

SHERBORNES WITH PAMBER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL



ANNUAL CHARITY REPORT Year Ended 31st December 2023

Registered charity number 1171088

Purpose

The Sherbornes with Pamber Parochial Church Council (SwPPCC) is responsible for the running of the church in this parish within the Diocese of Winchester in co-operation with the Rector. This includes building up the church within the parish, promoting the Gospel in the name of Jesus, evangelising and supporting the preaching and teaching for the spiritual development of the congregation.

The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the churches of St Andrew's in Sherborne St John and All Saints in Monk Sherborne and also for the services that take place in Pamber Priory.

The PCC is registered as a charity with PCC members as its Trustees.

Objectives

The PCC is committed to making Jesus known and building up the church in faith and love, by enabling as many people as possible to understand the Gospel message of salvation and particularly to join the church congregation and attend services in the parish. Our services put faith into practice through biblical preaching, offering thanks and praise to God through music, prayer and the study of His Word.

When planning church activities, the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on the public benefit for charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we aim to help ordinary people come to and live out their faith within the church congregation through :

Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
Meeting together for worship and prayer
Missionary and outreach work

To facilitate this work, it is also important for the PCC to maintain the fabric of the churches and the Parish Room attached to the Rectory.

Activities and Achievements

Ministry team

The parish was in vacancy from September 2022 until the appointment of the Reverend Stewart Deering as Priest-in-Charge in July 2023. The Archdeacon's Benefice Review in November 2022 made a number of recommendations on the needs of the benefice for the PCC to progress. These were reflected in the parish profile for the recruitment of a new minister.

Steve Howe and Andy Spence have the Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM) for Worship. Andy Spence received the Bishop's Permission to Preach in October 2023. They led Sunday services and preached, regularly in vacancy. During the vacancy, Bret Rohlof also led services and preached occasionally and visiting clergy including Bishop David of Basingstoke and Ben Kautzer the Area Dean

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Annual Charity Report (cont)

have preached and held communion services. Jenny Cooke and Julie Crawley have the Bishop's Commission for Mission for Pastoral Care.

Employees

The PCC employed a part time Parish Administrator Sam Reeves who was line managed by Churchwarden Andy Spence during the vacancy and the Vicar on his appointment. Sam does a lot of work to facilitate the smooth, efficient and timely running of church business as well as supporting and releasing the Vicar in his pastoral role. The Vicar carried out an annual review with Sam in December resulting in a proposal to renew her contract for a further 12 months.

Church Services

All are welcome to attend our regular services. We have a weekly service at St Andrew's and a monthly service at All Saints' Monk Sherborne and Pamber Priory respectively. The average weekly attendance at all services and all churches, counted during October, was 60 adults (43 in 2022) and 8 children (4 in 2022). There were 89 on the Church Electoral Roll (95 in 2022). The worshipping community was 97 people of all ages (88 in 2022). We have continued live streaming of our Sunday and other services on YouTube throughout the year. These remain available to watch afterwards and were watched by an average of over 20 per week unable to attend in person.

Leading up to Christmas, an Advent Carol service was held at Pamber Priory. At St Andrew's there was a morning all age carol service held for families and an evening candle lit carol service for adults, both of which attracted newcomers. A Crib Service was held at All Saints' on Christmas Eve. Holy Communion Services were held on Christmas Day at All Saints' and St Andrew's.

As well as service leaders and preachers we have a range of people taking part in our services each week including a team of bellringers, a committed and gifted group of singers and musicians, those who do the Bible Readings lead Prayers, the AV team, welcomers, refreshments team, wardens and those who help with communion.

During the year one of our Sunday services was held in the village hall with lunch afterwards and we had joint services at Pamber Priory and All Saints' Monk Sherborne for the whole congregation which were both well attended.

Prayer

Prayer underpins our work and there are regular prayer meetings. Central prayer meetings were held monthly on Saturday mornings typically with a dozen attendees. From September, there has also been a mid-week prayer meeting alternating between St Andrew's, All Saints' & Pamber Priory attracting 7-12 attendees. Many of our congregation meet in 2s and 3s to pray together.

Discipleship

The church normally runs a full programme of men's and women's ministry events, particularly Saturday morning breakfast meetings with a Christian talk and group discussion.

In 2023, three women's breakfast meetings and a coffee morning were held. There was also an evening Advent outreach event in November with a craft activity which was well attended by church family and newcomers. The men met four times for breakfast in 2023 and for a curry evening in February 2024.

