THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ASHFORD TOWN

England & Wales · Charity number 1171191

Details

Other names	ASHFORD TOWN PCC, ASHFORD TOWN TEAM MINISTRY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2017-01-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	76 Tritton Fields Kennington Ashford TN24 9HL
Phone	01233624855
Email	shirley.leslie@ashfordchurches.co.uk
Website	www.ashfordchurches.co.uk

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH, PASTORAL, EVANGELISTIC, SOCIAL AND ECUMENICAL

Activities: Group of 6 Church of England Churches within the Ashford Town area, sharing the Gospel of Christ, conducting public worship on Sundays and at various times during the week, fulfilling the support and pastoral care of the community and offering the occasional offices of Baptism, Marriage and Funeral to all who live within its bounds.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£774,549	£786,377	£571,767	2
2023-12-31	£578,570	£550,542	£574,152	2
2022-12-31	£541,909	£511,092	£514,209	2
2021-12-31	£514,647	£555,881	£538,402	3
2020-12-31	£545,216	£579,692	£518,401	3

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Revd. Canon Dr. Jeremy Frederick Worthen	Chair	2020-10-21
CANON SHIRLEY EDITH LESLIE FMAAT		2016-05-15
CAROLINE SUSAN HANNAH		2022-09-03
CLAIRE MULLARD		2024-03-23
Christine Helen Duchemin		2021-06-14
Jane Appleton		2021-06-15
Julian Daniel Sheehan		2021-10-15
KATHRYN LOUISE SALMON		2024-03-23
LORRAINE CLAIRE ANDREWS CCHEM.MRSC		2019-04-24
Morag Margaret Sharp		2021-06-14
Rev Adam Raymond Childs		2022-01-16
Rev CHARLOTTE LOIS COLES		2023-07-31
Rev Joanne Luise Purle		2022-01-16
SUSAN MARY KATHARINE VARNALS		2025-03-22
Sally Lees		2021-06-15

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England & Wales - Charity number 1171191

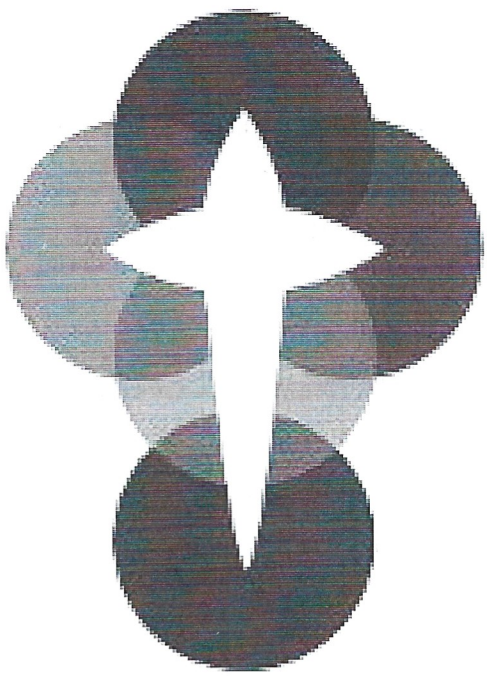
Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2024

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

A Charity registered with The Charity Commission no 1171191



ASHFORD TOWN PARISH

comprised of the Parish Churches of

St Mary the Virgin, Ashford

St Mary's, Kennington

St Mary the Virgin, Willesborough

St Mary's, Gt Chart

St Michael & all Angels, Kingsnorth

Christchurch, South Ashford

the Chapels of Ease of

St Mary's Sevington

St Peter & St Paul, Shadoxhurst

St Francis, South Ashford

And the Worshipping Communities of

Singleton Community Church

and Ignite

Website

www.ashfordtownparish.co.uk

ASHFORD TOWN MINISTRY TEAM

Team Rector

Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen
7 Augustine Drive, Willesborough TN25 7GH

Team Vicars

Rev'd Jo Purle
The Vicarage, 212 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 9AF
Rev'd Adam Childs
The Rectory, Church Hill, Kingsnorth, Ashford TN23 3EG
Rev'd Teena Twelves
The College, Churchyard, Ashford TN23 1QG

Associate Priests

Rev'd Dawn Stamper (Until March 2024)
Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders: Rev'd Charlotte Coles

Assistant Curate

Rev'd Dr Steven Horne (from July 2024)

Lay Staff

Mrs Sophie Carnaby-Denyer – Mission Enabler (Until October 2024)

Hon Treasurer: Canon Shirley Leslie
76 Tritton Fields. Kennington Ashford TN24 9HL

Hon Secretary: Mrs Sally Lees
Bucksford Lodge, Chart Road, Gt Chart, Ashford TN23 3AE

