
Designated funds	339	339
People in need	1,852	1,080
	<u>151,671</u>	<u>143,219</u>

11 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2024	2023
	£	£
The closing balance of Restricted Funds comprised the followin		
Total Grant	1,159	1,684
Kids and Youth	6,684	7,391
Long Loef grant	3,031	4,198
St Pauls Building Fund	28,952	27,079
JMF Grant	0	3,107
TNW SDF	890	2,604
Youth by the Park	3,085	2,494
St Pauls gardens	1,300	4,866
Misc restricted funds	3,670	6,318
Henry Smith Grant	0	8,788
Liverpool One community fund	12,430	15,017
Holiday activity fund	664	1,516
Transform Minds	8,474	8,793
	<u>70,149</u>	<u>93,663</u>

12 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

13 Related Parties

The members of the PCC in 2024 did not receive any payments from the church.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
PARISH RETURN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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INCOMING RESOURCES				
Voluntary Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Regular Giving	£ 71,081.00	£ -	£	71,081
Collections at Services	£ 5,685.00	£ -	£	5,685
All Other Giving (Inc. special appeals)	£ 8,199.00	£ 4,651	£	12,850
Gift Aid Recovered	£ 20,252.00	£ 829	£	21,081
Legacies (capital value)	£ -	£ -	£	-
Grants (recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ 50,192	£	50,192
Preschool Voluntary Income	£ 239,217	£ -	£	239,217
Voluntary Income total	£ 345,344	£ 55,672	£	401,016
Fundraising Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Fundraising Income	£ -	£ 138	£	138
Preschool Fundraising Income	£ -	£ -	£	-
Fundraising Activities total	£ -	£ 138	£	138
Investments Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Investment Income (Interest, Property Income etc.)	£ 433	£ 577	£	1,010
Statutory Fees Retained by the PCC (weddings etc.)	£ 1,653	£ -	£	1,653
Preschool Investment Income	£ -	£ -	£	-
Investments Income total	£ 2,086	£ 577	£	2,663
Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Other	£ 76,810	£ 612	£	77,422
Preschool Other	£ -	£ -	£	-
Other total	£ 76,810	£ 612	£	77,422
INCOMING RESOURCES TOTAL	£ 424,240	£ 56,999	£	481,239

EXPENDED RESOURCES				
Fundraising Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Fundraising Costs	£ 296	£ -	£	296
Fundraising Activities total	£ 296	£ -	£	296
Church Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Mission Giving & Donations	£ 5,972	£ -	£	5,972
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	£ 41,888	£ -	£	41,888
Salaries, Wages & Honoraria	£ 17,918	£ 63,458	£	81,376
Clergy & Staff Expenses	£ 3,902	£ 802	£	4,704
Church Activities total	£ 69,478	£ 64,350	£	133,828
Church Expenses	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Church Mission & Evangelism Expenses	£ 657	£ 15,497	£	16,154
Church Running Expenses (Inc. Governance)	£ 38,075	£ 616	£	38,691
Church Utility Bills	£ 30,208	£ 350	£	30,558
Cost of Trading	£ -	£ -	£	-
Church Expenses total	£ 68,940	£ 16,463	£	85,403
Preschool Expenses	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Preschool Expenses	£ 237,943	£ -	£	237,943
Preschool Expenses total	£ 237,943	£ -	£	237,943
Major Capital Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Major Church Building Repairs	£ 7,151	£ -	£	7,151
Major Church Hall & other PCC Property Repairs	£ 2,431	£ -	£	2,431
New Building Work (All)	£ -	£ -	£	-
Major Capital Expenditure total	£ 9,582	£ -	£	9,582
Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 TOTAL	
Other	£ 29,549	£ -	£	29,549
Other total	£ 29,549	£ -	£	29,549
PAYMENTS TOTAL	£ 415,788	£ 80,813	£	496,601

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1170687

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023**

MATTOCKS GRINDLEY

Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John and St Pauls, Widnes

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	16
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Statement of financial position	18
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Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 6HA
St Paul's Church, Victoria Square, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 7QU

The Parish of St John and St Paul is situated in Widnes. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes WA8 6HA. St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity is registered with the Charity Commission.

Registered charity name:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John and St Paul

Charity registration number: 1170687

Official contact: Reverend Gregory Sharples

PCC Membership:

From the period 01st January 2023 until date of approval for this report, the following people served as Parochial Church Council (PCC) members:

Incumbent: Reverend Gregory Sharples

Church Wardens: Miss Linda Hughes (Re-elected AGM 2021)

Miss Gwen Evans (Re-elected AGM 2021)

Secretary Mrs Felicity Price

Treasurer Mr Steve Shuttleworth

Representatives to Deanery Synod

Mr Howard Sparks (Re-elected 2023)

Mr Matt Duckett (Re-elected 2023)

Miss Linda Hughes (Elected 2023)

Elected Members: Mrs Clare Moss (Re-elected AGM 2023)

Mr Steve Shuttleworth (Re-elected AGM 2023)

Ms Sarah Beaney (Elected AGM 2023)

Mr Stephen McCann (Elected AGM 2023)

Co-Opted

Mr Adam Sowerby - Worship Director (September 2022)

Mrs Anna Vateva - Operations Manager (November 2023)

Officers:

Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Bess Smith
Child Protection Officer	Mrs Sophie Sharples
DBS Verifier	Mrs Sophie Sharples
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Felicity Price

Architect: T.B.A.

Bank: NatWest Bank, 146 Widnes Road, Widnes, WA8 6BB

Independent Examiner: Mattocks Grindley Ltd, Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue, Widnes. WA8 0WN

Day to day management control of the Church is exercised by the standing committee:

Reverend Gregory Sharples
Miss Linda Hughes
Miss Gwen Evans

STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

The PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules. It is to “cooperate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical”.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St John and St Paul. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community mainly through:

- Gathering on Sundays for real, relevant, and relatable worship celebrations
- Meeting in Connect groups during the week to encourage, learn, challenge, and support one another in our discipleship journeys and mission
- Providing opportunities to serve our community to see lives and our town enhanced and restored (Youth Groups, Tots group, Long Loaf Community lunch, Oasis Café, Crossroads Café, Connect Café, Foodbank)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In 2023 we spent **£6,199** to provide Christian Ministry across several missionary societies. Planned giving this year was **£66,411**. We continue to meet our obligations to Stipend and Quota contributions to the Diocesan Offices at St James House, Liverpool. This is known as the 'Parish Share'. We paid **£42,417** to the diocese for the year ending 31st December 2023.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The Electoral Roll as at the APCM 28/04/2024 stands at **130**. **67** are resident in the parish and **63** outside of the parish.

Average attendance at Sunday Services from January 2023 to 31 December 2023 was **149**. Broken down as **112** adults and **37** children.

Easter Sunday service **111** people joined in the service. **80** adults and **31** children up to age 16. On **Christmas eve/day** **311** people **Adults 226 and 85 Children** attended worship. **44** took communion,

There was a total of **5 funeral services** conducted with **5** being held in church and **0** at Widnes Crematorium Chapel.

There were **2 weddings**.

There were **10 baptisms** (2 children under 1yr, 8 children between 1-12yrs and 0 adults)

0 confirmed.

Across Transform Widnes there are **10** Connect Groups that meet on a weekly basis during term time.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

VICAR'S REPORT AGM 2023

As a team, we try and do all we can to live out our Church mission, vision and values. They are set out here, and we believe this is what Jesus has commissioned us into here in 21st Century Widnes:

Our Mission

'Leading people into the transforming love of Jesus'

Our Vision

To see Widnes transformed with 700 people engaging in Connect Groups with 50% of people under 25yrs old and setting up three new church communities by the end 2024.

Our Values

- Devoted to Jesus and each other
- Developing faith-stretching leaders
- Together, engaging the young
- Modelling vulnerability so everyone can grow
- Having fun reaching Widnes

Our Numbers

Transform Widnes	2022				2022 TOTALS AVERAGE	2023				2023 TOTALS AVERAGE
	2022	2022	2022	2022		2023	2023	2023	2023	
	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec		Jan-Mar	Apr-June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec	
TRANSFORM MINDS - MENTAL HEALTH							5	8	9	7
OUTREACH GROUPS	239	246	276	220	245	208	189	250	170	204
MEMBERS CONNECT GROUPS	108	126	97	75	102	89	112	109	93	101
WORSHIP IN PERSON SERVICES	144	137	135	139	139	144	151	138	165	149
TOTAL	491	509	508	434	485	441	452	496	428	454
Local Donations & Gift Aid Goals	£21,280	£21,454	£27,520	£32,762	£103,016	£40,284	£31,073	£22,286	£30,923	£124,565
Other Church Income	£9,811	£12,397	£13,084	£18,560	£53,852	£21,400	£13,458	£22,759	£21,115	£78,732
Revenue Support Grants	£17,580	£9,285	£50,425	£10,609	£87,899	£9,805	£17,881	£26,795	£19,296	£73,777
Total	£48,670	£43,136	£91,030	£61,931	£244,767	£71,488	£62,412	£71,840	£71,334	£277,074

We have seen growth across our service attendances and also our Connect Group attendances. Our community outreach numbers have dropped slightly during 2023 but are starting to recover in early 2024. Generally, across all our activity you can see that there has been ongoing growth. Whilst we take real encouragement from this, we are always seeking to reach more people for Jesus.

Signs in early 2024 have been encouraging and the Easter baptisms were a tremendous moment for the Church to celebrate the change in people that the numbers point to.

Our giving also continues to grow steadily, and this will help as our planned external grant revenue reduces.

Sundays (On Location Worship)

Our Sundays changed its pattern over the course of 2023 to:

1 st Sunday	Transform Worship
2 nd Sunday	Transform Worship
3 rd Sunday	Transform Worship
4 th Sunday	Family Sunday
5 th Sunday	Baptism Sunday

This has brought stability and balance to our Sundays.

Community Outreaches (First contact)

You can also see that our number for Community outreaches is high, averaging 204 people per week over the year. At all these events people are receiving some kind of teaching, prayer or worship. This is a drop from last year however and is reflective of a shift in personnel, where Penny’s curacy came to an end and the Intern programme was completed.

Connect groups

The planned re-launch of all Connect Groups around Easter, happened with greater clarity on the focus of 1-1’s, leadership coaching and content for the groups. Progress is stable but slower than expected – this is a key area for breakthrough in 2024. Please pray for the ongoing release of our people into their calling.

Transform Minds

During 2023, our ‘Transform Minds’ group of counsellors have been able to offer help to those in our Community who need it. Also, we have been able to offer the use of our facilities to mental health charities and counselling services, to help the people of Widnes.

2023 Reflections

Team

As a Church leadership we are excited to steward all that Jesus is doing amongst us. This has been made simpler by employing a new, half-time ops person - Anna. Anna has brought tremendous energy and professionalism to her role and as a church we all benefit.

Thanks, must be given to Tim Mason, from the Liverpool Diocese, for acting as our ‘stand in’ Operations Manager during 2023, and setting a firm foundation for Anna to build upon on his good work.

We also have been able to employ Sarah Beaney 1 day a week as the volunteer manager.

We have received a grant for £30,000 for youth work and hope to appoint to this role soon. There is a national shortage of youth workers and we really want to appoint the right person so please pray for the upcoming recruitment process.

I am so grateful for the ongoing dedication of so many volunteers who make Transform all it is. We seem to be a church where many people find a home and make a contribution.

There have been many new Christians whose stories of finding life in Christ have stirred the hearts of the church and beyond.

In short, I think it has been a year of transition for team members and consolidation in numbers. The word I have carried in a deep way is Hebrews 12:1-3:

...since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

We have a unique contribution to make to the people of Widnes and by his grace, we've been able to see him at work. This is only a glimpse of what he wants to do, so let's fix our eyes on him, throw off the brokenness and discouragements and run the race of 2024 with real expectancy.

2024 – Sabbatical/Study Leave

After 10 years in Widnes, the moment has come for me to take a sabbatical. This is planned for May 20th – Sept 2nd. During this time the team will lead the Church with ongoing oversight from Tim Montgomery as Project Director.

I am personally very grateful to our team of staff and volunteers and who have made it possible for this to happen. My focus will be the development of leaders in a setting like ours and I've got a huge backlog of reading and visits to other churches I am excited to get stuck into!

Reverend Gregory Sharples

Vicar

WARDENS ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

It has been a busy year for maintenance and upkeep of Transform Widnes church sites. We have a Building and Maintenance team in place now. The team meet weekly to discuss/resolve issues.

St Paul's have been plagued with an infestation of rats. We employed a company (Emeris) to take care of this. Rat baits have been placed in relevant areas and so far, this is working. Emeris is under contract with us until end 2024.

St Paul's garden is coming along nicely, and the hope is that we will eventually be growing produce to support Long Loaf etc.

A Silver Birch tree was removed to give space for compost and to plant new trees. We received a grant from Halton Borough Council to undertake this work.

Lads from the Unit by The Eight Towers have recently taken an interest in working on St Paul's Peace Garden and are enjoying keeping it tidy. Regretfully the garden has recently been attacked by vandals. Felicity Price has contacted our PCSO, Rachel Owen. Rachel confirmed she would patrol when next on duty and would also contact Halton Council to check if CCTV covers this area.

Big clean-up of St Paul's took place end of November. It was great to see all the volunteers working together to make our Church shiny clean for Christmas period. This is set to be an annual, if not bi-annual event.

St John's floor was professionally cleaned early January. The Kitchen in church has been modernised. There was a nagging leak in the roof which has been repaired and so far, all good.

Thanks to Building and Maintenance Team, Sarah Beaney and all volunteers who devote time and effort for the maintenance and well-being of Transform. Making happy spaces for worship.

God bless all of you.

Gwen Evans and Linda Hughes
Church Wardens

PRESCHOOL REPORT

St John's Preschool is not for profit Ofsted registered preschool (Registration no. RP520953, Setting Reference No. EY245131). The preschool is overseen by a volunteer delegated sub-committee of the PCC. The preschool is a 'pack-away setting' utilising the main hall, kitchen, office and garden in St John's Church Centre between 8.30 and 4pm on weekdays. Claire Speakman is the Preschool Manager responsible for the day-to-day operations and managing the seven preschool employees.

The preschool made a £26.9k operating loss in 2023 (and £46k less compared to 2022 - after adjustments for 2021) with an overall loss in 2023 of £25.9k. Cash reserves reduced from £82.3k to £56.8k.

The loss included planned investment from the reserves into improving the garden space following Ofsted recommendations and the redecoration of the setting, totalling £12.7k (an increased spend on repairs and maintenance of £1.6k on 2022). In addition, there was a planned reduction in the preschool intake of children, and therefore income (down £6.5k on 2022), driven mainly by the increasing numbers of children with special educational needs in 2022 and the need to reorganise staffing structures to accommodate future additional needs.

However, the biggest impact on the preschool funds has been the increase in the National Minimum Wage (92p per hour) and the subsequent relative staff wage increases, the increased employer NICs and pension costs, an increase of £34.8k on 2022. In addition, the rent contribution to Church finances towards the running of the centre (utilities, insurance, cleaning, external HR services etc) increased by £5.5k in 2023.

In 2024, the preschool is planning to break even, mainly by increasing the intake in the number of children to better match the staff:child ratios, now that a new, more resilient, staffing structure is in place. In addition, the amount of grant received per child from the Local Authority is due to increase, in recognition of rising costs plus the preschool has no further plans for investment in the setting during 2024. However, the welcomed increase of the National Minimum Wage of £1.02 per hour will prove a challenge alongside anticipated relative staff wage increases.

Clare Bedford
Preschool Chair

SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Safeguarding Concerns

The last year has been busy with several different safeguarding concerns followed up and resolved satisfactorily or referred on to other relevant authorities. In all cases advice has been sought and received from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, to whom I am very grateful.

Safer Recruitment

As new staff have been employed at Church and Pre-School they have been through the Safer Recruitment process, completing DBS and the appropriate level of Safeguarding Training.

Since the appointment of a Volunteer Manager in 2023, a firmer policy for recruitment of volunteers is now being implemented. To enable current volunteers to continue volunteering there is a period of grace whereby those who have not done the required safeguarding training will be given time to do it. Any new volunteers will need to do their training before they commence volunteering.

Records of the training will be maintained centrally by the Volunteer Manager going forward. The collation of past records and current will be quite a volume of work. I will need to know which volunteers cannot access the training online so that I can arrange an in-person session as soon as possible, provided by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Bess Smith

Parish safeguarding Officer

KIDS CHURCH/TRANSFORM TOTS/HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

What a great year we had in 2023!!

Transform Kids continues to grow and it has been wonderful to see the children deepen their friendships with each other and with Jesus.

Kids Church continues to run alongside our main service on a Sunday. At the end of 2023, we made the decision to move Kids Church from St John's to St Paul's Church Hall. It was a difficult decision as we were concerned about the limited space in the hall compared to St Johns. However, Praise the Lord it seems to be working well!! Space is still an issue, but we have been able to think creatively around this.