One to One Bible reading and smaller groups flourish as people meet to read the Bible and grow in faith. 62 of our congregation are members of six home groups which are held fortnightly. Our study

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materials for our regular Home Group meetings in 2023 were based on the Apostle's Creed, Acts and then Philippians.

Evangelism & Outreach

Evangelism and outreach (E&O) continue to be important mainstays of our ministry as a local parish church. We are called to reach out to our community with the message of the Gospel and to seek ways to increase the number of members of our church.

The E&O subgroup has met to consider and implement initiatives to promote Evangelism and Outreach in the parish.

The church-run baby and toddler group in the village met regularly, providing the opportunity to meet local children and their carers and share something of the Christian Message through story-telling and craft activities.

Church members assist with local community activities with the aim of meeting people, building relationships and sharing the Gospel (e.g. Coffee Mornings in SSJ & Monk Sherborne Village Halls). Members of our congregation also support the Basingstoke Food Bank and we donated our Harvest Collection, together with regular food donations throughout the year.

Members of the congregation volunteer with Christian-based charities seeking to serve our Lord and Saviour in a variety of ministries amongst those in need, including Prison Fellowship, Cedar Tree Counselling, Basingstoke Food Bank and Money Lifeline. A team of helpers from our churches helped Basingstoke Foodbank to deliver 50 Christmas Hampers in our community.

The Vicar has carried out baptism preparation with one family who are due to have their baby baptised in January 2024.

An evening event called "Discover" was held in the Parish Room in November aimed at helping those new to the church or to the Christian Faith to come and find out more about what Christians believe. We hope to build on this with evangelistic courses in 2024. A "Hope Explored" course is taking place in January.

Youth & Children

Our Youth & Children's work is organised and led by a small but gifted and servant hearted team led by Caroline Elphick and Pippa Aslet. Throughout the year a brief talk in Sunday Services for the children is followed by Sunday Club - separate activities for the children with Bible education for a combined group of Explorers 5-10 and Pioneers 10-14.

There is a creche space at St Andrew's with some toys and a changing table for pre-schooler and their carers to use as needed.

A team of church members have continued go into SSJ school each week to lead Collective Worship. Four school services held in St Andrew's were very well attended by parents. The vicar has been visiting the school regularly to build relationships with children and staff.

We have also maintained and developed our relationship with the Priory School, with church members invited to talk to classes about what Christianity is and take Y6 on a tour of Pamber Priory. The Vicar was also invited to lead Assemblies for a week in Everest school.

A Harvest Workshop was organised in Monk Sherborne Village Hall for families to make bread and decorations to decorate All Saints' Church, a number of new families took part in this.

A youth event was organised for 10-18 year olds to gather and enjoy pizza, games and a bible study.

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This was enjoyed by all and we hope to plan more similar events next year.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is overseen by four Pastoral Care Co-ordinators: Stewart Deering (Vicar), Julie Crawley & Jenny Cooke (Bishop's Commission for Pastoral Care) and Pippa Aslet (Parish Safeguarding Officer). There is a wider Pastoral Care Team made up of Home Group Leaders and others who have specific areas of responsibility. The Co-ordinators and Team meet regularly during the year and communicate in between times to ensure that all pastoral care needs are known and met as well as possible either through Home Groups or otherwise. Pastoral Visiting is a key part of our pastoral care, particularly for those who are unable to attend church in person.

Afternoon Teas were organised at the Rectory for the whole church community spread across several weeks in early Autumn and a church family lunch took place in early December. These were good opportunities for getting to know one another better and building relationships.

Visits to Marnel Lodge care home have been made and short services held each month which have been very well received by the staff and residents. Our aim is to help those who have faith to keep trusting Jesus and our prayer for all is that even in their latter days they may have that assurance of sins forgiven and a certain hope of eternal life

The Vicar and a small group of volunteers also visited The Grange Care Home in December with the aim of making this a more regular activity during 2024.

The Vicar took several funerals, visiting the bereaved families to offer pastoral care as well as to help them to plan the service.

Safeguarding

Throughout the year the PCC believe they have complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

In November 2023 Peter Marrison stepped down from the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and Susan Marrison stepped down from the role of Parish Safeguarding Administrator. The PCC would like to thank Peter and Sue for their tireless efforts in this vital area of church life over many years.