Independent Examiner: Mr S Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants
South Stour Offices, South Stour Road, Mersham, TN25 7HS

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, 66 High Street, Ashford TN24 8TL

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ashford Town in the Diocese of Canterbury
A Charity Registered with the Chairty Commission no. 1171191

Contents

Annual Report	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 12
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 13
Balance Sheet	Page 14
Cash Flow Statement	Page 15
Notes to the Accounts	Page 16
Pension Fund Disclosure	Page 24

Annual Trustees Report 2024

1 Aim & Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC), has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. When planning activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

2 Objectives & Activities

At its Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2022, the following vision statement was agreed as encapsulating our hopes and prayers for the parish for the next five years:

> Our vision is to be **a family of churches that is centred on Jesus, serving the community, and sharing our faith**.
>
> As we have sought God's will for our parish over the next five years, we see this vision including:
>
> 1. A rich variety of discipleship activities and worship services that enable people of different ages and stages of faith to live lives **centred on Jesus**
> 2. Initiatives that are **serving the community** by having a transformative impact on people's lives in the most deprived areas of Ashford
> 3. An evolving range of 'bridge' activities that build relationships with people who are not currently part of a church community, including those living on newer estates, and provide opportunities for **sharing our faith**

Five parish priorities were agreed by the PCC for 2022–27 to support the achievement of this vision:

1. *Children, Young People and Families:* every church community is investing in this area of ministry, including work with schools
2. *Serving the Community*: range of different initiatives in terms of location and focus that are having a transformative impact on people's lives
3. *Adult Education and Discipleship:* all adult congregation members are able to access a range of opportunities to support them in discipleship, including prayer, beyond Sunday services, and most are making some use of this
4. *Oversight and Governance:* positive sense of connectedness as family of churches reflected in strong team relationships and sustainable levels of financial support
5. *Buildings:* on track for Carbon Net Zero in line with national and diocesan policy.

As it seeks to achieve its priorities and fulfil its vision, the parish is committed to sustaining certain areas of activity as central to this. In particular, the parish

- Maintains a regular pattern of public worship
- Makes available weddings, funerals and baptisms for the people of the parish
- Encourages Christian discipleship for all ages
- Supports a range of activities to show God's love in practical action that responds to human need
- Ensures its buildings are maintained and where appropriate developed for use by the wider community as well as church congregations.

3 Achievements & Performance

Priorities

1. Children, Young People and Families: every church community is investing in this area of ministry, including work with schools

Achievements included: Christmas Explored, previously offered by Kingsnorth and Shadoxhurst church community only, now hosted by three additional church communities across the parish, with over 2000 students from Primary Schools and nurseries taking part; Brick Church launched by Kennington CofE Academy.

2. Serving the Community: range of different initiatives in terms of location and focus that are having a transformative impact on people's lives

Achievements included: Ignite church launched with new LLT on 20th June 2024 with a mayoral visit; process initiated of seeking funding for second Ignite church, with focus on families, on Bockhanger estate; continuing strong levels of participation in Make Lunch at St Francis, with 400 meals served over the summer and 167 at Christmas, with Christmas Story Workbooks distributed to every child at Christmas and a Real Easter egg with accompanying story at Easter.

3. Adult Education and Discipleship: all adult congregation members are able to access a range of opportunities to support them in discipleship, including prayer, beyond Sunday services, and most are making some use of this

Achievements included: 'God's Gifts' widely used as Lent course across the parish; two sets of confirmation preparation sessions held; initial steps taken towards greater support for Authorised Lay Ministry across the parish; well-supported parish mini-conference on 'Sharing our Stories'.

4. Oversight and Governance: positive sense of connectedness as family of churches reflected in strong team relationships and sustainable levels of financial support

Achievements included: introduction of new system for LLTs to be involved in setting and monitoring their budgets; new 'ministry clusters' introduced from November, drawing church communities into local partnership with others under leadership of one of the permanent stipendiary clergy; new format for APCM aimed at widening range of voices that are heard; continuing work on strategic governance including review of office staffing , with regular review of policies and procedures including monitoring of the scheme of delegation, and of PCC responsibilities to those who work in the parish, paid and unpaid.

5. Buildings: on track for Carbon Net Zero in line with national and diocesan policy.

Achievements included: replacement of oil-fired heating with electric heaters drawing on solar panel energy at St Mary's Kennington; initial survey of current heating systems in relation to Carbon Net Zero target.

On-going activity

All church communities continue to engage with Mission Action Planning.

The project to improve access to St Mary's Great Chart by laying a new path, re-laying the porch floor and installing new doors was completed just before Christmas, after many years of discussion and planning.