It has been wonderful to see new families join our church and for the children to be getting plugged into the children's work at Transform.

We ran two Family Hangouts within 2023 during the Easter and Summer Holidays. We received funding from the Holiday Activity Fund (Halton Borough Council) towards this. These are always great ways of serving the families in our community.

Transform Tots continues to thrive on a Monday morning, often getting around 45 children, plus their parents every week. We continue to have great feedback from the parents and various organisations who drop in to see us.

We have a wonderful group of volunteers who help with Tots and Kids Church, who serve faithfully week in week out. It has been so great seeing the team grow in confidence, taking on more responsibility and leadership roles, running groups etc this has been a huge help to me as the Kids and Family Worker, especially as our children's ministry continues to grow.

I am so grateful to God for all His continued faithfulness within our Kids work.

Please continue to pray for the children in our church, that they will discover more about God's incredible love for them and that the seeds that are being sewn, will grow in their little hearts and bear great fruit.

Sophie Sharples

Kids and Family Worker

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2023

Reverend Peter W Dawkin is the new Area Dean as Reverend Roland Harvey has now moved to Wigan.

During the year and due to the Deanery Synod not having a Secretary, we have missed a couple of meetings. One of which was held at the same time the Synod Rep's were having a meeting for 'Fit for Mission' at Reverend Penny Stradling's home.

Recommendation for the Deanery Clergy Distribution

Part One St Luke's & Cronton Mission

St Luke's & Cronton mission has already been accepted, Cronton and St Luke's had a prior meeting before the fit for mission was put on hold:

Part Two – South Widnes & East Widnes

Widnes South – One Benefice of Widnes South.

Suspend presentation and appoint an interim Priest-in-charge for a period of two years. This is to help St Mary's Church, West Bank, to discern the future of the ministry in that parish. Including, resolving the future of the church building and to lead St Mary's Church, Hale, in continuing to develop mission in the parish.

Benefice of Widnes East – To appoint the Area Dean as interim Priest-in-charge of St Ambrose Church, Widnes for a period of two years to ensure continuity of ministry.

FIT FOR MISSION

Fit for Mission has been put on hold until the Deanery fill the clergy vacant posts for St Luke's Church and St Ambrose Church.

TARGETS FOR IMPROVING THE DEANERY SYNOD

1. Look to compile church reports.
2. Share resources, ideas and practical stuff.
3. Explore how to create opportunities to connect communities e.g. Flower Pot, Christingle, Bands, Choirs etc.
4. Create a Deanery Facebook page.

Howard Sparks

Deanery Synod Rep

VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank all the volunteers and staff who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is.

We would like to formally thank all of the organisations that have supported us during 2023.

TREASURER'S REPORT - 2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

General Comment

The published set of accounts for 2023, as approved by our Independent Examiner, Mattocks Grindley Ltd, are included at the very end of the APCM report (pages 17-25), and include all financial activities, for the Church and St John's Preschool as a combined charity.

Apart from referencing to the total St Johns Preschool Income and Expenditure for 2023, this 'Treasurers Report' section only contains details relating to the pure 'Church Activities', i.e. it excludes any detailed analysis of the St Johns Preschool. Comments referring the St Johns Preschool financial accounts for 2023 can be found on page 8 of the APCM report, in the section headed 'Preschool Report'.

INCOME 2023

See page 21 and the appropriate note reference, that will correspond to the comments below.

REF COMMENT

- I1 Gift Aided Giving & Donations** in 2023 amounted to £80,632 compared to £54,386 in 2022, an increase of £26,246 (48%) The total is broken down into £55,074 planned giving, £2,825 one off gifts and £22,733 gift aid recovered.
- I2 Other Income** in 2023 totalled £76,298. Most of this is made up from Premises Hire income of £69,470 and a Diocesan Curate Housing Grant of £6,1505.
- I3 Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations** in 2023 came to £17,524 compared to £22,382 in 2022 a reduction of 22%. Split as follows:

Category Group	Category	Fund
Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	One Off Gifts	General
Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	Planned Giving	General
TRANSFORM MINDSCNon-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	FUNDRAISING EVENTS	Transform Minds
TRANSFORM MINDSCNon-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	One Off Gifts	Transform Minds
TRANSFORM MINDSCNon-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	Planned Giving	Transform Minds

- I4 Grant Income.** In 2023 we received grants of £64,018 split as follows:

Category Group	Fund	Actual Income
Donations from Organisations	General	£750.00
Grants	TNW SDF	£12,067.59
Grant	Liverpool One Community Fund	£15,000.00
TRANSFORM MINDS Donations from Organisations	Transform Minds	£11,000.00
HBC Greener Spaces Project	St Paul's Gardens	£2,000.00
Donations From Organisations	Misc Restricted Funds & Projects	£4,000.00
JMF Grant	JMF Grant	£5,000.00
Henry Smith Grant	Henry Smith Grant	£14,200.00

- I5 Service collections** – 'Open plate' collections in 2023 amounted to £8,964 compared to £6,715 in 2022. An increase of £2,249, an increase of 33%

- I6 St John Kitchen refurb.** We allocated £2,500 of designated funds along with a further £1,602 of Youth funding which was earmarked for youth club kitchen equipment to create an £8,000 budget for updating the kitchen area in St Johns church.
- I7 St Pauls Building Fund** – some gifts are still being given to this fund in readiness for major repairs to the church tower within the next few years.
- I8 Activities** - These are made up from donations made at the community outreach groups such as Connect Café, Crossroads Cafe Tots, Youth by the Park and Funeral & Wedding fees. The total of £5,635 is £805 down on the 2022 figure of £6,440. The breakdown is as follows:

Category Group	Category	Fund	Actual Income
Activities	Connect Cafe	General	£707.94
Activities	Crossroads Cafe	General	£55.12
Activities	Event Ticket Sales from ChurchSuite	General	£329.00
Activities	Occasional Offices	General	£2,401.00
Activities	Transform Tots	General	£2,142.12

- I9 People In Need** – Is a restricted fund that consists of donations given (£3,360) to help people who are struggling financially. So far, in 2023 most of the donations have been given for the benefit of specified individuals named by the anonymous donors.
- I10 Preschool Income** - The total Preschool Income for 2023 was £196,333 (see page 25 for full breakdown)

EXPENDITURE 2023

- E1 1.6 Staff Costs** - Our largest piece of Church Expenditure in 2023 was for staff costs. These amounted to £118,777 compared to £89,272 in 2022. The increase compared to 2022 is made up of a 'one-off' fee for specialist counselling fees as part of Transform Minds for £4,377, along with the increase in minimum wage in 2023 effecting two staff. Also we had the salary for the last two months off the year for the newly appointed Operations Manager. The full breakdown of staff costs is as follows:

STAFF EXPENDITURE	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	Grand Total
Counselling Fees		£4,337	£4,337
Expenses - Meetings	£132		£132
Expenses - Pastoral	£183		£183
Expenses - Travel	£127		£127
HMRC NIC & PAYE	£23,830	£8,634	£32,463
Housing	£8,961	£3,348	£12,309
HR Support	£2,376		£2,376
NIC & PAYE		£141	£141
Payroll Fees	£540		£540
Pension	£3,363	£5,787	£9,150
Salaries & Wages	£15,575	£39,808	£55,383
Training	£312	£1,323	£1,635
Grand Total	£55,399	£63,378	£118,777

The staff costs are met in two ways. The first is from unrestricted general funds totalling £55,399 and the second is from restricted funds, totalling, £63,378 made up of grants we have received from various organisations including the Church Commissioners.

Please note that any Vicars/Curate salaries & pension are paid by the Diocese and not by the church. Our Parish Share payments help with Vicar and Curate costs.

E2 1.4 Building – Our next largest expense in 2023 was the money spent on our church premises, We spent £104,117 compared to £95,007 in 2022, an increase of nearly 10%. The main reason was course was the increase of 30% in Utility costs for 2023 due to price cap rises. The breakdown of building expenditure is as follows:

Sum of Actual Expenditure Row Labels	Grand Total
Church Utilities	£33,703
St Paul's Internal Reorder	£11,630
St Pauls Meeting Room (Vestry)	£10,840
Church Maintenance & Upkeep	£9,449
St Johns Church Kitchen (Vestry) Refurb Expenditure	£8,000
Insurance	£7,304
Church Major Works	£6,738
St John's Hall Central Heating	£6,000
Hall Major Works	£4,015
Hall Maintenance & Upkeep	£2,289
Cleaning Contractor	£2,019
Cleaning Materials	£1,487
Church & Hall Utilities	£653
Hall Utilities	-£11
Grand Total	£104,117

E3 1.5 Diocesan Fees – Once again we are pleased to report that we have met our 'Parish Share' payments to the Diocese in full in 2023. The Parish Share amounts to £40,112. Our total Diocesan Fees for 2023 were £42,217, slightly down on 2022.

E4 2.4 Mission Giving – We target to give away 10% of our unrestricted regular giving (See 2023 Parish Return Page 24 - Regular Giving Total of £66,410) This should have amounted to £6,641, being given to Mission & Charity work at home and abroad. The total of £6,199 is £442 short which we will rectify in 2024. The breakdown of our Mission Giving was as follows:

£600 Local – **Widnes Foodbank**

£2,731 National - **Reach Merseyside** = £2,532, **Children's Society** £124.48, **Macmillan Cancer** £74.25

£2,868 International – **CMS** - £2,532, **Compassion UK** £336,

E5 Children & Youth Work - £8,670, broken down as follows: Tots £890, Kids £4,480, Youth £3,300

E6 Long Loaf - £5,158 cost of food & equipment purchased from FareShare/Shop. Includes £1,494 spent on a new oven.

E7 Hospitality – Church Services and events £1,669 in 2023, compared to £2,262 in 2022

E8 Preschool Expenditure - The total Preschool Expenditure for 2023 was £222,202 (see page 25 for full breakdown)

Risk Assessments, Controls and Procedures

The PCC operates under a mature system of controls and procedures develop over many years of operation, and the PCC monitors finance and operational issues routinely as part of its regular PCC meetings.

Financial Risk

The PCC receives routine updates on the cash balance of all funds at every PCC meeting, and a full report as part of the annual accounts and APCM.

Urgent and in-budget expenditure is discussed and agreed by the Standing Committee, whilst non-urgent and out of budget expenditure is agreed by the PCC. Collections are always counted by two people; all payments are authorised by two people via Expense Plus. Banking of Income is ordinarily managed by the Churchwardens.

The Church holds Ecclesiastical general insurance to cover its key liabilities and risks.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to endeavour to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to around three months of church workers' salaries, £20,259.

It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

The PCC is aware that major repairs to the church tower are required and that the main church roof will need replacing in the next 5-10 years and we will aim to agree and set a regular amount to save towards the costs going forward.

CONCLUSIONS

In 2023, for the first time that I can remember, as a PCC we managed to produce a budget for the financial year. Excluding the St Johns Preschool accounts, for the 2023 year we budgeted for a **deficit of £53,053**. This was based on an Income budget of £246,194 and an Expenditure Budget of £299,247.

Our Actual totals for 2023 were as follows:

Actual 2023 Income = £277,470. Actual 2023 Expenditure = £302,272 An Actual deficit of **£24,802**. In 2022 the deficit was £26,721.56, so a slight improvement.

Although this result was much better than anticipated, we still need to reverse this trend of our expenditure being greater than our income.

Our unrestricted (General) funds expenditure exceed our unrestricted (General) funds income by £2,997. Our restricted funds expenditure exceeded our restricted funds income by £21,806.

We still rely heavily on grant funding to resource our staff and volunteers involved in providing much of our excellent missional work, and a number of these grants come to an end in 2024, which will put added pressure onto our finances.

On the whole, in 2023 our giving income has been very good. Our total giving + gift aid (excluding grants) for grew from £101,050 in 2022, to £124,508 (23%) in 2023.

The Parish Giving Scheme continues to be a blessing in helping us to budget better and the amount given by this method has also grown in 2023 by £2,492 to £86,849. PGS accounts for nearly 70% of our voluntary giving.

Steve Shuttleworth

Treasurer St John & St Paul Widnes (Transform Widnes)

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 17 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The churches PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The churches PCC considers that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The 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 Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 next statement.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and

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

Mr G Mattocks
FCA
Mattocks Grindley
18 Mulberry Avenue
Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0WN



G Mattocks

24/4/24

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2023	2,022
Donations & Legacies	£ 117,785	£ 77,746	£ -	£ 195,531	£ 128,969
Charitable Activities	£ 72,399	£ 808	£ -	£ 73,207	£ 46,212
Investments	£ 298	£ 270	£ -	£ 568	£ 42
Trading Activities	£ 164	£ -	£ -	£ 164	£ -
Other	£ -	£ 8,000	£ -	£ 8,000	£ 69,397
Preschool Income	£ 196,333			£ 196,333	£ 213,586
Total incoming resources	£ 386,979	£ 86,824	£ -	£ 473,803	£ 458,207
Resources Used					
Charitable Activities	£ 193,643	£ 108,630	£ -	£ 302,273	£ 255,469
Raising Funds	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Other Activities	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 15,473
Support	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Preschool Resources Used	£ 222,202			£ 222,202	£ 167,612
Total resources used	£ 415,845	£ 108,630	£ -	£ 524,475	£ 438,554
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before transfers)	£ (28,866)	£ (21,806)	£ -	£ (50,672)	£ 19,652
Fund Transfers In	£ -	£ 1,000	£ -	£ 1,000	£ 1,895
Fund Transfers Out	£ 1,000	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000	£ 1,895
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before gains/losses)	£ (29,866)	£ (20,806)	£ -	£ (50,672)	£ 19,652
Investment Gains (or Losses)	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before Asset Revaluation)	£ (29,866)	£ (20,806)	£ -	£ (50,672)	£ 19,652
Asset Revaluation	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Movement of Funds	£ (29,866)	£ (20,806)	£ -	£ (50,672)	£ 19,652
Total Funds Brought Forward	£ 173,085	£ 114,769	£ -	£ 287,854	£ 268,202
Total Funds Carried Forward	£ 143,219	£ 93,963	£ -	£ 237,182	£ 287,854

Represented By	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2023	2,022
General (Unrestricted)	£ 72,466	£ -	£ -	£ 72,467	£ 68,370
St Paul's Building Fund (Restricted)	£ -	£ 27,079	£ -	£ 27,078	£ 32,373
TNW SDF (Restricted)	£ -	£ 2,604	£ -	£ 2,604	£ 19
Transform Tots (Restricted)	£ -	£ 1,694	£ -	£ 1,694	£ 2,119
Kids & Youth (Restricted)	£ -	£ 7,391	£ -	£ 7,391	£ 14,409
Youth by the Park (Restricted)	£ -	£ 2,494	£ -	£ 2,494	£ 5,023
Liverpool One Community Fund (Restricted)	£ -	£ 15,017	£ -	£ 15,017	£ -
Long Loaf (incl Christmas Meal) (Restricted)	£ -	£ 4,196	£ -	£ 4,196	£ 5,415
Transform Minds (Restricted)	£ -	£ 8,793	£ -	£ 8,793	£ 12,375
People In Need (Designated)	£ 1,080	£ -	£ -	£ 1,080	£ 559
St Paul's Gardens (Restricted)	£ -	£ 4,966	£ -	£ 4,966	£ 87
Designated Funds (Designated)	£ 339	£ -	£ -	£ 339	£ 8,839
Misc Restricted Funds & Projects (Restricted)	£ -	£ 6,318	£ -	£ 6,318	£ 2,678
Holiday Activity Fund HBC (Restricted)	£ -	£ 1,516	£ -	£ 1,516	£ 321
JMF Grant (Restricted)	£ -	£ 3,107	£ -	£ 3,107	£ 2,097
Pre School	£ 69,334			£ 69,334	£ 95,320
Henry Smith Grant (Restricted)	£ -	£ 8,788	£ -	£ 8,788	£ 37,851
TOTAL FUNDS	£ 143,219	£ 93,963	£ -	£ 237,182	£ 287,854

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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BALANCE SHEET BY FUND	NOTES	Total 2023	Prior Year 2022
Current Assets			
Cash		£ 112,258.00	£ 133,365.00
Accounts Receivable		£ 690.00	£ 861.00
Pre school accounts receivable		£ 10,025.00	£ 8,981.00
Prepayments		£-	£-
Pre School Bank/Cash		£ 57,098.00	£ 82,545.00
Current Assets Total		£ 180,071.00	£ 225,752.00
Non-Current Assets			
Fixed Assets		£ 59,873.00	£ 63,261.00
Pre School Fixed Assets		£ 3,853.00	£ 7,376.00
Investments		£-	£-
Non-Current Assets Total		£ 63,726.00	£ 70,637.00
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		£ 1,927.00	£ 4,952.00
Deferred Income		£-	£-
Pre School Liabilities		£ 4,688.00	£ 3,583.00
Current Liabilities Total		£ 6,615.00	£ 8,535.00
Non-Current Liabilities			
Long Term Loan / Mortgage		£-	£-
Non-Current Liabilities Total			
Total Net Assets (Assets Minus Liabilities)		£ 237,182.00	£ 287,854.00