Pippa Aslet was appointed as the new PSO and Caroline Elphick and Lynda Harding have taken on the administrative responsibilities. The Diocese have received this updated information, Pippa is undergoing further training with the Diocese and we are in the process of updating posters etc with our regular communications now containing the new contact details.

The PSO reports to the PCC or Standing Committee each month and is striving to build on and develop the practices already in place to create and maintain a safe, caring, open and transparent environment in which survivors and the vulnerable can hear and experience for themselves the love offered to them by their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Links with the wider church

The Vicar and two lay members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link with clergy and lay representatives from Church of England churches in the Basingstoke area. Meetings were held in St Michael's HTB plant, Oakley, Tadley and Kempshott last

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year. Good discussions and presentations were had and contacts were made and blossomed. Pippa Aslet also sits on Diocesan Synod representing the Basingstoke Deanery.

We support OneChurch Basingstoke which supports local churches through fellowship, communication, mission and prayer. We are working on developing links with neighbouring parishes and including sharing a Men's breakfast meeting with Bramley.

The PCC supports three organisations (Anglican Mission in England – AMiE, Church Society and Global Anglican Future Conference – GAFCON) which actively promote retaining the Bible, as God's living Word, at the heart of the Anglican Communion, but unlike previous years made no donations to them.

Buildings & Grounds

Regular maintenance was carried out on the church buildings, two churchyards and the separate cemetery in Sherborne St John. The building at Pamber Priory is the responsibility of Queen's College, Oxford.

All Saints

No significant work was undertaken in 2023.

St Andrew's

Repairs to the lychgate, fences and gates at St Andrew's were done in January 2023 using funds raised from the church members, villagers and the Parish Council. The stained glass at the East end was repaired following damage from vandalism. No other significant work was undertaken in 2023.

Communication

We have continued to communicate with our parish in the following ways:

- There has been a monthly article in the 'Villager' magazine written by Steve Howe during the vacancy and the Vicar since joining.
- All of our services and events are advertised in the Villager.
- A leaflet advertising Christmas services (highlighting the family services) was produced and distributed through the schools.
- We are active on social media, which has been effective in leading to attendance at special events.
- Our website continues to be updated, reviewed and promoted.

Mission Support in 2023

As an active partnership in the Gospel, the PCC gave almost 8% of its income to Christian missions, supporting workers with the SiM UK in Bolivia and the Japanese Christian Mission JCM. Home groups are linked to a mission partner and regularly pray for the needs of that mission worker and also develop a personal relationship with them through regular contacts via email.

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Through SiM (UK), the church supported Jonny and Olga Anderson as mission partners who are working to spread the Gospel message in Bolivia to speakers of the Quechua language.

Through JCM, we have supported James Ballinger on the Samurai project for JCM ministering to Japan.

In November 2023, we made a one-off donation to Tear Fund Christmas Appeal and also donated the collections for our Christmas services to three local charities Prison Fellowship, Money Lifeline and the Basingstoke Foodbank.

Stewardship & Giving

Giving to the PCC is organised through a number of tax-efficient methods such as standing orders, pink envelopes and white envelope donations using Gift Aid where tax can be reclaimed, and schemes where donations are received with tax credited such as Give As You Earn schemes and Stewardship Services. Tax is also reclaimed for cash donations in the church donations boxes using the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. Since February 2023 when a terminal was installed in St Andrew's to accept tap & go donations, donations of £1,442 have been received.

Of the total donations (excluding Gift Day), 67% (2022 76%) were regular donations. A total of 40 parishioners made regular donations to the PCC during 2022 (2022 40).

Around 97% of PCC income from parishioners was tax efficient. The PCC reclaims tax on Gift Aided donations, including small donations through GASDS, at a rate amounting to 25% of donations, and in 2023 a total of £14,493 with a further £6,197 claimed in January 2024 (2022 £18,783) was repaid in this way. This includes tax reclaimed on small cash donations (e.g. cash placed in donation boxes) where no Gift Aid Declaration is signed. Although holding a Gift Day is a successful way of raising funds to cover the shortfall in the PCC budget, the longer-term aim is to achieve our budgeted level of income by regular committed giving.

Volunteers

The PCC would like to thank all those who serve in a wide variety of ways to make our church the lively and vibrant community that it is. Particular thanks are due for all that they do to the churchwardens Lynda Harding and Andy Spence. Thanks also to Nick Harding for looking after the church finances and accounts and to all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry.