Indicators of attendance continued the trajectory we have seen of modest but significant growth year on year since 2021, with Average Weekly Attendance rising from 400 in 2023 to 420 and Usual Sunday Attendance from 335 in 2023 to 353, though the total here combines a very slight fall in

adults compared to 2022 with continuing strong growth in under 16s, from 41 in 2022 to 51 in 2023 and 68 in 2024. Numbers of baptisms, funerals and weddings fell compared to 2023, with the sharpest fall in the number of weddings, from 18 in 2023 to 12.

In March, the Rev'd Dawn Stamper left for a new post in a neighbouring parish. At Petertide, Steven Horne was ordained deacon to be licensed as stipendiary Assistant Curate for the parish and has been working across the Willesborough, Sevington and Christ Church cluster, preaching at Christ Church once a month to give him a greater breadth of experience, and to build upon the 'high church' tradition which he has already experienced as far as possible within our parish. With his arrival, the team of licensed clergy numbered seven again.

4 Financial Review

a. Overview: We continue to work towards sustainability with a seven year plan approved by the PCC which provides for a gradually reducing shortfall of Parish Share with the ultimate goal of making full payment by 2030. In 2024 we have achieved much of that plan: 74.5% of the requested Parish Share was paid, representing an increase of 9.5% over the previous year's actual Share payment, but disappointingly, 0.5% less than the percentage aspiration. Nevertheless, this is no small achievement in times when pressures on household incomes continue to be challenging.

For 2024 a revised approach to budgeting was introduced based on the concept of an equal proportion of available income being donated by each LLT to the Common Fund. For the purposes of this exercise, available income was deemed to exclude grant funding for specific purposes within the local area and, as the majority of the work involved in generating the income from Fees and Lettings was carried out in the parish office the income and expenditure of these two activities was moved to the Common Fund. Each LLT agreed its budget by the end of January 24 and monitored progress against budget on a monthly basis through the year.

The overall result was a very small surplus in the General Fund of around £8,800 and a deficit of around £11,200 in the Restricted Funds – this in a year when significant major works amounting to £165,000 and buildings maintenance projects of £143,000 have been undertaken. The final surplus and deficit include the transfer from Restricted to Unrestricted status of Ignite Funds. Revaluation gains amounted to £9,000 on our Investment Fund holdings and a very small gain in the Property Fund ending a run of several years of revaluation losses.

b. Incoming Resources

Planned Giving has remained largely static this year: the number of regular givers has fallen slightly from 118 to 108: this has been partly balanced by those who subscribe to the principal of tithing and have been able to increase their giving as they do each year. There has, however, been an upsurge in service collections which have doubled in value from largely the same number of services and a very small increase in average attendance. This would indicate that the pressures on household incomes were such that people were more comfortable contributing through the open plate as and when they felt able rather than committing to regular giving. We no longer use the weekly envelope scheme, having phased this out over a number of years, as we are able to claim Gift Aid under the Small Donation

Scheme on open plate collections. Those who are able to Gift Aid as individuals tend to contribute through one of the various methods of regular giving.

Income from lettings is up by almost £8000 this year compared to last despite the loss of some regular hires: significant repairs were undertaken particularly at St Mary's Community Centre (Kennington) resulting in a net income reduction of over £14,000. Our halls continued to be widely used by uniformed organisations but despite the fact that we offer them discounted rates many are struggling to generate sufficient income.

Fee income remained buoyant although marginally lower than the previous year. We conducted 74 funerals compared with 109 in 2023. There was an increase in the number of weddings from 21 to 26 and we already have 21 booked for 2025.

Fundraising was also marginally higher than in 2024 despite challenging times: the summer fayres were blessed with good weather which is a vital component of successful outdoor events. These major events demand much time and effort in planning, preparation and – not least – in generosity from our congregations in donating goods and time on the event days and we are especially grateful to the small teams in each of our churches who tirelessly work to ensure the success of our fund raising efforts.

The café activity at Willesborough (weekday mornings) and at St Mary's in the town centre (Tuesday and Saturday mornings) continues to be successful resulting in net income of around £11,000: Sunday and Wednesday coffee at Kennington added a further £1000. Link Lunches which more or less broke even in 2023 produced a net income of £2000 (excluding the cost of a commercial dishwasher at Kennington which was largely covered by donation) across the three activity centres of Kennington, Willesborough and Kingsnorth. Again we are grateful to the three small teams who manage this activity which is essentially outreach to the respective communities rather than income generation. Kennington's activity increased from bi-monthly to monthly during the year and, thanks to a very generous parishioner donation, upgraded their dishwasher to a high-speed commercial machine.

c. Expenditure

Unrestricted expenditure increased by a little over 9% in the year, the main increases being in Parish Share (£18,600), Mission and Outreach (£8,500) and Hall running costs (£5,400). The requested Parish Share increased by only 4% but as already mentioned, we have a planned route to financial sustainability, ensuring that the amount of shortfall is gradually reduced year on year. Historic arrears amount to £247,332 to which we must now add the 2024 shortfall of £75,000 bringing the total outstanding to £322,332. Note 8b on page 20 explains the rationale governing the fact that this debt is notional and not stated in the liabilities of the parish.