Represented By	NOTES	2,023	2,022
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General (Unrestricted)		£72,466	£68,367
People In Need (Designated)		£1,080	£559
Designated Funds (Designated)		£339	£8,839
Pre School Unrestricted		£69,334	£95,320
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS TOTAL		£143,219	£173,085
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
St Paul's Building Fund (Restricted)		£27,079	£32,375
TNW SDF (Restricted)		£2,604	£19
Transform Tots (Restricted)		£1,694	£2,119
Kids & Youth (Restricted)		£7,391	£14,409
Youth by the Park (Restricted)		£2,494	£5,023
Liverpool One Community Fund (Restricted)		£15,017	£-
Long Loaf (incl Christmas Meal) (Restricted)		£4,196	£5,415
Transform Minds (Restricted)		£8,793	£12,375
St Paul's Gardens (Restricted)		£4,966	£87
Misc Restricted Funds & Projects (Restricted)		£6,318	£2,678
Holiday Activity Fund HBC (Restricted)		£1,516	£321
JMF Grant (Restricted)		£3,107	£2,097
Henry Smith Grant (Restricted)		£8,788	£37,851
Pre School Restricted		£0	£0
RESTRICTED FUNDS TOTAL		£93,963	£114,769
FUNDS TOTAL		£237,182	£287,854

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by:



Miss G Evans (Trustee)



Miss L Hughes (Trustee)

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

Endowment Funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained. *Restricted Funds* are funds which may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. *Unrestricted Funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. *Funds designated* for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Bookstall income is in the basis of commission received as the stock is on a sale or received basis.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

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

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

Resources expended

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish quota is accounted for when paid. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for

Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £1,000, or on

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years and on a 15%

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less

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

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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INCOME 2023	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL 2023	NOTES
Gift Aided Giving & Donations	£ 80,632		£ 80,632	I1
Other Income	£ 76,281	£ 17	£ 76,298	I2
Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	£ 17,524		£ 17,524	I3
Grant		£ 15,000	£ 15,000	I4
Henry Smith Grant		£ 14,200	£ 14,200	I4
Grants		£ 12,068	£ 12,068	I4
TRANSFORM MINDS Donations from Organisations		£ 11,000	£ 11,000	I4
Service Collections	£ 8,964		£ 8,964	I5
St Johns Church Kitchen (Vestry) Refurb		£ 8,000	£ 8,000	I6
St Pauls Building Fund		£ 6,333	£ 6,333	I7
Activities	£ 5,635		£ 5,635	I8
JMF Grant		£ 5,000	£ 5,000	I4
Donations from Organisations	£ 750	£ 4,000	£ 4,750	I4
Income	£ 3,360		£ 3,360	I9
Long Loaf Income		£ 2,644	£ 2,644	
Kids & Youth Income		£ 2,338	£ 2,338	
St Paul's Gardens Income		£ 2,044	£ 2,044	
HBC Greener Spaces Project		£ 2,000	£ 2,000	I4
Long Loaf Christmas Meal Income		£ 1,296	£ 1,296	
TRANSFORM MINDS Gift Aided Giving & Donations		£ 1,181	£ 1,181	
St John & St Pauls Loop System		£ 688	£ 688	
Transform Tots Income		£ 465	£ 465	
TRANSFORM MINDS Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations		£ 152	£ 152	
Youth by the Park Income		£ (1,602)	£ (1,602)	I6
St Johns Church Kitchen (Vestry) Refurb Transfers	£ (2,500)		£ (2,500)	I6
Preschool Income	£ 196,333		£ 196,333	I10
TOTAL INCOME	£ 386,979	£ 86,824	£ 473,803	

EXPENDITURE 2023	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL 2023	NOTES
1.1 Admin	£3,670		£3,670	
1.1 Admin Stationary		£17	£17	
1.10 Occasional Offices	£661		£661	
1.2 Comms	£1,215		£1,215	
1.4 Building	£72,993	£31,124	£104,117	E2
1.5 Diocesan Fees	£42,217		£42,217	E3
1.6 Staffing	£55,399	£63,378	£118,777	E1
1.7 Finance	£1,777		£1,777	
1.8 I.T.	£2,468	£65	£2,533	
1.9 Production & Media	£26		£26	
2.1 Worship Gatherings	£928		£928	
2.2 Prayer Events	£190		£190	
2.4 Worship Team	£33		£33	
2.5 Festivals	£135		£135	
2.6 Hospitality	£1,617	£53	£1,670	E7
2.7 Teams	£599		£599	
3.1 Connect Groups	£195		£195	
3.2 Leadership Training & Development	£301		£301	
3.3 Discipleship Courses	£61		£61	
4.1 Long Loaf		£5,158	£5,158	E6
4.2 Connect & Oasis Cafe	£87		£87	
4.3 St Paul's Gardens		£165	£165	
4.5 Outreach Courses	£33		£33	
4.6 Mission Giving	£6,199		£6,199	E4
4.7 People In Need	£2,839		£2,839	
5.1 Tots		£890	£890	E5
5.2 Kids		£4,480	£4,480	E5
5.3 Youth		£3,300	£3,300	E5
Preschool Expenditure	£222,202		£222,202	E8
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£415,845	£108,630	£524,475	

INCOME TOTAL LESS EXPENDITURE TOTAL	£ (28,866)	£ (21,806)	£ (50,672)	
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**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

4 STAFF COSTS	2023		2022	
	£		£	
Wages and Salaries	61,009		41,408	
Social Security Costs (NIC)	2,501		1,489	
Pension Costs	7,200		3,941	
			0	
	<u>70,710</u>		<u>46,838</u>	
5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC				
	Freehold Land & Buildings	Fixtures and Fittings	Equipment	Total
5(a) <i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	£	£	£	£
GROSS BOOK VALUE				
At 1 January 2023	122,735	13,747	30,209	166,691
Additions		0	875	875
Disposals		0		0
At 31 December 2023	<u>122,735</u>	<u>13,747</u>	<u>31,084</u>	<u>167,566</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2023	61,243	12,762	22,049	96,054
Charge for the year	2,455	148	5,183	7,786
Depreciation on disposals				0
At 31 December 2023	<u>63,698</u>	<u>12,910</u>	<u>27,232</u>	<u>103,840</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2023	<u>59,037</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>3,852</u>	<u>63,726</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>61,492</u>	<u>985</u>	<u>8,160</u>	<u>70,637</u>
5(b) <i>Investments</i>	2023		2022	
	£		£	
Samuel Kidd Legacy & Diocesan Repair Fund				
Historical Cost	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
Market Value	<u>0</u>		<u>625</u>	

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

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6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND				
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	63,726	0	0	63,726
Current Assets	86,108	93,963		180,071
Current Liabilities	-6,615	0		-6,615
Fund balance	<u>143,219</u>	<u>93,963</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>237,182</u>
7 DEBTORS				
		2023		2022
		£		£
Income Tax Recoverable re Gift Aid		0		0
Trade debtors		10,715		9,842
Other Debtors - TNW Youth Worker grant		0		0
		<u>10,715</u>		<u>9,842</u>
8 LIABILITIES: amounts falling due within one year				
		2023		2022
		£		£
Trade creditors		1,927		0
Accruals				400
Pre school liabilities		4,688		4,724
		<u>6,615</u>		<u>5,124</u>
9 FUND DETAILS				
Restricted Funds are shown at note 11.				
Other funds held are unrestricted but designated as shown below or general funds.				
10 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
		2023		2022
		£		£
The closing balance of Unrestricted Funds comprised the followi				
General Fund		141,800		163,687
St Paul's Building Fund	Designated	0		0
Womens Fellowship	Designated	0		515
Designated funds		339		8,324
People in need		1,080		559
		<u>143,219</u>		<u>173,085</u>
11 RESTRICTED FUNDS				
		2023		2022
		£		£
The closing balance of Restricted Funds comprised the following				
Hall Fund				0
Food Hub grant				0
Tots Grant		1,694		2,119
Youth grant		7,391		14,409
Church floor/vestry grant (held in SPBF)				0
Long Loaf grant		4,196		5,415
Connect Café grant				0
Kitchen grant				0
Youth work & School Dinners grant				0
Christmas Dinner				0
St Pauls Building Fund		27,079		32,373
JMF Grant		3,107		2,097
TNW SDF		2,604		19
All Churches Beyond Hope grant		0		0
Youth by the Park		2,494		5,023
St Pauls gardens		4,966		87
Misc restricted funds		6,318		2,680
Henry Smith Grant		8,788		37,851
Liverpool One community fund		15,017		0
Holiday activity fund		1,516		321
Transform Minds		8,793		12,375
		<u>93,963</u>		<u>114,769</u>
12 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS				
13 Related Parties				
The members of the PCC in 2023 did not receive any payments from the church.				

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN ST PAUL WIDNES
PARISH RETURN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

INCOMING RESOURCES			
Voluntary Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 TOTAL
Regular Giving	£ 66,408	£ 2	£ 66,410
Collections at Services	£ 6,058	£ -	£ 6,058
All Other Giving (inc. special appeals)	£ 13,108	£ 6,660	£ 19,768
Gift Aid Recovered	£ 25,640	£ 6,632	£ 32,272
Legacies (capital value)	£ -	£ -	£ -
Grants (recurring and one-off)	£ 6,900	£ 72,381	£ 79,281
Preschool Vountary Income	£ 196,333		£ 196,333
Voluntary Income total	£ 314,447	£ 85,675	£ 400,122
Fundraising Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 TOTAL
Fundraising Income	£ -	£ 71	£ 71
Preschool Fundraising Income			
Fundraising Activities total	£ -	£ 71	£ 71
Investments Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 TOTAL
Investment Income (Interest, Property Income etc.)	£ 298	£ 270	£ 568
Statutory Fees Retained by the PCC (weddings etc.)	£ 2,401	£ -	£ 2,401
Income from Trading (Not Fundraising)	£ 69,833	£ 808	£ 70,641
Preschool Investment Income			
Investments Income total	£ 72,532	£ 1,078	£ 73,610
Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 TOTAL
Other	£ -	£ -	£ -
Preschool Other			
Other total	£ -	£ -	£ -
INCOMING RESOURCES TOTAL	£ 386,979	£ 86,824	£ 473,803

EXPENDED RESOURCES			
Fundraising Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 TOTAL
Fundraising Costs	£ 337	£ -	£ 337
Fundraising Activities total	£ 337	£ -	£ 337
Church Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	
Mission Giving & Donations	£ 6,199	£ -	£ 6,199
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	£ 42,217	£ -	£ 42,217
Salaries, Wages & Honoraria	£ 43,429	£ 54,369	£ 97,798
Clergy & Staff Expenses	£ 9,715	£ 4,671	£ 14,386
Church Activities total	£ 101,560	£ 59,040	£ 160,600
Church Expenses	Unrestricted	Restricted	
Church Mission & Evangelism Expenses	£ 3,517	£ 13,994	£ 17,511
Church Running Expenses (inc. Governance)	£ 37,784	£ 4,472	£ 42,256
Church Utility Bills	£ 33,692	£ 653	£ 34,345
Cost of Trading	£ -	£ -	£ -
Church Expenses total	£ 74,993	£ 19,119	£ 94,112
Preschool Expenses	Unrestricted	Restricted	
Preschool Expenses	£ 222,202		£ 222,202
Preschool Expenses total	£ 222,202	£ -	£ 222,202
Major Capital Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	
Major Church Building Repairs	£ 12,738	£ 22,471	£ 35,209
Major Church Hall & other PCC Property Repairs	£ 4,015	£ 8,000	£ 12,015
New Building Work (All)	£ -	£ -	£ -
Major Capital Expenditure total	£ 16,753	£ 30,471	£ 47,224
Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	
Other	£ -	£ -	£ -
Other total	£ -	£ -	£ -
PAYMENTS TOTAL	£ 415,845	£ 108,630	£ 524,475

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1170687

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2022**

MATTOCKS GRINDLEY
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John and St Pauls, Widnes

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2022

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Trustees' annual report	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	15
Statement of financial activities	16
Statement of financial position	17
Notes to the financial statements	18

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 6HA
St Paul's Church, Victoria Square, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 7QU

The Parish of St John and St Paul is situated in Widnes. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes WA8 6HA. St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity is registered with the Charity Commission.

Registered charity name:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John and St Paul

Charity registration number: 1170687

Official contact: Reverend Gregory Sharples

Membership

From the period 01st January 2022 until date of approval for this report, the following people served as Parochial Church Council (PCC) members:

Incumbent: Reverend Gregory Sharples

Church Wardens: Miss Linda Hughes (Re-elected AGM 2022)
Miss Gwen Evans (Re-elected AGM 2022)

Secretary Mrs Felicity Price

Treasurer Mrs Lisa Esposito
Vacant April 2022

Representatives to Deanery Synod

Howard Sparks (re-elected 2022)
Matt Duckett (Elected 2022)

Elected Members:

Mr Steve Shuttleworth (Re-elected AGM 2022)
Mrs Clare Moss (AGM 2022)
Rev Penny Stradling (AGM 2022)

Co-Opted: Mr Adam Sowerby (September 2022)

The PCC met 5 times during the year with an attendance rate of 7.

Other Church Officers:

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Child Protection Officer

DBS Verifier

Electoral Roll Officer

Mrs Bess Smith

Mrs Sophie Sharples

Mrs Sophie Sharples

Mrs Felicity Price

Bankers:

NatWest 146 Widnes Road, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 6BB
Lloyds Bank, 23-24 Albert Road, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 6JW.

Independent Examiner:

Mattocks Grindley Ltd
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Widnes
WA8 0WN

Diocesan Appointed Architect:

Robin Wolley Chartered Architect
St Andrews Business Centre
Queen's Lane
Bromfield Industrial Estate
Mold
CH7 1H

Day to day management control of the Church is exercised by the standing committee:

Reverend Gregory Sharples
Miss Linda Hughes
Miss Gwen Evans

Structure, Management & Governance

The PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules. It is to "cooperate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical".

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St John and St Paul. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community mainly through:

- Gathering on Sundays for real, relevant, and relatable worship celebrations
- Meeting in Connect groups during the week to encourage, learn, challenge, and support one another in our discipleship journeys and mission
- Providing opportunities to serve our community to see lives and our town enhanced and restored (Youth Groups, Tots group, Long Loaf Community lunch, Oasis Café, Connect Café, Foodbank)

Achievements and Performance

In 2022 we spent £5,011 to provide Christian Ministry across several missionary societies. Planned giving this year was £60,544. We continue to meet our obligations to Stipend and Quota

contributions to the Diocesan Offices at St James House, Liverpool. This is known as the 'Parish Share'. We paid £44,214 to the diocese for the year ending 31st December 2022.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The Electoral Roll as at the APCM 2023 stands at 125. 64 are resident and 61 outside of the parish.

Average attendance at Sunday Services from January 2022 to 31 December 2022 as 139. Broken down as 111 adults and 28 children.

Easter Sunday services 114 people joined in the service. 84 Adults and 30 children. On Christmas eve/day 235 people Adults 157, 78 Children attended worship. 48 took communion.

There was a total of 10 funeral services conducted with 9 being held in church and 1 at Widnes Crematorium Chapel.

There were 0 weddings

There were 10 baptisms (1 child under 1yr, 6 children between 1-12yrs and 4 adults) 0 confirmed.

Across Transform Widnes during 2022 we had 9 Connect Groups that met on a weekly basis during term time. The Connect Group numbers have reduced however due to a number of changes coming out of COVID-19 we are looking forward to re-launching all Connect Groups on 09 May 2023.

Also, across Transform Widnes during 2022 we have 7 Community Outreaches that meet on a weekly basis during term time.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

Vicar's Report 2022 - AGM 2023

The core team continues to lead the Church in our mission, vision and values. We believe this is what Jesus would say to us if he was going to give us the great commandments and great commission in 21st century Widnes:

Our Mission

'Leading people into the transforming love of Jesus'

Our Vision

To see Widnes transformed with 700 people engaging in Connect Groups with 50% of people under 25yrs old and setting up three new church communities by the end 2024.