The PCC is also grateful to everyone who leads and serves on all our ministry teams: Admin, AV, Baby & Toddler, Buildings & Grounds, Care Homes, Cleaning, Evangelism, Flowers, Finance, Home Groups, Hospitality, Men's Ministry, Mission Partners, Pastoral Care, Refreshments, Rotas, Safeguarding, Schools, Sunday Worship, Welcome, Women's Ministry and Youth & Children.

Structure, Governance & Management

The Church Representation Rules set out how the PCC members are appointed. The membership of the SwP PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), the churchwardens and other lay members.

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The 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held April 23rd when new PCC members were elected by the members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll. All members of the church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and can stand for election to the PCC.

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

There were 7 regular PCC meetings in 2023. The average attendance was 77%. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC has a number of subcommittees dealing with particular aspects of its work. These include a standing committee and subcommittees for Finance, Buildings & Grounds, Mission, Outreach, Youth & Children and Pastoral Care. These subcommittees report back to the full PCC on their deliberations and any important decisions.

The standing committee has met regularly in the vacancy to ensure the continued smooth running of the church.

Risks and Insurance

The main risks for the PCC are the two historic church buildings that it is responsible for. Insurance policies are held covering the two churches, the parish room and employer's and public liability. The PCC has adopted a number of policies on how activities should be conducted including Health & Safety and Safeguarding for young people and vulnerable adults. 25 current church members have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service certificates (2022 : 21). Another 3 who we obtained certificates for have left the congregation.

Health and safety checks, risks and associated procedures have been implemented to control risks and avoid insurance liabilities. These are monitored by the church Health & Safety officer who sits on the Building and Grounds subgroup.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Financial Review

Financial Overview

The receipts and payments account for the year shows a deficit of £9,346 (2022 : gain of £3,454).

There are separate funds held in the General Fund (unrestricted), the Building Fund (designated) and three restricted funds with details shown below.

There was i) a deficit of £2,488 on the General Fund ii) a deficit of £6,858 on the designated Building iii) no change in the Restricted Funds (This compared to 2022 : i) General Fund deficit of £2,031, ii) a gain of £11,266 on the designated Building Fund and iii) a gain of £4,218 on the Restricted Funds.

Unrestricted Income to General and Building Funds

Planned giving of £47,886 was 1.1% down from 2022. One off giving totalled £26,191 down by 1.0% from 2022. This included £10,753 that was raised in a successful Gift Day, necessary to balance giving and regular expenditure (2022 : £10,770). A gift aid claim for £6,175 will be received in 2024 in

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respect of donations received in the last quarter of 2023. Grants of £2,000 were requested and received from the Ministry Trust to support youth work and outreach.

The total unrestricted giving to the PCC, including gift aid, of £96,124 (2022- £93,194) made up 90% of the total receipts of £106,806 (2022- £95,508). Of the total giving 58% was planned and regular, 42% is made up of one-off donations and none from collections (2022 : also 65%, 35% and <1%). The PCC continues to encourage the parishioners to support more regular giving which it feels should cover the normal day to day expenditure and would also help with future planning.

Fees, rents received and bookstall income amounted to £6,539 (2022 - £2,175) and bank interest was £498 (2022 - £139).

Payments from the Unrestricted General and Building Funds

Common Mission Fund. During the year £62,863 (2022 : £65,335) in total was paid monthly by direct debit to the Diocese.

Mission Donations. £8,448 (2021 - £7,297) was mostly paid to two regular mission partners – Japanese Christian Mission, and SIM (UK) with other donations to Tear Fund Christmas appeal and to Crosslinks. Mission donations were 7.9% of the unrestricted income.

The Toddlers group had a shortfall of £409 during the year. Income was £637 and expenses £1,046.

Building Fund. The only spending in 2023 was £8,880 paid in January for work on the lych gate and fencing. £4,888 of this was covered by restricted donations in 2022 and another £1,500 by a donation received in January.

After a transfer to the General Fund of £5,000, the fund at year end was £24,749 (2022 : 31,720)

Restricted Funds

All Saints Building Fund - This is restricted to work on the building at All Saints The roof is in need of substantial repairs flagged again in the 2021 Quinquennial Inspection, but the source of funding and timescale for such repairs is still unknown. There was no activity so it remains £4,165.

All Saints Bell Restoration Fund - This is restricted to improvement or restoration work at All Saints, excluding repairs to the building. There was no activity so it remains £1,152.