Spending on Mission and Outreach has doubled as our Mission Action plan gains impetus and Hall running costs have increased largely due to essential maintenance which has been carried out at Kennington and Christchurch although the latter has been sourced from a Restricted fund. At Kennington, extensive work was carried out to renew the seals of the Velux roof lights and phased work to renew the chair seat coverings is in progress. 40 of the 60 chairs have been reupholstered, replacing the foam padding with better quality and recovering the seats in vinyl which will hopefully prove to be more hard-wearing and easier to clean than the former fabric covers. Hall energy costs have increased despite the cost

savings reported last year effective from 1st October 2023: this is partly due to electricity costs for a full year being reflected in the 2024 accounts whereas in the previous year for much of the year the electric meter was not registering any usage. In addition, the energy costs at Willesborough are for the first time apportioned to reflect the letting activity which has grown significantly over the last 2 years.

During the year Mrs J Stamp (assistant administrator) opted to join the Church Workers Pension Fund and elected to backdate this to the start of her employment in November 2021. The PCC agreed to fund the backdated contributions of both employer and employee totalling a little over £2,000. Mrs Stamp resigned from employment by the parish on 31st August 2024

d. Restricted Funds

Restricted income is showing a 152% increase over 2023 as the Gt Chart path project came to fruition and a major fundraising campaign encouraged donations which totalled £123,500 and grant funding of £18,000. Insurance claims covering the work of decontamination following the kerosene leak in December 2023 at Kennington have totalled £60,500 and VAT recovered through the Listed Places of Worship scheme have amounted to more than£12,000. Grant support from Ashford Parochial Charities amounting to almost £43,000 reflects the amount of fabric maintenance that has been required this year. The Town Centre Organ fund continues to grow steadily but some essential maintenance has been necessary so the end of year total remains a little below year's.

Expenditure through Restricted funds has been extensive. The Gt Chart path project has cost £76,000 thus far with project fees of £9,000: the work is ongoing but nearing completion. At Kennington the Kerosene leak decontamination costs have amounted to £72,600 and the work is ongoing, although nearing completion: the final phase of groundwork revealed an hitherto un-noticed problem with waste water drainage which cost £6,000 for a replacement pump. A new screen and projector were installed at a total cost of £21,088 of which £17,700 was released from the Restricted School fund. At Christchurch a total of £9,500 was spent on boiler upgrade, heating work and car park resurfacing. As part of the Quinquennial repair programme £4,500 was spent at Willesborough on fabric maintenance and the Fund which was launched in 2022 to support the people of Ukraine was completed in the year with the handing over of £2,000 to be used to support the medical teams working with front line troops.

e. Custodial Funds

Custodial Funds held on 31st December 2024:

Kingsnorth Bellringers' Fund	£2792.11
Kingsnorth Africa Trip postponed from 2020	£2200.00

Full details of the financial movement on each Restricted Fund can be found at Note 9 on Page 21 and the purpose of each Fund is detailed at Note 14 on Page 23 of this Report.

5 In conclusion

2025 may well turn out to be even more challenging than 2024, but we look forward with hope and will continue to strive for sustainability. Without doubt, this will involve tough decisions on spending:

we already know that the Parish Share increase is 6% where our original forecast was based on 4% and this will adversely impact the 7-year plan. We need to be imaginative in finding new income streams or ways to increase the sources we already have: increasing income where the main source is voluntary is never easy. There are no membership fees, the church is free to all and all are welcome. Generosity is at the very heart of our existence and the core of our financial success or failure. May our mantra be "Give to God what is right - not what's left".

The PC has approved a revision to the Reserves Policy

6 Total Funds at 31st December 2024

The PCC aims to maintain a balance on Free Reserves of not less than 12.5% of annual unrestricted expenditure. For 2024 the requirement would be a minimum of £57,182: actual Free Reserves are as shown in the following table:-

Funds	Amount	Held in:
Free Reserves	£73,107	Cash and bank, bank deposit, debtors and liabilities
Restricted Reserves	£482,908	Deposits, Investments, debtors and liabilities
Endowment Reserves:	£15,752	Investments held by the Diocese as Custodial Trustee

7 Future Plans

As noted above in section 2, we have a vision statement to shape our life as a parish up to 2027, and five priorities to support that. In 2024, the parish agreed to seek alignment between its priorities and the 2030 Outcomes in the new version of the Deanery Plan.