Our Values

- Devoted to Jesus and each other
- Developing faith-stretching leaders
- Together, engaging the young

- Modelling vulnerability so everyone can grow
- Having fun reaching Widnes

Our Numbers:

	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022 AVERAGE
	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec	
Membership Adults (+Young Adults 17-25)	67	79	166	143	114
Membership Youth & Children	34	36	38	34	36
Total Membership	101	115	204	177	149
Worship On-Location Attendance Adults (inc Young Adults)	113	110	114	105	111
Worship On-Location Attendance Youth & Children	31	26	21	34	28
Total On-Location Attendance	144	137	135	139	139
Adults in Connect Groups (>25)	67	76	52	38	58
Young Adults in Connect Groups (17-25)	1	3	2	2	2
Youth & Children in Connect Groups	40	47	43	35	41
Total People in Connect Groups	108	126	97	75	102
Local Donations & Gift Aid Goals	£21,280	£21,454	£27,520	£32,762	£103,016
Other Church Income	£9,811	£12,397	£13,084	£18,560	£53,852
Revenue Support Grants	£17,580	£9,285	£50,425	£10,609	£87,899
Total	£48,670	£43,136	£91,030	£61,931	£244,767
Connect Group & Community Outreach Leaders	9	14	14	8	11
Connect Group & Community Outreach Apprentices	8	20	16	11	14
First Contact Goals Adults (>30) OUTREACH	138	136	164	139	144
First Contact Young People (<30) OUTREACH	101	110	112	81	101
OUTREACH	239	246	276	220	245
MEMBERS	108	126	97	75	102
MEMBERS + OUTREACH	347	372	373	295	347

Sundays (On Location Worship)

Our Sundays for 2022 continued in the established pattern:

1 st Sunday	Dual Site
2 nd Sunday	Family Sunday
3 rd Sunday	Dual Site
4 th Sunday	Community
5 th Sunday	Baptism Sunday

This pattern had been produced as a strategic plan to make the best of our resources. Since then we have made some outstanding appointments to the core team which means we can now deliver a pattern of Sundays which retains the same ingredients as above, but which help us gather momentum in our culture of worship and teaching. This new pattern starts in January 2023:

1 st Sunday	Dual Site
2 nd Sunday	Dual Site
3 rd Sunday	Dual Site
4 th Sunday	Family Sunday
5 th Sunday	Baptism Sunday
Special Events	ADHOC Community Sundays e.g. Kings Coronation

Community Outreaches (First contact)

You can also see that our number for Community outreach are really high, averaging 245 people per week over the year. At all these events people are receiving some kind of teaching, prayer or worship.

Connect groups

What has been more of a challenge this year has been the development of Connect groups that are really forming people in the ways of Jesus. Numbers have dropped off over the year which provides a great opportunity to re-think their focus and purpose.

We are planning a re-launch of all Connect Groups around Easter 23, with greater clarity on the focus of 1-1's, leadership coaching and content for the groups.

2022 – Experiments and Experience

As I reflect on 2022, I believe the Lord has done some amazing work in us as a Church. We've embraced challenges like a Sunday service over two sites or regular community fun days. We've tried a few things particularly in our connect groups that didn't quite hit the mark but allowed for great learning.

As TW we have emerged from 2022 with some clear successes – giving going over £100,000 for the first time, growing great connections with wider community – evidenced through our Community Outreaches and appointing local leaders through our intern program.

The fruit of these experiences is that we have a clear idea about who we are and what we do.

Team

We have made five appointments over the year. Sophie Sharples has brought fantastic pastoral maturity to her role as the Children and Families Worker. Adam Sowerby has brought outstanding positivity and pragmatism to the Worship and creative Director role. Kitti Toth, Reka Hadi and Sharon Roberts have excelled as interns – taking significant responsibility in new personal project as well as sharing the pioneering of a new year 6 youth group.

Tim Mason has been loaned to us by the diocese as an interim Ops and Change manager. This has brought welcome relief for Steve Shuttleworth who has been carrying an extraordinarily high load despite being retired. His commitment to the cause continues to inspire us all.

Felicity Price continues to manage the site bookings with aplomb and roles with the changes in an unflappable way. Linda Hughes remind me of the KGB. She isn't everywhere but you believe she is. Unlike the KGB though she does the hard labour instead of sentencing others to it.

There have been some challenges for the team too. Clare Bedford resigned from her volunteer role on the core team and we really miss her incredible brain, wit and Godly insights – as well as her contribution to the whole running of the Church. Clare now works for the Diocese as a project manager and they pay her actual money. Penny has returned from adoption leave and delivered her customary “money out of thin air” routine. Drawing In funding for Transform minds - which will launch in 2023. The year for Penny has been profoundly challenging because of the joys of motherhood and the loss of her sister Ruth.

None of this has been easy and it has been a source of pride for me, to see the way the team has rallied around throughout the trials that have come our way.

2023 – Fit for Mission

2023 will be dominated by the diocesan implementation of its mission plan fit for mission. This has enormous potential for us as a deanery and look forward to TW contributing to it over the coming months. Fit for mission I believe is absolutely tapping into the heartfelt cry of Jesus. Matt 9 comes to mind:

35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

So, we pray, Lord send out workers here in Widnes, so we can lead many into your transforming love.

Reverend Gregory Sharples

Vicar of Transform Widnes in the Parish of St John and St Paul

Church Warden's Report

Front wall close to entrance gates was partially knocked down by vehicle delivering soil for garden project. This was purely accidental. Ecclesiastical Insurance have finally agreed to settle claim. Repair should be completed towards the end of March.

Refurbishment of Vestry currently in progress. Funding received, and the Vestry will eventually become a counselling/therapy room.

Deep clean of St Paul's church took place end of November 2022. We would like to thank everyone who gave up their time on a Saturday morning to 'muck in' and help. We are aiming for deep clean to be undertaken bi-annually.

Outstanding issue with St Paul's roof. Leaking more when it is windy and wet. To be further investigated.

Roofing at St John's needs attention and repair will be required. Ongoing issue.

New flooring has been installed at St John's Church Hall.

St John's vicarage is now unoccupied.

Gwen Evans and Linda Hughes (Church Wardens)

Safeguarding Annual Report 2022-2023

Following the PCC's approval of the Safeguarding Policy, Promoting a Safer Church on 29.6.2022, as the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), I have implemented the aims of it to the best of my ability.

Safeguarding Concerns

As neither of the people we have agreements in place for has attended any service/event since March 2022 the agreements have ceased to be 'live'. One of those people changed his surname during the year so I am alert to his reappearance on the scene and will re-activate the agreement in conjunction with the DSO, Mick Murphy if necessary.

Three other Safeguarding concerns were followed up during the year. Two were referred on to relevant authorities and successfully dealt with. The other has continued as a 'watching brief', with no further action necessary so far.

Safer Recruitment

As new staff have been employed at Church and Pre-School they have been through the Safer Recruitment process, completing DBS and the appropriate level of Safeguarding Training.

Both the PSO and DPSO have completed the Leadership level of training this year.

The PSO and DPSO delivered in-person Safeguarding Training with the three interns in September 2022.

September's 'Paperwork Month' continues to generate information which will enable the PSO and DPSO to identify who needs in-person Safeguarding Training going forward. The collating of all this information – application forms, references, working agreements and records of training etc is a long and involved process as the number of Volunteer Teams increases. As soon as it is possible to identify the first group for In-person Safeguarding Training the PSO and DPSO will set the session up and deliver the training. Other sessions will follow as necessary.

I would be grateful if the need for Safeguarding Training was mentioned in Notices when possible, to keep awareness raised within the Church. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Parish Safeguarding Checklist

The PSO and DPSO met up on 8.6.2022 to complete the 'Parish Safeguarding Checklist' form in preparation for the Archbishops' Parish Safeguarding Review with the PCC in July 2022. Any matters outstanding were followed up ahead of this review taking place. Safeguarding signage is now prominent in all church venues, including contact details for personnel who can respond to any issues raised.

The Diocesan Domestic Abuse policy template was forwarded to Felicity and Clare Moss for the attention of the PCC after advice was sought from the DSO on policies. Mick Murphy has offered any help we may need regarding the 'Prevent Strategy', although this is not strictly a Safeguarding matter. It is a Local Authority responsibility.

The Liverpool Diocesan Safeguarding Officers and the Transform Widnes team have all been very helpful in dealing with any Safeguarding issues which have needed to be raised. Bess Smith
Parish Safeguarding Officer 17.3.2023

Bess Smith - Parish Safeguarding Officer

Children's and Youth Work Report

Transform Kids/Kids Church

Transform Kids continues to meet at St John's Church as part of our Dual Site Sunday's. Over the last year we have been using the resources from a programme called Raise Up Faith, which has provided us with some fantastic Bible teaching material, which the children have really enjoyed.

We average around 16-20 children each week and have a mixture of children from families already connected to the church and other children from the community.

Kids Church is a place where the children come together for Bible teaching, worship, play, craft and lots of fun. It has been wonderful to see the children deepening their knowledge and love of Jesus through all our activities. It has also been a delight to see the children having fun, building confidence and making friends. I think having a more regular pattern of Kids Church has really helped this.

We have built a fantastic Kids Team, with a wonderful group of volunteers serving each week. It has been such a blessing seeing a number of the youth group getting involved with leading and helping with Kids Church.

Praise Tots

Praise Tots is our group for 0-4's that meets as part of our Dual Site Sunday in St Paul's Church Hall. Praise Tots is a wonderful group, helping little ones and their parents learn and grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus through play, worship, a simple Bible story and craft. They have also been using Raise UP Faith to draw on some fantastic resources that have been specifically designed for pre- schoolers.

Praise Tots averages around 5-8 little ones, plus their parents. It has been a great space to help baptism families connect with the life of the Church.

Pray

Please continue to pray for our Kids Church and Praise Tots. That it will be a place where the children can encounter the love of God and that the seeds that are planted will take root in their little hearts and bear good fruit.

Please continue to pray for our Kids Team. Serving on Kids team is so much fun but can take a lot of energy.

As our children's work grows, we really would love more volunteers to assist with leading and helping with groups. Please pray that God will send out the workers!

Transform Tots

Transform Tots is one our community outreach groups for parents/grandparents and their little ones. It continues to meet on a Monday morning at St Paul's Church.

Over this last year we have seen Tots 'explode!!' We have over a 100 people coming each week. Over 50 children and their parents/grandparents. This is such a fun; vibrant group and it is such a blessing to see so many families enjoying their time with us on a Monday morning.

We have a wonderful team, who serve faithfully each week.

Please continue to pray for the families that attend Tots.

Please pray for opportunities for the team to pray and share the love of Jesus with them and wisdom as to how we can connect these families into Praise Tots and the rest of Church life.

Kids Outreach

Over the last year we ran a number of outreach events to build connections with our community. In the Easter Holidays we ran a holiday club, and, in the summer, we ran our Family Hangouts. These were both a huge success, reaching over 200 children!

Through council funding and Together Liverpool, we were able to provide a healthy lunch and snacks for each child as well as provide lots of fun activities for the children.

Youth by the Park

Youth by the park is our Youth group that runs every Thursday at St John's Church. We regularly have over 30 young people join us for loads of different games and discussion. We have long established regulars and a steady flow of new people.

Most of the youth we are getting to know are from the local community and this represents their first/only engagement with the Church. It has been exciting to build relationships with the young people and uncover the deeper questions they are asking. Deepening these relationships is really important to us and making it all happen is an outstanding group of committed leaders. It is a tremendously exciting part of church life.

Year 6 Hangouts

This is our brand-new group that started running a couple of months ago. Meeting on a Thursday at St John's Church, this group is aimed at children in year 6, to help children of this age to build friendships, build confidence and bridge the gap between children's and youth work. This group provides a fun filled environment, games, activities, crafts to enable space for deeper conversation, friendship and a chance to explore faith.

On average there are about 6 children attending. Our work within the school/ assemblies will provide an opportunity to promote this group even more.

Please continue to pray for the youth of our church. It has been wonderful to see the youth getting involved in various ministries within our Church, worship, kids work, tech.

Please pray that our youth will continue to feel encouraged and will have a deep sense of how loved and valued they are by their Heavenly Father.

Sophie Sharples

Transform Widnes Children's and Family Worker

Deanery Report

This year, the deanery has made great steps forward in acting as one, towards a common goal. With refreshed support for Transform Widnes, by once again paying its share to the North West Team to aid in continuing our work and supporting our vision and values for the whole town. Support for Transform has in the past been lacking with some churches disagreeing with the formation of Transform Widnes. This however seems to be a thing of the past with the deanery being pleased with the community outreach and missional work that we do, and the growth that this sees for the Church in Widnes.

In a second year out of COVID-19, it has become clear that as a deanery we must, and are beginning to, act as one in terms of mission and worship. This is further cemented by increasing support for the Widnes churches to join in with "fit for mission" as it enters its second round. Financially the deanery and parishes are beginning to struggle with less parishioners returning after COVID-19, and the cost of living crisis having a large impact on church income and expenditure.

Under "fit for mission" we would see changes to the deanery with a parochial restructure, moving towards one larger parish across the town. A reorder within churches, and a stock take regarding the work we are carrying out and employing or positioning people in their ideal calling. Ensuring buildings are fit for purpose and looking at new ways to spread the Lord's message to the people of Widnes.

December also saw Rev. Lyn MacGyver retire and emigrate to Australia, and she will be in our prayers as she begins this new journey in her life. For now, the deanery has chosen not to reappoint a new member of clergy to continue the work Lyn was doing.

Matt Duckett

Deanery Synod Representative

Volunteers and Supporters

We would like to thank all the volunteers and staff who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. We would like to formally thank all of the organisations that have supported us during 2022.

Financial Review

General Comment

The final Financial Statements include both Church and Pre School figures.

Income

See page 17 and the appropriate note reference, that will correspond to the comments below.

Note Ref	Comment
I1	Gift Aided Giving & Donations in 2022 amounted to £54,386 compared to £41,691 in 2021, an increase of £12,695 (30%) The total is broken down into £49,780 planned giving, £350 one off gifts and £4,256 gift aid recovered.
I2	Other income in 2022 totalled £49,274. Most of this is made up from; Premises Hire income of £39,923, a Diocesan Curate Housing Grant of £4,790 and a £4,458 insurance claim settlement for damage to the St Pauls

Church wall and gate. Note in 2021 our premises rental was £19,482, Diocesan Curate housing grant was £3,375 and an insurance claim settlement of £1,268, Totalling £24,125.

13 **Grant Income.** In 2022 we grants of £83,109, split as follows:

Henry Smith Grant	Grants	£ 30,100
Grants	Grants	£ 16,739
TRANSFORM MINDS Donations from Organisations	Grants from Organisations	£ 16,500
Kids & Youth Income	Grants	£ 8,020
JMF Grant	Grants	£ 5,000
Donations from Organisations	Grants from Organisations	£ 4,000
Youth by the Park Income	Grants	£ 2,750

14 **Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations** In 2022 these came to £22,382 split as follows:

Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	One Off Gifts	£ 11,619
Non-Gift Aided Giving & Donations	Planned Giving	£ 10,763

This compares in 2021 to Other planned giving of £4,294 and £3,471.

15 **St Pauls Building Fund** – following the completion of the internal reorder of St Pauls in 2021 it is unsurprising that SPBF donations in 2022 reduced to £12,414 compared to £46,251 in 2021.

16 **Service collections** – ‘Open plate’ collections in 2022 amounted to £6,715 compared to £4,130 in 2021.

17 **Activities** - These are made up from donations made at the community outreach groups such as Long Loaf, Connect Café, Tors, Youth by the Park and Funeral & Wedding fees. The total of £6,440 is broken down as follows:

Activities	Connect Cafe	£ 651
Activities	Event Ticket Sales from	£ 128
Activities	Long Loaf	£ 1,703
Activities	Occasional Offices	£ 3,842
Activities	Transform Tots	£ 38
Activities	Youth by the Park	£ 78

18 & 19 **Transform Minds Non-Gift Aid & Gift Aid Giving & Donations** – This project involves the refurbishment of the Vestry at St Paul Church into a lounge for counselling session to help people with mental health issues as well as funding the counselling. This figure of £4,710 represents the Gift Aided donations given, and £445 non gift aided donations by people.

110 **Transform Tots Income** – This total £2,117 and is mainly made up from the £2 donation per family, that parent make at each Monday Tots session, as well as small amount (£80) of specified donations.

111 **People in Need** – Is a designated fund that consists of donations given (£1,443) to help people who are struggling financially, So far, in 2022 the donations have been given for the benefit of specified individuals named by the donors, anonymously.

112 **Long Loaf Income** – Specified Gifts and donations from Organisations and Individuals, towards the work of Long Loaf, £524. This is not to be confused with any donations made at the Long Loaf meal on a Wednesday, those donations are ‘Activities’.