Summer Camp Fund – This is restricted for supporting children to attend Christian summer camps. There was no activity so it remains £89.

The Christmas collections raised £1,463 including Gift aid in aid of three local charities – Money Lifeline, Prison Fellowship and the Basingstoke Foodbank, and this was paid out in 2023.

Reserves

It is PCC policy to maintain sufficient funds to be able to deal with building costs that may arise, bearing in mind that we have two listed churches in our care, and to provide working capital. £25,000 of unrestricted funds was agreed to be appropriate.

At 31 December 2023, the cash funds of £41,042 (2022 : £50,388) were represented by reserves in the General Fund of £10,888, in the designated Building Fund of £24,749 (together £35,638 unrestricted -2022 £40,186), and restricted reserves of £5,406.

Administrative Information

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PCC Correspondence Address : PCC Secretary, Mulberry Cottage, New Road, Pamber Green, Tadley,
RG26 3AG

Website : <https://swp.churchbuilder.org.uk>

Regular donations to the PCC are organised via the Stewardship Secretary Lynda Harding

PCC members at 31st December 2023 were :

Incumbent & Chairman : Steward Deering

Deputy Chairman : Steve Howe

Churchwardens : Andy Spence & Lynda Harding

Treasurer : Nick Harding

Secretary : Andy Spence

Deanery Synod representative : Bret Rohloff and Pippa Aslet

Other elected PCC members : Jenny Spence, Sally Gridley, Elaine Montegriffo, Ron Leeds,

Val Hayter, Julie Crawley and Tim Aslet.

Approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by the PCC Chairman, Rev Stewart Deering

Signed :

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S Deering', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Date :

19/3/24

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	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts and Payments Account					
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts					
Planned giving	47886	0	0	47886	48403
Collections	0	0	1463	1463	723
Gift Day and other giving	34113	0	0	34113	26191
Tax recovered	14124	522	0	14646	20793
Donations	553	1500	0	2053	14916
Grant from Ministry Trust	2000	0	0	2000	1500
Insurance claim for building repairs	1093	0	0	1093	0
Receipts from activities for generating funds					0
Bookstall	55	0	0	55	51
Rent received	100	0	0	100	100
Toddler fees	637	0	0	637	651
Fees	5747	0	0	5747	2024
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Receipts from investments					0
Bank and CBF deposit interest	498	0	0	498	139
					0
Total receipts	106806	2022	1463	110291	117746
PAYMENTS					
S					
Church Activities					
Overseas and home missions	8448	0	1463	9911	7935
Diocesan parish share	62863	0	0	62863	65335
Church running expenses	10315	0	0	10315	9512
Building maintenance	4898	8880	0	13778	5833
Clergy expenses	6165	0	0	6165	18182
Cost of services	14466	0	0	14466	3724
Youth work and outreach	2139	0	0	2139	1517
Total payments	109294	8880	1463	119637	112036
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-2488	-6858	0	-9346	3454
Transfer between funds	4910	-113	-4798	0	0
	2422	-6971	-4798	-9346	3454
Bank Accounts at 1 January	8466	31720	10202	50388	46934
Bank Accounts at 31 December	10888	24749	5404	41042	50388

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	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Statement of Assets and Liabilities					
Cash Funds					
CAF Bank	5755	14749	5404	25907	32097
Lloyds	4585	0	0	4585	6102
WDBF Loan	0	10000	0	10000	10000
Lloyds-AS Bell a/c	0	0	1152	0	1425
Cash	550	0	0	550	765
	10888	24749	5404	41042	50388
Other Monetary assets					
Income tax recoverable	6175	0	0	6175	3962
VAT recoverable	0	0	0	0	0
	6175	0	0	6175	3962

Note to the Accounts (Employees and Pensions)

During the year the Sherbornes with Pamber PCC employed one member of staff who did not want to be included in a workplace pension scheme.

Approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by the by the PCC Chairman Rev Stewart Deering and Mr N Harding (PCC Treasurer)

Signed : 

Date : 26 /3/24

Signed : 

Date : 19 /3/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Sherbornes with Pamber Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2023 and Financial Review, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act

Basis of the independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records, It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

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 2011 Acthave 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

Signed by :



Date : 2nd April 2024

Chaweevan Williams

Verdant Accountants Limited

20-22 Wenlock Road, London, N1 7GU