Each of our seven church communities identifies priorities and goals of its own within this framework as part of the Mission Action Planning process. The decision was taken this year to move from a January to December to a September to July cycle for this.

The PCC has set cross-parish goals for 2025 linked to the five priorities for 2022–27, as summarised below.

Priorities for parish-wide mission, 2022–2027	***Cross-parish goals for 2025 (i.e. additional and complementary to those in LLT MAP documents)***
1. *Children, Young People and Families:* every church community is investing in this area of ministry, including work with schools	(i) Following a review of Christmas Explored, create opportunities for local churches to participate in leading Experience Easter/Christmas Explored provision across the parish
	(ii) Establish 'Early Intervention' (mentoring) programme with local schools and TLG.
	(iii) Make case for one or more Children, Youth and Families ministers serving the parish alongside SCC Youth Minister, with agreed funding model.

Priorities for parish-wide mission, 2022–2027	***Cross-parish goals for 2025 (i.e. additional and complementary to those in LLT MAP documents)***
2. *Serving the Community:* range of different initiatives in terms of location and focus that are having a transformative impact on people's lives	(i) Develop SMATC as hub for multi-agency working.
	(ii) Plant 'Ignite families' in the parish with externally paid Ignite Enabler.
	(iii) Ensure sustainability of St Francis Hub
3. *Adult Education and Discipleship:* all adult congregation members are able to access a range of opportunities to support them in discipleship, including prayer, beyond Sunday services, and most are making some use of this	(i) Coordinate planning for parish mini conference that supports achievement of our parish vision.
	(ii) All church communities engage with LYCiG programme and PCC to consider how this might shape parish MAP, format of meetings and APCM going forward.
4. *Oversight and Governance:* positive sense of connectedness as family of churches reflected in strong team relationships and sustainable levels of financial support	(i) Welcome new resourcing church at CCSA as partner in mission and ministry in our town, managing change well for current congregation and establishing mutually supportive relationship with new leadership.
	(ii) Respond well together to expected proposals for new 'settlement' regarding same-sex relations from the bishops and General Synod, covering Prayers of Love and Faith (stand-alone as well as in existing services), pastoral guidance for clergy and laity, and provision for those in serious disagreement with national and / or diocesan approaches.
	(iii) Review ministry cluster trial in light of experience locally and diocesan team ministry review – decide on whether further changes are needed to shape of team responsibilities etc.
5. *Buildings:* on track for Carbon Net Zero in line with national and diocesan policy	(i) Net Zero champion identified for each church community and Parish-wide network established to lead on progress.
	(ii) Work plan established for actions needed to achieve Net Carbon Zero target for 2030 with our church buildings (including halls).

8 Risk Management

8.1 Principle Risk:

8.1.1 Insufficient or inadequate levels of regular giving to sustain payment of essential basic running costs

8.1.2 Although now only a small element of our incoming funds and widely spread across a team of volunteers, cash security always poses some risk albeit minor.

8.2 Damage Limitation:

Strict control continues to be exercised over expenditure.

At parish level almost the only sanction available to protect cash flow is reduction in payment of Parish Share. As a PCC we were committed to full payment since the Ashford Town Parish was formed but the effects of the pandemic decimated free reserves. This decision to limit payment of Share was taken with much regret and as a last resort. A 7-year plan is anow in pace to achieve sustainability.

The PGS scheme offers the opportunity to increase giving annually. Generosity Sunday is now common practice at least once a year in every local church community when generous giving not only of money but also of time and talents is preached and encouraged.

Contactless devices are now in place at Kingsnorth, Kennington and St Mary's Town Centre with further devices planned for Willesborough and Singelton in the first quarter of 2025.