113

St Pauls Garden's Income - Small one-off non gift aided gifts for the garden allotment on-site at St Paul £58

Expenditure

E1

1.4 Building – Our largest expense in 2022 was the money spent on our church premises £94,607. The breakdown is as follows:

Category Group	Category	Total
1.4 Building	Church Major Works	£27,790
1.4 Building	Church Utilities	£20,029
1.4 Building	St Paul's Internal Reorder	£14,573
1.4 Building	Church Maintenance & Upkeep	£12,229
1.4 Building	St Pauls Meeting Room (Vestry)	£9,280
1.4 Building	Insurance	£6,931
1.4 Building	Cleaning Materials	£1,035
1.4 Building	St Paul's Tower	£900
1.4 Building	Hall Utilities	£655
1.4 Building	Cleaning Contractor	£593
1.4 Building	Hall Maintenance & Upkeep	£390
1.4 Building	Fixed Maintenance Costs	£200
		£94,605

Major works totalling £27,790 were carried out in 2022. This was for two new central heating boilers at St Johns being replaced during 2022.

The church utility costs in 2022 more than doubled to £20,029 compared to £9,892 in 2021.

St Pauls Building Reorder had some additional electrical work costs, replacement of church chairs as well as new heating being installed into the chancel & the vestry, all together costing £14,573.

Insurance premiums rose by nearly 81% to £9,280 in 2022 compared to £5,135 in 2021.

Church Maintenance & Upkeep in 2022 equalled £12,229 compared to £9,105 in 2021.

E2

Our next largest piece of Expenditure in 2022 was on Staff Costs. These amounted to some £89,272. This is broken down as follows:

1.6 Staffing	Salaries & Wages	£	57,103
1.6 Staffing	Housing	£	10,516
1.6 Staffing	HMRC NIC & PAYE	£	5,939
1.6 Staffing	Staffing: Housing Costs	£	5,060
1.6 Staffing	Pension	£	4,007
1.6 Staffing	HR Support	£	3,944
1.6 Staffing	Employers Pension	£	1,473
1.6 Staffing	Training	£	482
1.6 Staffing	Expenses - Pastoral	£	330
1.6 Staffing	Professional Fees	£	300
1.6 Staffing	Expenses - Meetings	£	95
1.6 Staffing	Expenses - Phone	£	23

The staff costs are met in two ways. The first is from unrestricted general funds totalling £40,447 and the second is from restricted funds made up of grants we have received from various grants, amounting to £48,824.

Please note that Our Vicar & Curate salaries & pension are paid by the Diocese and not by the church. Our Parish Share payments help with Vicar and Curate costs.

- E3 Parish Share** – Once again we are pleased to report that we have met our 'Parish Share' payments to the Diocese in full again in 2022. The Parish Share amounts to £44,364.
- E4 Mission Giving** – We target to give away 10% of our unrestricted regular giving (See 2022 Parish Return Page 18 - Regular Giving Total of £72,163) This should have amounted to £7,216, being given to Mission & Charity work at home and abroad. The total of £5,011 however equates to only 7%. The break down was as follows:
- £2,190 Local** – Widnes Foodbank = £1,050, Widnes Street Pastors = £140 Reach Merseyside = £1,000
- £235 National** - Scripture Union = £235
- £2,586 International** – CMS - £1,000, Uganda Orphanage = £780, Compassion UK £336, Tearfund = £235, Barnabas Aid 235
- E5 Children & Youth Work** - £6,679 broken down as follows: Tots £794, Kids £3,312, Youth £2,573
- E6 Long Loaf** - £3,358 cost of food purchased (FareShare/Shop).
- E7 Hospitality** – Church Services and events £2,262 in 2022 £1,864 2021

Risk Assessments, Controls and Procedures

The PCC operates under a mature system of controls and procedures developed over many years of operation, and the PCC monitors finance and operational issues routinely as part of its regular PCC meetings.

Financial Risk

The PCC receives routine updates on the cash balance of all funds at every PCC meeting, and a full report as part of the annual accounts and APCM. Urgent and in-budget expenditure is discussed and agreed by the Standing Committee, whilst non-urgent and out of budget expenditure is agreed by the PCC. Collections are always counted by two people; all cheques require two signatories, and all bank transfers are authorised by two people via Expense Plus. Banking of Income is ordinarily managed by the Churchwardens. The Church holds Ecclesiastical general insurance to cover its key liabilities and risks.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to endeavour to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to around three months of church workers salaries, £19,000.

It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.
The PCC is aware that major repairs to the church tower rare required and that the main church roof will need replacing in the next 5-10 years and we will aim to agree and set a regular amount to save towards the costs going forward.

CONCLUSION

Our unrestricted expenditure exceeded our unrestricted income by £10,492.

Our restricted income exceeded our restricted expenditure by £30,769.

Our general voluntary income is good, but is not covering our general running costs, mainly due to some major repairs over the last 12 months.

We need to control our day-to-day expenditure as much as possible and to keep encouraging people to commit to planned giving via the parish giving scheme.

We currently rely heavily on grant funding to resource our staff and volunteers involved in providing much of our excellent missional work.

Steve Shuttleworth – Treasurer St John & St Paul Widnes (Transform Widnes)

Independent examiner's report **Page 15**
to the PCC of THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 16 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The churches PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The churches PCC considers that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The 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 Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 next statement.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.

Mr G Mattocks
FCA
Mattocks Grindley
18 Mulberry Avenue
Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0WN


.....
G Mattocks

10/8/23

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	£	2022 £	2021 restated £
	Note					
INCOMING RESOURCES						
<i>Voluntary income</i>	2a	83,481	0	0	83,481	60,275
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>	2b	5,443	0	96,843	102,286	328,567
<i>Income from activities:</i>						
- church activities	2c	51,153	0	3,138	54,291	30,731
- to generate funds	2d	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Income from investments</i>	2e	42	0	0	42	33
<i>Other incoming resources</i>	2f	4,518	0	0	4,518	31,156
<i>Pre school income</i>		213,586	0	0	213,586	136,194
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		358,223	0	99,981	458,204	586,956
RESOURCES USED						
<i>Fundraising costs</i>	3(a)	198	0	0	198	0
<i>Missionary & charitable giving</i>	3(b)	5,011	0	0	5,011	4,706
<i>Church activities</i>	3(c)	109,111	0	65,978	175,089	119,403
<i>Administration</i>	3(d)	47,379	0	0	47,379	30,609
<i>Major Works Refurbishment</i>	3(e)	40,029	0	3,234	43,263	349,056
<i>Pre school expenditure</i>		167,612			167,612	125,144
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		369,340	0	69,212	438,552	628,918
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES		-11,117	0	30,769	19,652	-41,962
TRANSFER IN OF ST JOHNS		0	0	0	0	110,184
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	12	625		-625	0	0
TOTAL AFTER TRANSFERS		-10,492	0	30,769	19,652	68,222
EXTRAORDINARY GAINS/LOSSES	13				0	
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		-10,492	0	30,769	19,652	68,222
BALANCES B / FWD AT 1 JANUARY 2022		183,062	515	84,000	268,202	199,980
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2022		172,570	515	114,769	287,854	268,202

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
BALANCE SHEET
At 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 restated £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5(a)	70,637	73,528
Investment assets	5(b)	<u>0</u>	<u>625</u>
		70,637	74,153
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	9,842	1,221
Hall Fund		0	0
St Paul's Building Fund		0	0
Ordinary Deposit Account		1,027	0
Current Account		107,266	52,066
Sundry & Petty Cash Balances		-42	101
Go cardless		0	5
St Johns current account			44,674
St Johns natwest account			27,527
St Johns reserve account		25,114	21,102
St Johns petty cash			85
Pre school account		82,259	52,107
Pre school savings account		1	1
Pre school petty cash		285	284
		<u>225,752</u>	<u>199,173</u>
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	8,535	5,124
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>217,217</u>	<u>194,049</u>
LIABILITIES DUE AFTER ONE YEAR			<u>0</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>287,854</u>	<u>268,202</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	6	173,085	183,577
Restricted	11	114,769	84,000
Endowment		0	625
		<u>287,854</u>	<u>268,202</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by:



Miss G Evans (Trustee)



Miss L Hughes (Trustee)

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

Endowment Funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained. *Restricted Funds* are funds which may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. *Unrestricted Funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. *Funds designated* for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Bookstall income is in the basis of commission received as the stock is on a sale or received basis.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

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

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Resources expended**Grants**

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish quota is accounted for when paid. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed assets**Consecrated property and movable church furnishings**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to (2000) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January (2000) have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their currently anticipated useful economic life.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £1,000, or on the repair of moveable church furnishings is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years and on a 15% reducing balance basis in some cases. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. The church Hall building is being depreciated over 50 years, straight line basis.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current assets

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

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

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2022	2021 restated
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2a Voluntary income						
Planned Giving:						
Gift Aided Donations	49,780				49,780	41,691
Tax recoverable	4,258				4,258	6,869
Other planned giving	10,763				10,763	4,294
Collections (open plate)	6,715				6,715	4,130
Other Donations	11,967				11,967	3,471
	<u>83,481</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>83,481</u>	<u>60,275</u>
2b Other voluntary incoming						
Legacies					0	0
Building Fund Grants					0	247,031
Building Fund Donations			12,414		12,414	46,251
St Pauls Gardens						2,031
Henry Smith Grant			30,100		30,100	24,700
Kids & Youth income grants			8,020		8,020	5,000
Kids & Youth income one off gift			165		165	35
New Wine					0	144
Kitchen Grants/Donations					0	0
Other voluntary incoming resources					0	0
Diocese/Deanery grants					0	0
TNW SDF grant			16,739		16,739	
Transform minds grants			16,500		16,500	
Transform minds donations			5,155		5,155	
Grants from organisations	4,000				4,000	
JMF grant			5,000		5,000	
People in need	1,443				1,443	
Youth by the Park			2,750		2,750	
Curate housing grant					0	3,376
	<u>5,443</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>96,843</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>102,286</u>	<u>326,567</u>
2c Income from activities:						
<i>Church activities</i>						
Hall Rental	39,923				39,923	19,462
Hall grant					0	0
Church Fees					0	0
Transform tots	38		2,117		2,155	967
St Pauls Tots					0	0
St Pauls gardens			58		58	
Long Loaf (Community Lunch)	1,703		523		2,226	8,099
Christmas meal donations					0	205
Youth by the park	78		440		518	0
Connect Café grant					0	0
Apprentice course					0	0
Womens Fellowship					0	0
Connect Café & Oasis Café	651				651	363
Curate housing grant	4,790				4,790	
Event ticket sales	128				128	
Occasional Offices	3,842				3,842	1,636
	<u>51,163</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,138</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>54,291</u>	<u>30,731</u>
2d Activities for generating funds						
Welly Walk (Hall Floor)					0	0
Pew sales					0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
2e Income from investments						
Dividends and Interest including any tax recoverable	42				42	33
	<u>42</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>33</u>
2f Other incoming resources						
Team contribution to offices					0	0
TNW grant to cover Youth Worker					0	24,911
Coronavirus Furlough grant					0	3,213
LDBF Fee					0	1,737
Insurance Settlement	4,468				4,468	1,268
Internal trading	60				60	
Vicarage Utilities					0	27
	<u>4,518</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,518</u>	<u>31,166</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>144,637</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>99,981</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>244,618</u>	<u>450,762</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2022

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	£	2022	2021 restated
	£	£	£	£	£	£
3(a) Fundraising costs						
Costs of fund raising	198				198	0
	<u>198</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>0</u>
3(b) Missionary & charitable giving						
Overseas	2,588				2,588	3,041
Home Widnes/UK	2,425				2,425	1,685
Other donations					0	0
	<u>5,011</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,011</u>	<u>4,726</u>
3(c) Church activities						
Ministry						
Parish Share	44,214				44,214	33,352
Marriage/alpha courses					0	0
New Wine mission	1,059				1,059	0
Long Loaf (community lunch)	972		2,368		3,368	4,440
Christmas meals					0	0
School Dinners					0	0
Apprenticeship course/Discipleship					0	0
Tota	33		781		784	144
Transform purchases					0	0
Youth	88		2,507		2,573	1,619
Officiant & Varger expenses	863				863	381
Worship Gathering	1,290				1,290	244
Festivals	77				77	180
Hospitality	2,262				2,262	1,634
Café	102				102	28
Community Sunday	200				200	507
People in Need	1,350				1,350	34
Outreach courses	104				104	
Clergy Expenses					0	0
South Widnes Team costs	478				478	633
Intern/Layreader devel/exp's	33				33	0
Church Running Expense						
Parsonage					0	1,417
Utilities	20,029				20,029	8,692
Insurance	6,931				6,931	5,135
Upkeep of services	12,229				12,229	4,349
Flowers					0	0
Routine repairs to building	200				200	4,756
Cleaning	1,628				1,628	
Depreciation	8,591				8,591	13,789
Hall utilities/repair & insurance	1,045				1,045	2,939
Fareshare food					0	495
St Pauls @4/groups refreshments					0	0
Support and training costs						
Lay reader /Training/loof	891				891	610
HR support					0	1,690
Connect groups	90				90	
Accountancy	2,520				2,520	744
Grants used					0	0
Kitchen					0	0
Youth worker wages					0	0
All Churches Hope Beyond wages	1,270		2,230		3,500	5,833
Hensy Smith Grant wages			16,949		16,949	
JMF Grant - wages			5,819		5,819	2,083
St Pauls Gardens	12		450		462	1,562
TNW SDF - staffing			22,024		22,024	19,537
TNW SDF - software					0	70
Transform Tota					0	480
Youth by the Park			532		532	1,129
Kids and Youth	272		3,040		3,312	
St Pauls meeting room			9,290		9,290	
					0	0
	<u>108,111</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>85,978</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>175,089</u>	<u>119,403</u>
3(d) Administration						
Admin Wages & payroll fees	29,184				29,184	11,900
Staff expenses	448				448	506
Staffing - housing	10,515				10,515	10,669
Professional fees	300				300	1,100
Office Phone					0	161
Office expenses	167				167	714
Internet and IT costs	1,520				1,520	1,111
Bank charges	342				342	422
General Admin/strat'y/ighs	4,903				4,903	4,027
	<u>47,379</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>47,379</u>	<u>30,609</u>
3(e) Major Works- Church refurb	<u>40,029</u>		<u>3,234</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>43,263</u>	<u>0</u>
Pre school expenditure						125,144
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	<u>201,728</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>89,212</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>270,940</u>	<u>279,862</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

4 STAFF COSTS	2022		2021 restated	
	£		£	
Wages and Salaries	41,408		28,135	
Social Security Costs (NIC)	1,489		1,898	
Pension Costs	3,941		7,057	
Payroll processing fees			0	
	<u>46,838</u>		<u>38,090</u>	
5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC				
	Freehold Land & Buildings	Fixtures and Fittings	Equipment	Total
5(a) Tangible fixed assets	£	£	£	£
GROSS BOOK VALUE				
At 1 January 2022 (restated)	122,735	13,747	20,402	156,884
Additions		0	9,807	9,807
Disposals		0		0
At 31 December 2022	<u>122,735</u>	<u>13,747</u>	<u>30,209</u>	<u>166,691</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2022 (restated)	58,788	12,588	11,980	83,356
Charge for the year	2,455	174	10,069	12,698
Depreciation on disposals				0
At 31 December 2022	<u>61,243</u>	<u>12,762</u>	<u>22,049</u>	<u>96,054</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2022	<u>61,492</u>	<u>985</u>	<u>8,160</u>	<u>70,637</u>
At 31 December 2021 (restated)	<u>63,947</u>	<u>1,159</u>	<u>8,422</u>	<u>73,528</u>
5(b) Investments	2022		2021 restated	
	£		£	
Samuel Kidd Legacy & Diocesan Repair Fund				
Historical Cost	0		625	
Market Value	<u>0</u>		<u>625</u>	

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

Page 23

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	70,637	0	0	70,637
Current Assets	110,983	114,769		225,752
Current Liabilities	-8,535	0		-8,535
Fund balance	<u>173,085</u>	<u>114,769</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>287,854</u>

7 DEBTORS

	2022	2021 restated
	£	£
Income Tax Recoverable re Gift Aid	0	0
Trade debtors	9,842	1,221
Other Debtors - TNW Youth Worker grant	0	0
	<u>9,842</u>	<u>1,221</u>

8 LIABILITIES: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021 restated
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,952	0
Accruals		400
Other Creditors	3,583	4,724
	<u>8,535</u>	<u>5,124</u>

9 FUND DETAILS

Restricted Funds are shown at note 11.
Other funds held are unrestricted but designated as shown below or general funds.

10 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022	2021 restated
	£	£
The closing balance of Unrestricted Funds comprised the follow:		
General Fund	163,667	183,082
St Paul's Building Fund	0	0
Womens Fellowship	515	515
Designated funds	8,324	0
People in need	669	0
	<u>173,085</u>	<u>183,577</u>

11 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022	2021 restated
	£	£
The closing balance of Restricted Funds comprised the following:		
Hall Fund		0
Food Hub grant		0
Tota Grant	2,119	763
Youth grant	14,409	9,688
Church floor/vestry grant (held in SPBF)		0
Long Loaf grant	5,415	7,277
Connect Café grant		0
Kitchen grant		0
Youth work & School Dinners grant		0
Christmas Dinner		0
St Pauls Building Fund	32,373	23,184
JMF Grant	2,097	2,917
TNW SDF	19	5,304
All Churches Beyond Hope grant	0	2,230
Youth by the Park	5,023	4,770
St Pauls gardens	87	479
Misc restricted funds	2,680	2,678
Henry Smith Grant	37,861	24,700
Major works 2020/21		0
Holiday activity fund	321	
Transform Minds	12,375	
	<u>114,769</u>	<u>84,000</u>

12 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

The S Kidd legacy fund was closed in the year. The balance of £825 was transferred to general fund.