8.3 Future Management

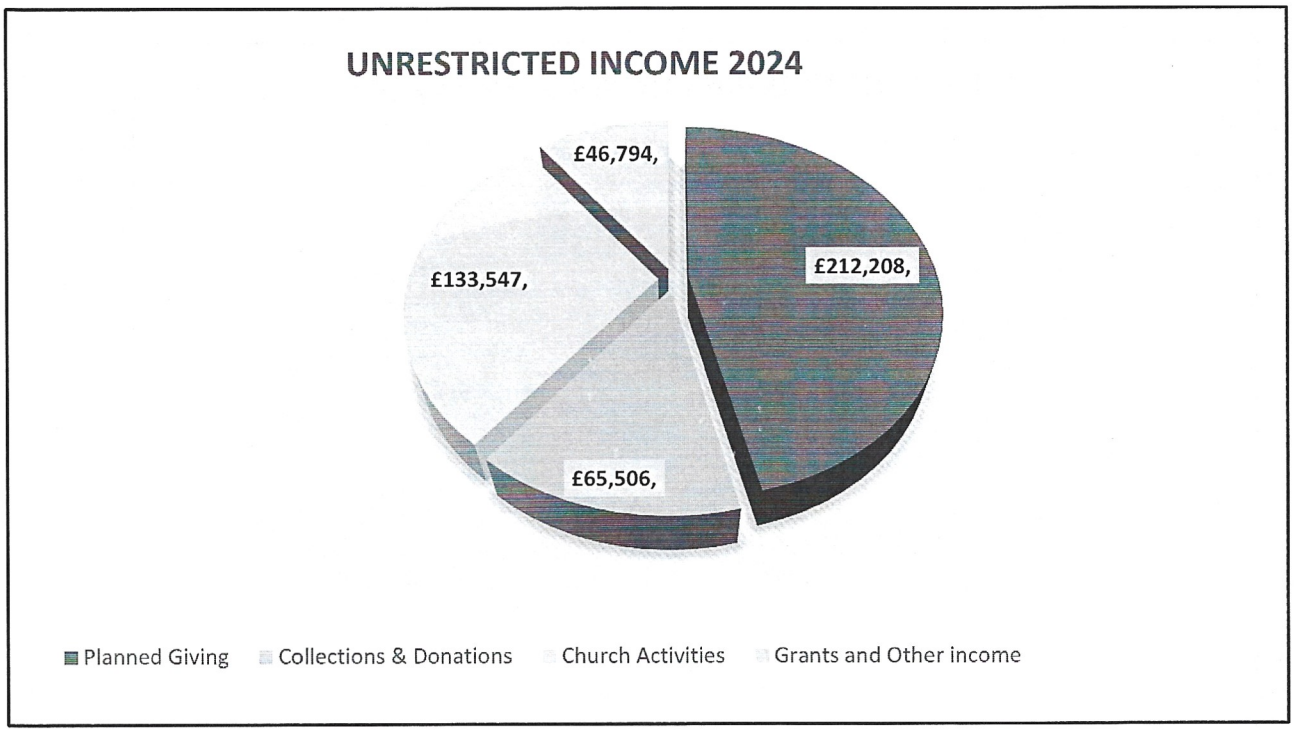
Going forward, Risk Assessments for all our buildings will need to be regularly reviewed and updated. As part of the Mission Action Plan, numerical growth in membership and new income streams will be investigated and we will continue to try to convert cash giving to electronic or other forms which can be easily sustained through any future crisis. Good stewardship and the promotion of generosity will be at the forefront of our financial planning.

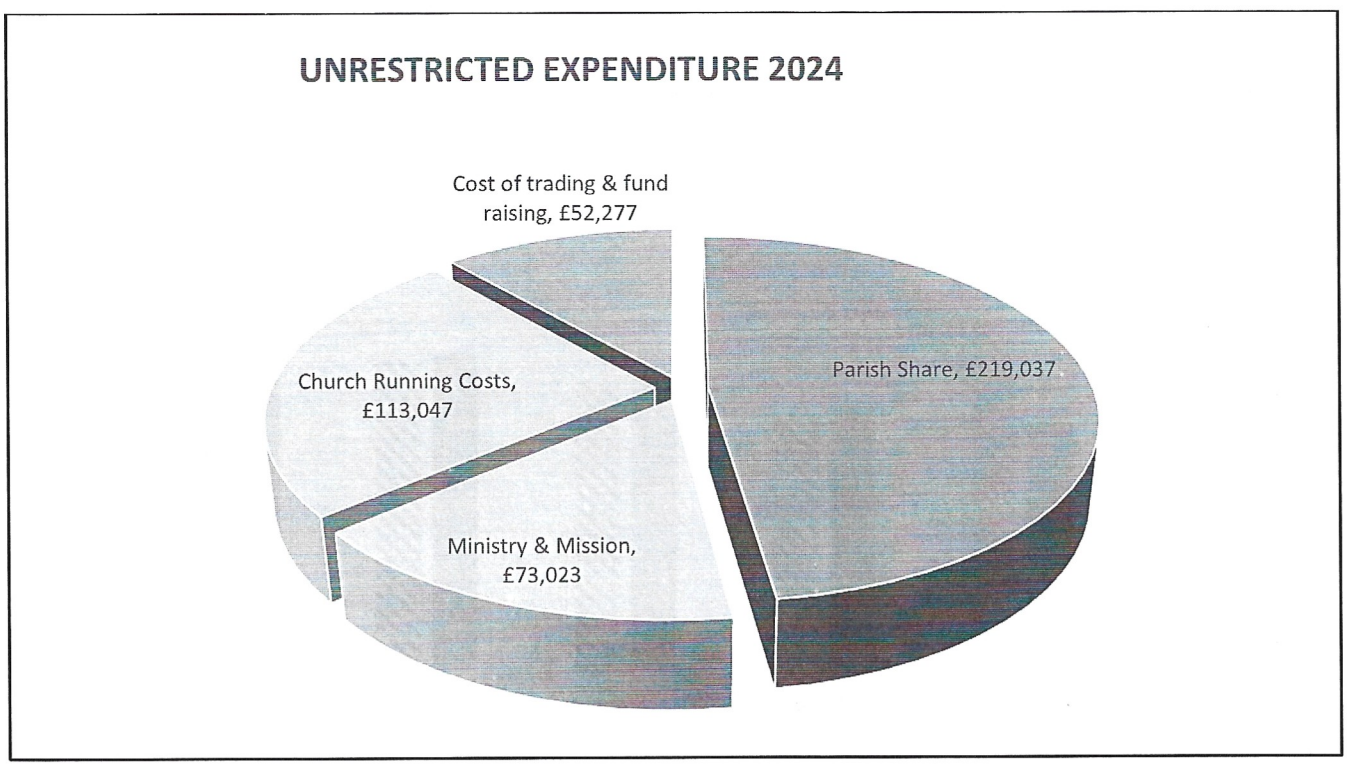
We will continue to explore and develop facilities for digital giving at public services, especially at weddings and funerals. These methods are much dependent on good internet or mobile phone connections and our church buildings are not always blessed in this way. However, technology is always moving forward and we will constantly monitor developments.

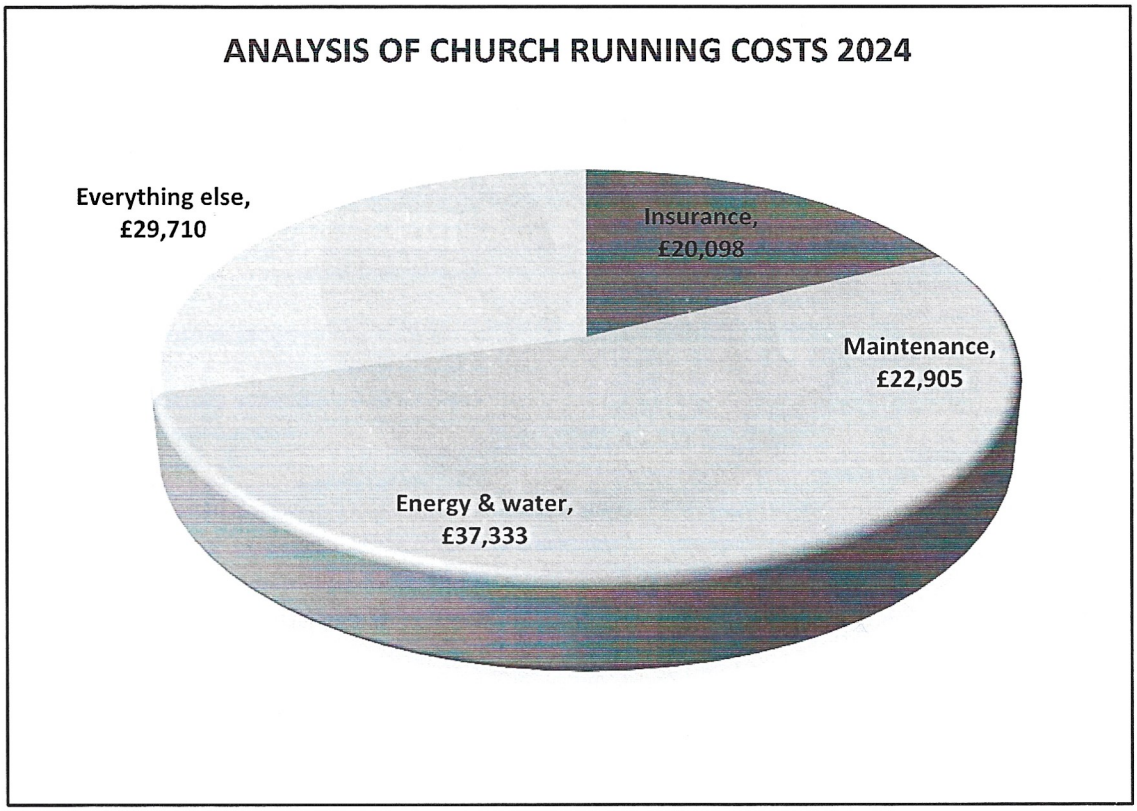
We have invited all church members to register with PGS and will continue to foster generosity - generosity towards creation, towards other people, being generous with our time and our skills as well as with our money. We have registered with HMRC for the purpose of processing GASDS claims and Gift Aid claims where donors have not transferred to PGS.