13 Related Parties

The members of the PCC in 2022 did not receive any payments from the church.

14 EXTRAORDINARY GAINS/LOSSES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

15 Restated prior year figures

In 2021 major refurbishment works done to the Church Building were incorrectly capitalised and included as Fixed Assets in those accounts. In accordance with s.10 (2) of the Charities Act, as these works were done on Consecrated property, they should have been wholly expensed in the year they took place. The comparative figures in the 2022 accounts have therefore been restated to remove the £368,180 of major works from Fixed Assets, along with the corresponding depreciation of £7,124.

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1170687

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2021**

MATTOCKS GRINDLEY
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John and St Pauls, Widnes

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2021

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Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John and St Paul, Widnes

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St John's Church office, Greenway Road, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 6HA
St Paul's Church office, Victoria Square, Widnes, Cheshire. WA8 7QU

The Parish of St John and St Paul is situated in Widnes. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity is registered with the Charity Commission.

Registered charity name:

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St John and St Paul, Widnes

Charity registration number: 1170687

Official contact: Reverend Gregory Sharples

From the period 01st January 2021 until date of approval for this report, the following people served as Parochial Church Council (PCC) members:

Incumbent: Reverend Gregory Sharples

Clergy: Reverend Craig Gaudion
Reverend Penelope Stradling

Church Wardens: Miss Linda Hughes (Re-elected AGM 2021)
Miss Gwen Evans (Re-elected AGM 2021)

Secretary Mrs Felicity Price

Treasurer Mrs Lisa Esposito

Representatives to Deanery Synod

Howard Sparks (re-elected 2021)
Matt Duckett (Elected 2021)

Elected Members:

Mr Steve Shuttleworth (Re-elected AGM 2021)
Mrs Clare Bedford
Mr Jonni Papworth
Ms Amanda Turpin

Mrs Margaret Spencer

Officers:

Safeguarding

DBS Verifier

Electoral Roll Officer

Architect

Mrs Bess Smith

Mrs Sophie Sharples

Mrs Felicity Price

Robin Woolley (St Paul's)

Ralph Dransfield (St John's)

The PCC met bi-monthly and held emergency PCC's where necessary

Bankers:

Yorkshire Bank, 28-38 Buttermarket Street, Warrington. WA1 2LE

Lloyds TSB, 23/24 Albert Square, Widnes

Natwest, 146 Widnes Road, Widnes. WA8 6BB

Accounts Examiner: Mattocks Grindley (formerly Bramall Morris)

Day to day management control of the Church is exercised by the standing committee:

Reverend Gregory Sharples

Reverend Craig Gaudion (to August 2021)

Reverend Penelope Stradling (on adoption leave June 2021)

Miss Linda Hughes

Miss Gwen Evans

Mrs Clare Bedford

Mr Steve Shuttleworth

Structure, Management & Governance

The PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules. It is to "cooperate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical".

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

In 2019 the parishes of St John's and St Paul's agreed to merge to become 'one parish'. St John's and St Paul's were two separate legal entities who had their own functions, responsibilities, and areas of operation (two parishes). Under the 'Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011', a process was started during 2020 to formally join St John's and St Paul's together to be one legal entity and legally draw our area of operation to be one parish boundary with two churches within the parish.

The aim was to complete the process by 1st January 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the new parish of St John and St Paul, Widnes was finalised on 1st May 2021.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St John and St Paul. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community mainly through:

- Gathering on Sundays for real, relevant, and relatable worship celebrations
- Meeting in Connect groups during the week to encourage, learn, challenge, and support one another in our discipleship journeys and mission
- Providing opportunities to serve our community to see lives and our town enhanced and restored (Youth Groups, Tots group, Long Loaf Community lunch, Oasis Café, Connect Café, Foodbank)

Strategy and planning

The core team continues to lead out our mission, vision and values:

- **Our Mission**
'Leading people into the transforming love of Jesus'
- **Our Vision**
To see Widnes transformed with 700 people engaging in Connect Groups with 50% of people under 25yrs old and setting up three new church communities by the end 2024.
- **Our Values**
 - Devoted to Jesus and each other
 - Developing faith-stretching leaders
 - Together, engaging the young
 - Modelling vulnerability so everyone can grow
 - Having fun reaching Widnes

The Mission, Vision and Values have been fully communicated through a series of talks and feedback sessions with the whole church family in 2021.

Achievements and Performance

Covid-19 Pandemic

Again, the pandemic widely impacted our plans and finances for 2021. This affected the whole of Church life, until restrictions lifted, throughout the first half of the year. However, as a church community we continued to operate and discover ways to engage and support our local community. Examples of this are on-lines services, Zoom Connect groups and food delivery instead of our community meal.

Membership and Church Service attendance

The Electoral Roll as at the APCM 2021 stands at 110:

- 19 are resident in St Paul's parish
- 61 resident in St John's parish.
- Outside of the parishes 19 at St Paul's parish and 11 at St John's.

Average attendance at Sunday Services via zoom from January 2021 to 18 July 2021 was 68 (56 adults and 12 children). Average attendance from 25 July 2021 at Sunday Services in-person was:

- 9.30am: 37 adults and 1 Child 9.30am
- 11am: 62 adults and 24 children.

Across Transform Widnes there are 9 Connect Groups that meet on a weekly basis during term time.

Vicar's Report AGM, March 2022

Mark 6v 45 – 56

Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and sent them to 'Bethsaida'.

Our year started with us preaching through our mission/vision/values. This is what we believe Jesus has given us for our hoped-for destination. We've begun the journey – reopening St Paul's and then really focused on building leaders and missional disciples through the Cultivate and Activate courses.

We've been straining at the oars and at times it has definitely felt like the wind is against us. Sickness and staff leaving off the back of the covid year have meant this last year has been challenging.

*We come to the beginning of 2022 in a season of pruning.
What the Lord does in times like this is remind us of who we are in him.*

We aren't in Bethsaida – although we are making progress – like Long Loaf, Alpha, or Community Sundays, the emergence of new connect groups (currently there are 9 with 4 about to be born) and the vibrancy of our community outreaches. We haven't reached the other side but are indeed still straining at the oars...and moving.

In the reading Jesus comes out to his disciples and it says:

⁴⁷ Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified.

He was about to pass them by, until they noticed him. In our efforts we need to remember that the most important thing is paying attention – noticing Jesus. What's he doing with and in you? How committed are you to focusing on him amidst your straining?

Everything for the church must revolve around our relationship and connection with Jesus. He is the reason for all we do and wants to say to us every day:

Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

As we recognise him and receive His word's strengthens us for his mission, so we reach the other side.

Church Warden's Report

The work of the Wardens has been relatively quiet over the past year - predominantly due to COVID restrictions however during this time St Paul's church was closed for a major refurbishment. We want to formally thank Steve Shuttleworth for all he contributed to leadership of the refurbishment, alongside Jonni Papworth.

In addition, a lot of hard work has been undertaken on our 'allotment' garden which we anticipate in the future will enable us to become somewhat self-sufficient in vegetables for our Long Loaf Community meal. Thank you to Linda Hughes, Pete Capewell, Hugh Stradling and many other volunteers who have been helping on this very worthwhile project.

We have an outstanding issue with the wall outside the main entrance to St Paul's which was unfortunately partially demolished during a delivery to the church. The costs of repair will be covered by insurance.

St John's is due a Quinquennial inspection to determine what works will need to be undertaken to maintain the building over the next five years.

We are looking forward, with God's blessing, to serving you for another year as your Church Wardens.

Linda Hughes and Gwen Evans

Connect Groups

These are our key measure of growth as a Church. When we talk about having 700 people on a discipleship pathway, our shorthand for that is being part of a connect group. These grew really well on zoom during lock down. However, we also realised that the key to future growth was the challenge of producing leaders. This effected of Connect group attendance but strengthened our leadership group. Subsequently we ran Cultivate and Activate to invest in leaders and get people missionally activated. As of December 2021, we believe we had 89 people in discipleship across 9 Connect Groups and kids work.

Church Building Project

In June 2021 we reopened St Paul's Church building after a ~£600k refurbishment. The new space creates a flexibility for events and community activities that benefits the whole town. The majority of the funding was provided through funding by the Church Commissioners. Significant additional funds were raised with the help of Richard Bennett, to whom we are indebted.

Safeguarding Annual Report 2021-2022

Following the PCC's approval of the Safeguarding Policy Promoting a Safer Church on 17th May 2021, as the new Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), I have implemented the aims of it to the best of my ability. Safer Recruitment has been followed by the Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer (DPSO), Sophie Sharples and is recorded and updated on the Transform Widnes shared drive as necessary.

Most people on the PCC and Children's & Youth Work Teams have completed Safeguarding Training and where applicable have applied for DBS clearance. Where they have not completed training, they have been reminded by email. Sophie Sharples, as the new Interim Children's Worker has now applied and been cleared by DBS as an employee. Where new people have joined teams, they are being asked to complete Safeguarding Training as soon as possible. Both the PSO and DPSO are due to take part in more advanced Safeguarding Training in the near future.

Over the last year there have been two cases which have merited intervention and advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Mick Murphy. Both people now have signed agreements in place to enable safe attendance at Church functions/services. These are to be reviewed annually or amended if any changes occur in the interim. Detailed reports about both these cases have been sent to Rev'd Greg Sharples, who is kept informed throughout.

There has been one informal mention of a potential Safeguarding concern, which is being monitored by the PSO and DPSO. The Liverpool Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Mick Murphy has been very helpful in dealing with any Safeguarding issues I have needed to raise and has been proactive in monitoring progress with our two case files.

Bess Smith Parish safeguarding Officer

Transform Tots

Last year we saw quite a few changes with Transform Tots. We spent the first half of 2021 closed due to COVID but were finally able to open our doors again in June following the COVID guidelines.

In September 2021 we moved Tots into our newly refurbished St Paul's church building and what a success it has been. There is now so much more space to welcome new parents/ grandparents with their little ones and we are reaching over 80 parents and children each week. We have had so much positive feedback about the building and the group from the parents. It is such a joy to see the little ones mixing and playing after such a hard couple of years for many families.

Sophie Sharples
Transform Tots Leader

Transform Kids

Throughout 2021 we have seen Transform Kids move from our COVID friendly Zoom meetings to regularly meeting back in person, which has been such a joy for both the children and the helpers. Transform Kids continues to meet on a Sunday morning every 1st and 3rd month at St John's Church. It has been great to have more space to be able to do a range of fun activities with the children. We have recently started using the Raise Up Faith Curriculum, exploring the parables of Jesus in a much more interactive way. The kids have really enjoyed it. It has been amazing to see the children growing in their faith and, also, them deepening their friendships with ones another.

Sophie Sharples
Transform Kids Leader

Long Loaf

Our community lunch operated by delivering over 160 meals per week during 2021, when covid restrictions were still in place. On reopening, we averaged between 30-40 people joining us each week.

There is a real sense of community with Long Loaf - we have a meal, a short talk and prayer. We were hoping to have the Christmas meal in church this year,, unfortunately, this didn't happen also due to covid, and it became a delivery service again.

We have a great team of volunteers and I personally would like to thank everyone who has been involved with Long Loaf over the last few years.

Linda Hughes

Volunteers and Supporters

We would like to thank all the volunteers and staff who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. We would like to formally thank all of the organisations that have supported us during 2020.

St John's Preschool

St John's Preschool began as a Parent and Tots group over 40 years ago, being set up by the church community. It evolved into a Playgroup and then, on 10th February 2003, became formally registered as a preschool with Ofsted (Registration no. RP520953, Setting Reference No. EY245131). The preschool uses the main hall in the church centre - it is a pack away setting, the hall being used by the church or community groups in the evenings. The preschool is overseen by a sub-committee of the PCC and Clare Bedford is the Ofsted Nominated Person on behalf of the PCC.

The preschool is growing year on year and during 2021 there was an opportunity to invest in new furniture and resources. The preschool accounts are audited alongside with the church accounts each year however we are very conscious the preschool contribution to the church accounts is now significant and we are seeking legal advice on the appropriate charity structure moving forward.

Financial Review

Receipts

The closure of the church building and services due to the covid restrictions has impacted the donations we received during the year, especially non-planned giving. The total giving for 2021 inc. gift aid for the joint churches equalled £60,275. We are actively encouraging online giving, setting up of standing orders and providing a contactless card payment machine facility, and we anticipate general giving will increase as we return to regular gatherings. The PCC is truly thankful for all the donations that have been received from church members and supporters.

The closure of the church centres, also due to the pandemic, has negatively impacted the income however St John's Preschool was able to increase their donation towards the running costs of the building.

During the year, we benefited from grants to support the cost of wages and the building work. The grants used during 2021 were provided by:

- SDF - Transform Northwest
- John Moores Foundation
- Liverpool Together

- Henry Smith charity
- Halton Borough Council
- All Churches Trust
- Cheshire's Police and Crime Commissioner.
- CJRS furlough grant

Payments

Once again, we have been able to meet our commitment to paying Parish Share to the Diocese of Liverpool. This sum of £33,352 forms a large part of our payments each year.

Besides the major building work at St Paul's, no significant repairs or maintenance has taken place at either church building. The outcomes of the recent Quinquennial Reports will provide a list of prioritised work that needs to be undertaken in the next five years.

Utility costs for both sites were £14,762 for the year however the buildings were either closed or under-used for at least 6 months of the year. The reopening of the buildings and the increasing fuel costs will be an issue in 2022. In response to this we have decided to replace the inefficient boiler and older boilers at St Johns.

Four members of staff are employed by the parish, in addition to the preschool:

- Grant funded - Youth & Kids Worker and Operations manager
- Funded through church giving - our Administrator and our Cleaner

We continue to support the orphanage in Bunyagira, Widnes Foodbank, and local ministries.

Risk Assessments, Controls and Procedures

The PCC operates under a mature system of controls and procedures developed over many years of operation, and the PCC monitors finance and operational issues routinely as part of its regular PCC meetings.

Financial Risk

The PCC receives routine updates on the cash balance of all funds at every PCC meeting, and a full report as part of the annual accounts and APCM. Urgent and in-budget expenditure is discussed and agreed by the Standing Committee, whilst non-urgent and out of budget expenditure is agreed by the PCC. Collections are always counted by two people; all cheques require two signatories; and banking of income is ordinarily managed by the Churchwardens. The Church holds Ecclesiastical general insurance to cover its key liabilities and risks.

St John's Preschool

The preschool has two main forms of income: private income from fee paying parents/guardians (£32,798.16 – 2021) (£14,097.30 - 2020) and grant income for 2-4yr old places funded by Halton Borough Council (£139,168.95 – 2021) (£100,442.40 - 2020).

The main outgoings are employee wages (£116,116 – 2021) (£82,448.87 – 2020) and contributions towards the running of the building (£13,860.77 – 2021) (£8,000– 2020) making up over 75% of the preschool costs. The preschool increased their contribution toward the upkeep of the building again this year. The reduction in room hire rental income, due to covid, has required the preschool to make additional contributions towards the building operating costs.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to endeavour to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to around three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to ~ £15,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The PCC is aware that the church roof and the boilers will need replacing in the next 5-10 years and we will aim to agree and set a regular amount to save towards the costs going forward.

The preschool has separate banking and book-keeping, and it maintains a reserve to cover staff redundancy payments in case of closure (£15,000). We also aim to have three months operating costs in reserve (£27,000). This policy will be reviewed in twelve months' time.

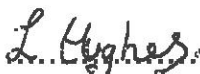
Summary high level accounts

Church accounts summary 2021									
	Unrestricted Funds					Restricted Funds			
	St Pauls	St Johns	Joint	Total		St Pauls	St Johns	Joint	Total
	1/1/21 to 30/4/21	1/1/21 to 30/4/21	1/5/21 to 31/12/21	2021		1/1/21 to 30/4/21	1/1/21 to 30/4/21	1/5/21 to 31/12/21	2021
Income	12,183	102,603	212,778	327,564		35,701	8,786	326,294	370,781
Expenditure	-18,854	-103,069	-219,424	-341,347		-2,587		-38,996	-41,583
Transfers	1,211	0	500	1,711		-1,211		-500	-1,711
Surplus/ (Deficit) in year	-5,460	-466	-6,146	-12,072		31,903	8,786	286,798	327,487
Bal b/f	94,412	101,864	190,350			105,568	0	146,257	
Surplus/ (Deficit) c/f	88,952	101,398	184,204			137,471	8,786	433,055	

The trustees' annual report was approved on ~~13th September 2022~~ ^{13th September 2021} and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



 G Evans
 Trustee



 L Hughes
 Trustee

Independent examiner's report **Page 12**
to THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 13 to 20.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The churches PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The churches PCC considers that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act) and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 next statement.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.



Mr G Mattocks
Mattocks Grindley
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes WA8 0WN

13/9/22.....

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
						2021 £	2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES							
<i>Voluntary income</i>	2a	57,232	0	3,044	0	60,276	34,148
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>	2b	3,375	0	325,192	0	328,567	181,882
<i>Income from activities:</i>							
- church activities	2c	21,910	0	8,821	0	30,731	20,420
- to generate funds	2d	0	0	0	0	0	727
<i>Income from investments</i>	2e	6	0	27	0	33	326
<i>Other incoming resources</i>	2f	142,439	0	24,911	0	167,350	7,521
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		224,961	0	361,995	0	586,956	245,024
RESOURCES USED							
<i>Fundraising costs</i>	3(a)	0	0	0	0	0	4,000
<i>Missionary & charitable giving</i>	3(b)	4,706	0	0	0	4,706	2,894
<i>Church activities</i>	3(c)	77,787	34	41,582	0	119,403	47,520
<i>Administration</i>	3(d)	30,609	0	0	0	30,609	10,263
<i>Major Works Refurbishment</i>	3(e)	0	0	0		0	148,539
<i>Pre school expenditure</i>		125,144				125,144	
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		238,246	34	41,582	0	279,862	213,016
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES		-13,285	-34	320,413	0	307,094	32,008
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	12	1,211	500	-1,711		0	0
TOTAL AFTER TRANSFERS		-12,074	466	318,702	0	307,094	32,008
TRANSFER IN OF ST JOHNS	14	101,398		8,786		110,184	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		89,324	466	327,488	0	417,278	32,008
BALANCES B / FWD AT 1 JANUARY 2021		93,738	49	105,568	625	199,980	167,972
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2021		183,062	515	433,056	625	617,258	199,980

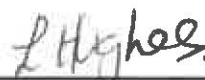
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
BALANCE SHEET
At 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5(a)	422,584	67,764
Investment assets	5(b)	625	625
		<u>423,209</u>	<u>68,389</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	1,221	0
Hall Fund		0	1
St Paul's Building Fund		0	95,230
Ordinary Deposit Account			10,735
Current Account		52,066	25,935
Sundry & Petty Cash Balances		101	371
Go Cardless		5	
St Johns current account		44,674	
St Johns natwest account		27,527	
St Johns reserve account		21,102	
St Johns petty cash		85	
Pre school account		52,107	
Pre school savings account		1	
Pre school petty cash		286	
		<u>199,173</u>	<u>132,272</u>
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	5,124	681
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>194,049</u>	<u>131,591</u>
LIABILITIES DUE AFTER ONE YEAR			
NET ASSETS		<u><u>617,258</u></u>	<u><u>199,980</u></u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	6	183,577	93,787
Restricted	11	433,056	105,568
Endowment		625	625
		<u>617,258</u>	<u>199,980</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by:



Miss G Evans (Trustee)



Miss L Hughes (Trustee)

The notes on pages 15 to 20 form part of these accounts

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2021

1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

Endowment Funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained. *Restricted Funds* are funds which may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. *Unrestricted Funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. *Funds designated* for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Bookstall income is on the basis of commission received as the stock is on a sale or received basis.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

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

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Resources expended**Grants**

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish quota is accounted for when paid. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed assets

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to (2000) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January (2000) have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their currently anticipated useful economic life.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £1,000, or on the repair of moveable church furnishings is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years and on a 15% reducing balance basis in some cases. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. The church Hall building is being depreciated over 50 years, straight line basis.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current assets

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

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2021

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2021 £	2020 £
2a Voluntary income						
Planned Giving:						
Gift Aided Donations	41,691				41,691	14,691
Tax recoverable	3,645		3,044		6,689	5,350
Other planned giving	4,294				4,294	7,432
Collections (open plate)	4,130				4,130	2,011
Other Donations	3,471				3,471	4,663
	<u>57,232</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,044</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60,276</u>	<u>34,147</u>
2b Other voluntary incoming						
Legacies					0	1,003
Building Fund Grants			247,031		247,031	154,000
Building Fund Donations			46,251		46,251	25,857
St Pauls Gardens			2,031		2,031	0
Henry Smith Grant			24,700		24,700	0
Kids & Youth Income Grants			5,000		5,000	0
Kids & Youth one off gift			35		35	0
Non-recurring grants					0	0
New Wine			144		144	0
Kitchen Grants/Donations					0	0
Other voluntary incoming resources					0	0
Diocese/Deanery grants					0	1,022
Curate housing grant	3,375				3,375	0
	<u>3,375</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>328,192</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>328,667</u>	<u>181,882</u>
2c Income from activities:						
<i>Church activities</i>						
Hall Rental	19,462				19,462	1,145
Hall grant					0	2,500
Church Fees					0	389
Transform tots	375		592		967	308
Long Loaf (Community Lunch)	175		7,924		8,099	7,176
Christmas meal donations			205		205	952
School Dinner Grants					0	7,800
Connect Café grant					0	150
Apprentice course					0	0
Womens Fellowship					0	0
Connect Cafés & Oasis café	263		100		363	0
Occasional Offices	1,635				1,635	0
	<u>21,910</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,821</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30,731</u>	<u>20,420</u>
2d Activities for generating funds						
Welly Walk (Hall Floor)					0	727
Pew sales					0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>727</u>
2e Income from investments						
Dividends and interest including any tax recoverable	6		27		33	326
	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>326</u>
2f Other incoming resources						
Team contribution to office					0	4,437
TNW grant to cover Youth Worker			24,911		24,911	1,510
Coronavirus Furlough grant	3,213				3,213	1,574
LDBF Fee	1,737				1,737	0
Insurance Settlement	1,268				1,268	0
Vicarage Utilities	27				27	0
Pre School Income	136,194				136,194	0
	<u>142,439</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>24,911</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>167,350</u>	<u>7,521</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>224,961</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>361,995</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>586,956</u>	<u>245,023</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2021

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2021 £	2020 £
3(a) Fundraising costs						
Costs of fund raising					0	4,000
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,000</u>
3(b) Missionary & charitable giving						
Overseas	3,041				3,041	1,803
Home Widnes/UK	1,665				1,665	691
Other donations					0	0
	<u>4,706</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,706</u>	<u>2,694</u>
3(c) Church activities						
<i>Ministry</i>						
Parish Share	33,362				33,362	18,340
Marriage/alpha courses					0	0
New Wine mission					0	0
Long Loaf (community lunch)	1,231		3,209		4,440	1,809
Christmas meals					0	1,050
School Dinners					0	3,426
Apprenticeship course/Discipleship					0	0
Tots	144				144	36
Transform purchases					0	0
Youth	1,054		585		1,619	172
Officent & Verger expenses	381				381	0
Worship gathering	244				244	0
Festivals	160				160	0
Hospitality	1,634				1,634	0
Café	26				26	0
Community Sunday	607				607	0
People In Need		34			34	0
<i>Clergy Expenses</i>					0	0
South Widnes Team costs	633				633	1,980
Intern/Layreader devel/exp's					0	210
<i>Church Running Expense</i>						
Parsonage	1,417				1,417	1,988
Utilities	9,692				9,692	853
Insurance	5,135				5,135	2,329
Upkeep of services	4,349				4,349	265
Flowers					0	5
Routine repairs to building	4,756				4,756	1,250
Depreciation	6,634		7,124		13,758	2,694
Hall utilities/repair & insurance	2,939				2,939	8,410
Fareshare food	455				455	0
St Pauls@4/groups refreshments					0	0
<i>Support and training costs</i>						
Lay reader /training/conf	610				610	389
HR support	1,690				1,690	0
Accountancy	744				744	0
<i>Grants used</i>					0	0
Kitchen					0	867
Youth worker wages					0	1,659
All Churches Hope Beyond wages			5,833		5,833	0
JMF Grant - wages			2,083		2,083	0
St Pauls Gardens			1,662		1,662	0
TNW SDF - staffing			19,537		19,537	0
TNW SDF - software			70		70	0
Transform tots			480		480	0
Youth by the Park			1,129		1,129	0
	<u>77,767</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>41,682</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>119,403</u>	<u>47,820</u>
3(d) Administration						
Admin Wages & payroll fees	11,900				11,900	9,114
Staff expenses	506				506	0
Staffing - housing	10,668				10,668	0
Professional fees	1,100				1,100	0
Office Phone	161				161	486
Office expenses	714				714	0
Internet and IT costs	1,111				1,111	228
Bank charges	422				422	241
General Admin/staty/gifts	4,027				4,027	194
	<u>30,809</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30,809</u>	<u>19,263</u>
3(e) Major Works- Church refurb	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>148,539</u>
Pre school expenditure	125,144				125,144	0
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	<u>238,246</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>41,682</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>279,962</u>	<u>213,016</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2021

4 STAFF COSTS	2021		2020	
	£		£	
Wages and Salaries	28,135		9,043	
Social Security Costs (NIC)	1,688		0	
Pension Costs	7,057		1,355	
Payroll processing fees	0		275	
	<u>36,880</u>		<u>10,673</u>	
5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC				
	Freehold	Fixtures		
	Land &	and		
	Buildings	Fittings	Equipment	Total
5(a) Tangible fixed assets	£	£	£	£
GROSS BOOK VALUE				
At 1 January 2021	122,735	13,747	0	136,482
Additions	356,180	0	2,514	358,694
Transferred in St Johns assets	0	0	17,888	17,888
Disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31 December 2021	<u>478,915</u>	<u>13,747</u>	<u>20,402</u>	<u>513,064</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2021	56,334	12,364		68,718
Charge for the year	9,578	204	4,813	14,595
Transferred in St Johns assets depreciation			7,167	7,167
Depreciation on disposals				0
At 31 December 2021	<u>65,912</u>	<u>12,588</u>	<u>11,980</u>	<u>90,480</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2021	<u>413,003</u>	<u>1,159</u>	<u>8,422</u>	<u>422,584</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>66,401</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>67,764</u>
5(b) Investments	2021		2020	
	£		£	
Samuel Kidd Legacy & Diocesan Repair Fund				
Historical Cost	625		625	
Market Value	<u>625</u>		<u>625</u>	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST JOHN AND ST PAUL, WIDNES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2021

Page 20

8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	73,528	349,056	625	423,209
Current Assets	115,174	84,000	0	199,173
Current Liabilities	-5,124	0	0	-5,124
Fund balance	183,577	433,056	625	617,258

7 DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Income Tax Recoverable re Gift Aid	0	0
Trade debtors	1,221	0
Other Debtors - TNW Youth Worker grant	0	0
	<u>1,221</u>	<u>0</u>

8 LIABILITIES: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
LDBF Assigned fees	0	0
Accruals	400	0
Other Creditors	4,724	681
	<u>5,124</u>	<u>681</u>

9 FUND DETAILS

Restricted Funds are shown at note 11.
Other funds held are unrestricted but designated as shown below or general funds.

10 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
The closing balance of Unrestricted Funds comprised the followi	£	£
General Fund	183,062	93,738
St Paul's Building Fund	Designated 0	0
Womens Fellowship	Designated 515	49
	<u>183,577</u>	<u>93,787</u>

11 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
The closing balance of Restricted Funds comprised the following	£	£
Hall Fund	0	1
Food Hub grant	0	407
Tots Grant	763	150
Youth grant	9,888	484
Church floor/vestry grant (held in SPBF)	0	0
Long Loaf grant	7,277	4,540
Connect Café grant	0	150
Kitchen grant	0	61
Youth work & School Dinners grant	0	4,375
Christmas Dinner	0	190
St Pauls Building Fund	23,194	95,230
JMF grant	2,917	0
TNW SDF	5,304	0
All churches hope beyond grant	2,230	0
Youth by the park	4,770	0
St Pauls gardens	479	0
Misc restricted funds	2,678	0
Henry Smith Grant	24,700	0
Major works 2020/21	349,056	0
	<u>433,056</u>	<u>105,568</u>

12 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

13 Related Parties

The members of the PCC in 2021 did not receive any payments from the church.

14 TRANSFER IN OF ST JOHNS CHURCH

During the year St Johns Church Widnes merged into the Parochial Church Council of St Pauls Widnes and the two churches have become jointly named The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Johns and St Pauls Widnes

Accounts

St John's, Widnes

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31 December 2020



Charity registration number: 1170687

Administrative Information

St. John's Church is situated in Widnes, Cheshire. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St John's Church, Greenway Road, Widnes WA8 6HA. St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity is registered with the Charity Commission.

Registered charity name:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes

Charity registration number: 1170687

Official contact: Reverend Gregory Sharples

The clergy and officers of the church in 2020 were as follows:

Clergy and team:

Reverend Gregory Sharples (Vicar)

Craig Gaudion (Curate)

Penny Stradling (Ordinand)

Churchwarden: Dorothy McManus

Elected PCC members:

Ray Murratt (Treasurer, Gift Aid Secretary)

Clare Bedford (Lay Chair)

The PCC is operating with an agreed reduced membership in preparation for the merger with St Paul's PCC and the creation of the new parish of St John and St Paul, Widnes.

Electoral Roll Officer: Bess Smith

Safeguarding Officer: Sophie Sharples

Readers:

Margaret Spencer (Reader Emeritus)

Ken Keane (Reader Emeritus)

The PCC has appointed the following advisors and service providers:

Bankers: Lloyds TSB, 23/24 Albert Square, Widnes

Auditor: Bramwell Morris, 18 Mulberry Avenue, Widnes

Quinquennial Architect: Ralph Dransfield, 14 Mersey Avenue, Liverpool

Aim and Purpose

The PCC (Powers) Measures 1956 states that the PCC “is to co-operate with the minister in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.” The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of St John’s Church building.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St John’s. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community mainly through:

- Gathering on Sundays for real, relevant, and relatable worship celebrations
- Meeting in Connect groups during the week to encourage, learn, challenge, and support one another in our discipleship journeys and mission
- Providing opportunities to serve our community to see lives and our town enhanced and restored (Youth Groups, Tots group, Long Loaf Community lunch, Oasis Café, Connect Café, Foodbank)

Achievements and Performance

Covid-19 Pandemic

The pandemic widely impacted our plans and finances for 2020. The main casualties were our in-person services, mid-week activities, our connect groups, our planned Easter Day baptism service 2020 and a new initiative called Healing on the Streets. However, as a church community we found new ways of operating and discovered new ways to engage and support our local community.

The highlights of the year are:

Recruitment

We were excited to be able to make two recruitments during this period - a Children and Youth Work Co-ordinator alongside an Operations and Communications Manager role. These roles are partly funded by the Transform Northwest project and additional funding has been sought through other grants.

Community - Kids & Youth Work

Following the huge success of our Easter egg hunt in 2019, we were able to run at short notice an online Easter Egg Hunt in 2020 to engaged with and to provide fun activities for the local community. This was possible with support for our prize draw from Bellway Homes, Morrisons and I DID IT! Company.

We were successful in applying for a grant of £5,000 from Liverpool City Region - COVID 19 Community Support Fund. This grant was awarded for the purpose of resourcing families in Widnes with equipment to help children learn at home during the pandemic as well as craft supplies to give them a creative outlet and complete projects set by school. We were able to distribute 500 craft and stationery packs to children who receive free school meals in our three local schools. Packs were also distributed to the local Refuge and via social workers to families in need.

The Local Council awarded a grant of £5,000 to help set up a new youth club. Unfortunately, the start date had to be postponed due to the pandemic from October 2020 until April 2021. Some groundwork was undertaken in 2020 by promoting the Youth club in the local park as well as online, building the team, purchasing equipment, and recruiting a part time youth worker specifically for this project. We have also received £1,000 from Cheshire's Police and Crime Commissioner towards our youth work with the support of our local PCSO.

During the summer of 2020, we operated a four-week summer holiday meals and activities initiative to help children and families at risk of struggling without free school meals.

Throughout lockdown, the children and youth work operated online, or in person when possible. We were able to do special events such as Christmas parties as well as having multiple family Christingle services, seeing new people come into the church and some families engage further.

Community - General

As part of our Long Loaf community meal project, we have distributed more than 10,000 meals since 23rd March 2020, including 80 hot meals a week to local people with financial or mental health struggles during the pandemic. We worked closely with Widnes foodbank, the CAB and other local churches providing mutual referrals. The annual festival for More in Common (Halton), founded in memory of Jo Cox, due to be held at St John's was cancelled due to the pandemic. Instead, in partnership, we created an on-line advent calendar to raise awareness of certain issues, like tackling loneliness. Finally, we led an online vigil for Christine Everard.

We hope these examples give a flavour of the range of activities we have been involved in during this challenging year.

Strategy and planning

The core team completed a key piece of work to further clarify our mission, vision and values during 2020. These were developed with help from an external consultant, Alan Woods:

- **Our Mission**
'Leading people into the transforming love of Jesus'
- **Our Vision**
To see Widnes transformed with 700 people engaging in Connect Groups with 50% of people under 25yrs old and setting up three new church communities by the end 2024.
- **Our Values**
 - Devoted to Jesus and each other
 - Developing faith-stretching leaders
 - Together, engaging the young
 - Modelling vulnerability so everyone can grow
 - Having fun reaching Widnes

The Mission, Vision and Values have been fully communicated through a series of talks and feedback sessions with the whole church family in 2021.

Church online

We continued to consolidate and refine our online offering “One Church Zoom”, growing to an average 60 people attending each week and with over 74 people regularly attending our Connect Groups, plus 13 leaders and apprentices primed for the anticipated growth in people engaging with Connect Groups over the coming 12-18 months as restrictions lift hopefully.

Alpha

Collaborating with other churches within the Deanery, we administered and led an online Alpha course - 41 people attended, with 31 people completing the whole course. This has led to two new Connect Groups being formed within Transform Widnes.

One Parish

St John’s Church Widnes is part of The East Widnes Team Ministry. In September 2018, St John’s Church linked with St Paul’s Church Widnes, as part of a larger initiative called Transform Northwest, to collectively deliver a new project called Transform Widnes. Transform Northwest is a Church of England project; planting, growing and resourcing churches in the northwest of England. The collaboration was successful, and in 2019 St John’s and St Paul’s agreed to merge to become ‘one parish’. Whilst maintaining the integrity of the two unique parish identities, the merger will provide financial clarity, streamline our governance arrangements, help us share resources and back-office functions and to continue to build the team of paid and volunteer leaders. St John’s and St Paul’s are two separate legal entities who have their own functions, responsibilities, and areas of operation (two parishes). Under the ‘Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011’, a process was started during 2020 to formally join St John’s and St Paul’s together to be one legal entity and legally draw our area of operation to be one parish boundary with two churches within the parish. The aim was to complete the process by 1st January 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the new parish of St John and St Paul, Widnes was finalised on 1st May 2021.

St John’s Preschool

St John’s Preschool began as a Parent and Tots group over 40 years ago, being set up by the church community. It evolved into a Playgroup and then, on 10th February 2003, became formally registered as a preschool with Ofsted (Registration no. RP520953, Setting Reference No. EY245131). The preschool uses the main hall in the church centre - it is a pack away setting, the hall being used by the church or community groups in the evenings. The preschool is overseen by a sub-committee of the PCC and Clare Bedford is the Nominated Person on behalf of the PCC.

In March 2020 we recruited Claire Speakman, our new Preschool Manager. Within one week of commencing the role, the preschool along with the rest of the country was temporarily closed due to lockdown. Halton Borough Council guaranteed payment of the 2yr and 3yr/4yr old grants, which in our case made up ~80% of our preschool income in previous years. Alongside being able to claim a proportion of our private income through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (£3,164.17) and reduction in some of our outgoings meant we were able to afford to pay our employees in full during the pandemic, for which we are very grateful. Towards the end of lockdown, we took the opportunity of the church centre being closed to redecorate and purchase some new play equipment – items that complied with Covid-19 guidelines for Early Years.

The preschool is growing year on year and the income is forecast to exceed £100,000 again in 2021. The preschool accounts are audited along with the church accounts each year however we are very conscious the preschool contribution to the church accounts is significant and we are seeking legal advice on the appropriate charity structure moving forward.

Looking forward

In Summer 2021, we opened our newly refurbished building at St Paul's. Our main Sunday gatherings now take place at St Paul's, with the Kids Church operating out of St John's along with the weekly Youth Club, mid-week communion and Oasis café. Rooms in both church buildings and centres are now being used by hires to generate an income towards the cost of the building and towards our community activities. Our challenge for 2021 is to build up our in-person Sunday gatherings and our Connect group attendance – our target for 2021 is to have over 85 people under 30yr olds engaging in our church life alongside seven Connect Groups to support the discipleship journey.

Financial Review

Receipts

It is pleasing to report that once again there has been an increase in Tax Efficient Planned giving (£22,824 – 2020) (£18,017 – 2019). However, the closure of the church building and services due to the pandemic has impacted the other donations we receive (envelopes and collections). We are actively encouraging online giving, setting up of standing orders and providing a contactless card payment machine facility, and we anticipate general giving will increase as church services resume.

The PCC is truly thankful for all the donations that have been received from church members, families of deceased members and supporters as well as the hard work that goes into other church activities.

The closure of the church centre, also due to the pandemic, has negatively impacted the income we receive from the groups that hire rooms (£11,967 – 2020) (£16,426 – 2019). Compared to 2019, the loss in room rental charges amounts to ~£7,500 however St John's Preschool was able to continue and to increase their donation towards the running costs of the building due to ongoing funding during lockdown (£8,000 – 2020) (£5,000 – 2019). Due to the growth in the preschool in 2021, they have been able to further increase their donation to £1,250 per month - as room hires only returned in the Summer 2021, this will help counteract the impact of loss of income.

During the year, grants were secured towards the funding of a Children's and Youth Co-ordinator and in relation to activities to engage with children and young people. The largest of the grants was provided by All Churches Trust (£22,250). The Local Council awarded a grant of £5,000 to help set up a new youth club and this has been supplemented by £1,000 from Cheshire's Police and Crime Commissioner.

During the year, Transform Northwest transferred as gifts a significant amount of audio & visual equipment, to a cost value of £14,613.35. In addition, we have £23,578.36 of equipment on loan from the other Transform Northwest projects.

Payments

Once again we have been able to meet our commitment to paying Parish Share to the Diocese of Liverpool. This sum of £28,144 forms a large part of our payments each year.

We have again spent a large amount of money on the Fabric & Maintenance of our Church and Church Centre. The major items of expense have been on the heating and general repairs of our buildings. The pandemic paused potential major alterations to our central heating system, the work is now being reviewed. We have identified our future planned maintenance requirements and repair jobs to be

completed, these will be scheduled and budgeted with the outputs from the Quinquennial Report 2021.

Towards the end of 2020, Penny Stradling joined us as Curate. £4,430 included in the accounts relating to rent and rates for the curate housing.

St John's continues to support the orphanage in Bunyagira (£1,980) and Widnes Foodbank (£600).

Risk Assessments, Controls and Procedures

The PCC operates under a mature system of controls and procedures developed over many years of operation, and the PCC monitors finance and operational issues routinely as part of its regular PCC meetings.

Financial Risk

The PCC receives routine updates on the cash balance of all funds at every PCC meeting, and a full report as part of the annual accounts and APCM. Urgent and in-budget expenditure is discussed and agreed by the Standing Committee, whilst non-urgent and out of budget expenditure is agreed by the PCC. Collections are always counted by two people; all cheques require two signatories; and banking of income is ordinarily managed by the Churchwardens. The Church holds Ecclesiastical general insurance to cover its key liabilities and risks.

St John's Preschool

The preschool has two main forms of income: private income from fee paying parents/guardians (£14,097.30 - 2020) (£20,730.14 - 2019) and grant income for 2-4yr old places funded by Halton Borough Council (£100,442.40 - 2020) (£83,999.03 - 2019). Additional income was received during 2020 due to CJRS grants available to compensate in part the private lost income (£3,164.17).

The main outgoings are employee wages (£82,448.87 - 2020) (£73,410.15 - 2019) and employer pension contributions (£2,142.30 - 2020) (£1,839.57 - 2019) making up over 70% of the preschool costs. The preschool increased their contribution toward the upkeep of the building this year, from £5,000pa to £8,000pa. The other major outgoing was the investment in new play equipment that also conformed with Covid-19 guidelines (£9,910.82).

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to endeavour to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to around three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to ~ £15,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The PCC is aware that the church roof and the boilers will need replacing in the next 5-10 years and we will aim to agree and set a regular amount to save towards the costs going forward.

The preschool has separate banking and book-keeping, and it maintains a reserve to cover staff redundancy payments in case of closure (£15,000). We also aim to have three months operating costs in reserve (£27,000).

This policy will be reviewed in twelve months time.

Volunteers and Supporters

We would like to thank all the volunteers and staff who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is.

We would like to formally thank all of the organisations that have supported us during 2020.

BM:STJ001B

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Greenway Road
Widnes**

Charity registration number 1170687

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020

**Bramwell Morris
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN**

**Independent Examiners Report to the Members of
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Charity registration number 1170687**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



Giles Mattocks FCA
Independent Examiner
Bramwell Morris Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes

Parish Number 750

Registered Charity No 1170687

Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2020

			2020	2019
Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
1 Tax Efficient Planned Giving	22824		22824	18017
2 Income Tax Recovered	6886		6886	6892
3 Small donation gift aid	3345		3345	2007
4 Other Planned Giving (Not Gift Aid)	5202		5202	8742
5 Collections and other giving	1105		1105	3150
	39362	0	39362	38808
Other voluntary income				
6 Legacy	1000		1000	0
7 Donations	14369		14369	12523
8 Donations - Mission Funds	0		0	1500
9 Donations - Verger's Fees	165		165	220
10 Community, Youth, All Churches Trust Grants	32450		32450	0
Donation of Audio/Visual Equipment	14613		14613	0
	62598	0	62598	14243
Income from Church Activities				
11 Toddleywinks	0		0	359
12 Table Top Sales	0		0	151
13 Fees	288		288	214
14 Heating & Lighting contribution	195		195	259
15 Contributions for use of Church Centre	11967		11967	16426
	12450	0	12450	17409
Other income				
16 Bank Interest	5		5	7
17 Vicarage Gas Recharge	407		407	559
18 East Widnes Team Broadband Recharge	0		0	0
19 Other	0		0	0
25 PreSchool	115143		115143	105647
Pre School JRS Grant	3164		3164	0
	118719	0	118719	106213
Total Reportable Income	233129	0	233129	176673
Disbursements				
Donations - Bunyagira - Uganda			0	0
21 LDBF Fees	607		607	701
22 Organist (Funerals)	553		553	210
23 Other			0	134
24 Outside Agencies	64106		64106	0
	65266	0	65266	1045
Total Income	298395	0	298395	177718

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Parish Number 750
Registered Charity No 1170687
Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2020

Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020 Total	2019
26 Mission Donations	16018		16018	5677
30 Parish Share	28144		28144	27272
31 Payments to East Widnes Team	6869		6869	2113
32 Church Running Expenses	9239		9239	11774
33 Cost of Services	283		283	997
34 Buildings Maintenance	8863		8863	11080
35 Printing	832		832	1050
36 Cleaning	3453		3453	4443
37 Training	368		368	30
38 Stationery and Postage	301		301	105
39 Bank Fees			0	0
40 Professional Fees	1808		1808	1722
41 Fundraising costs	85		85	539
42 Assets Purchased	0		0	0
Asset Depreciation	4871		4871	0
48 Pre-School	109388		109388	92798
Total Reportable Payments	190522	0	190522	159600
Disbursements				
43 Donations - Bunyagira - Uganda			0	0
44 LDBF Fees	607		607	701
45 Organist (Funerals)	140		140	210
46 Other			0	134
47 Outside Agencies - Transform	61061		61061	0
48 Contra St Pauls	1121		1121	0
	62929	0	62929	1045
Total Expenditure	253452	0	253452	160645
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	44944	0	44944	17072
FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	56921		56921	39848
FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	101864	0	101864	56920

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Parish Number 750
Registered Charity No 1170687
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	10358.56	0.00
Current Assets		
Debtors	2769.86	2831.78
Current Account	41107.20	14669.61
Petty Cash	200.00	200.00
	<u>44077.06</u>	<u>17701.39</u>
Reserve Account	16299.75	16294.62
Pre School Account	36121.89	24825.44
Pre School Account	294.72	358.74
Petty cash	<u>96793.42</u>	<u>59180.19</u>
Current Liabilities	5287.36	2259.48
	<u>91506.06</u>	
	<u>101864.62</u>	<u>56920.71</u>

Fund Account

	Balance at 01.01.20	Receipts	Transfers	Payments	Balance at 31.12.20
General	14127.48	148039.36	-6000.00	134045.88	22120.96
Petty Cash	200.00				200.00
Mission - Designated	0.00				0.00
Unallocated Mission Giving - Designated	0.00				0.00
Allocated Mission Giving - Designated	0.00				0.00
Café Church - Designated	2144.44		400.00	44.27	2500.17
Youth Club	0.00	5000.00		1760.95	3239.05
Staff Pensions Funds	0.00	4394.15		2212.91	2181.24
All Churches Trust	0.00	22250.00		6000.00	16250.00
Central Heating Costs	0.00		6000.00		6000.00
Reserve - Designated	16294.62	405.13	-400.00		16299.75
Pre School - Designated	24154.17	118306.83		109387.54	33073.46
	<u>56920.71</u>	<u>298395.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>253451.55</u>	<u>101864.63</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on
and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Ray Murratt
Trustee

BM:STJ001B

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Greenway Road
Widnes**

Charity registration number 1170687

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020

**Bramwell Morris
Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN**

**Independent Examiners Report to the Members of
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Charity registration number 1170687**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



Giles Mattocks FCA
Independent Examiner
Bramwell Morris Chartered Accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes

Parish Number 750

Registered Charity No 1170687

Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2020

			2020	2019
Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
1 Tax Efficient Planned Giving	22824		22824	18017
2 Income Tax Recovered	6886		6886	6892
3 Small donation gift aid	3345		3345	2007
4 Other Planned Giving (Not Gift Aid)	5202		5202	8742
5 Collections and other giving	1105		1105	3150
	39362	0	39362	38808
Other voluntary income				
6 Legacy	1000		1000	0
7 Donations	14369		14369	12523
8 Donations - Mission Funds	0		0	1500
9 Donations - Verger's Fees	165		165	220
10 Community, Youth, All Churches Trust Grants	32450		32450	0
Donation of Audio/Visual Equipment	14613		14613	0
	62598	0	62598	14243
Income from Church Activities				
11 Toddleywinks	0		0	359
12 Table Top Sales	0		0	151
13 Fees	288		288	214
14 Heating & Lighting contribution	195		195	259
15 Contributions for use of Church Centre	11967		11967	16426
	12450	0	12450	17409
Other income				
16 Bank Interest	5		5	7
17 Vicarage Gas Recharge	407		407	559
18 East Widnes Team Broadband Recharge	0		0	0
19 Other	0		0	0
25 PreSchool	115143		115143	105647
Pre School JRS Grant	3164		3164	0
	118719	0	118719	106213
Total Reportable Income	233129	0	233129	176673
Disbursements				
Donations - Bunyagira - Uganda			0	0
21 LDBF Fees	607		607	701
22 Organist (Funerals)	553		553	210
23 Other			0	134
24 Outside Agencies	64106		64106	0
	65266	0	65266	1045
Total Income	298395	0	298395	177718

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Parish Number 750
Registered Charity No 1170687
Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2020

Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020 Total	2019
26 Mission Donations	16018		16018	5677
30 Parish Share	28144		28144	27272
31 Payments to East Widnes Team	6869		6869	2113
32 Church Running Expenses	9239		9239	11774
33 Cost of Services	283		283	997
34 Buildings Maintenance	8863		8863	11080
35 Printing	832		832	1050
36 Cleaning	3453		3453	4443
37 Training	368		368	30
38 Stationery and Postage	301		301	105
39 Bank Fees			0	0
40 Professional Fees	1808		1808	1722
41 Fundraising costs	85		85	539
42 Assets Purchased	0		0	0
Asset Depreciation	4871		4871	0
48 Pre-School	109388		109388	92798
Total Reportable Payments	190522	0	190522	159600
Disbursements				
43 Donations - Bunyagira - Uganda			0	0
44 LDBF Fees	607		607	701
45 Organist (Funerals)	140		140	210
46 Other			0	134
47 Outside Agencies - Transform	61061		61061	0
48 Contra St Pauls	1121		1121	0
	62929	0	62929	1045
Total Expenditure	253452	0	253452	160645
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	44944	0	44944	17072
FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	56921		56921	39848
FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	101864	0	101864	56920

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Widnes
Parish Number 750
Registered Charity No 1170687
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	10358.56	0.00
Current Assets		
Debtors	2769.86	2831.78
Current Account	41107.20	14669.61
Petty Cash	200.00	200.00
	<u>44077.06</u>	<u>17701.39</u>
Reserve Account	16299.75	16294.62
Pre School Account	36121.89	24825.44
Pre School Account	294.72	358.74
	<u>96793.42</u>	<u>59180.19</u>
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and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Ray Murratt
Trustee