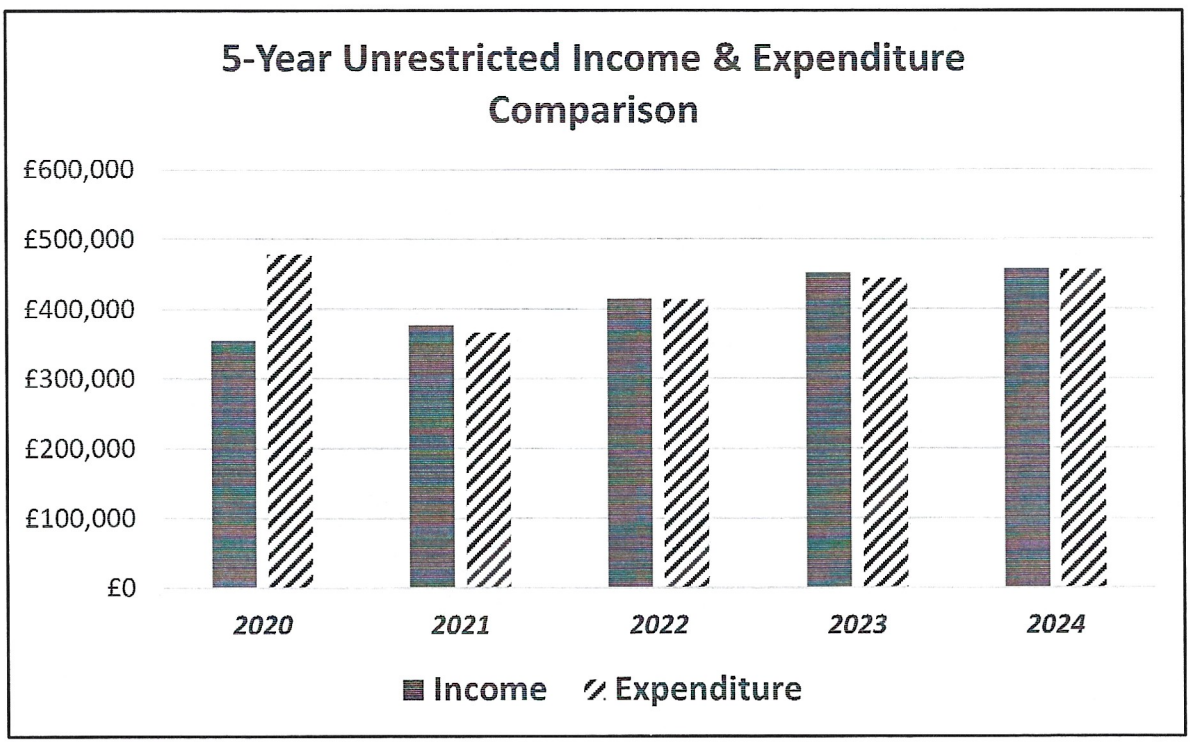
9 Information in Diagrammatic Form

The following charts show in diagrammatic form the basic elements of Income and Expenditure with some further analysis of church running costs and finally, a chart which depicts a comparison of the changes in income and expenditure levels over the five years 2020 to 2024.


UNRESTRICTED INCOME 2024
£46,794,
£212,208,
£133,547,
£65,506,
Planned Giving
Collections & Donations
Church Activities
Grants and Other income


UNRESTRICTED EXPENDITURE 2024
Cost of trading & fund raising, £52,277
Parish Share, £219,037
Church Running Costs, £113,047
Ministry & Mission, £73,023


ANALYSIS OF CHURCH RUNNING COSTS 2024
Everything else, £29,710
Insurance, £20,098
Maintenance, £22,905
Energy & water, £37,333


5-Year Unrestricted Income & Expenditure Comparison
£600,000
£500,000
£400,000
£300,000
£200,000
£100,000
£0
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Income
Expenditure

10 Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and operates in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. It is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1171191.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation rules. PCC members are ex officio, co-opted, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to serve for a period of three years, retiring by rotation. During the year, the maximum number of churchwardens was increased from 2 to 7 being one form each local church. Lay members of both the Deanery and Diocesan Synods are ex officio members of the PCC.

Membership

Team Rector and Chair of PCC: Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen
Clergy: Rev'd Adam Childs; Rev'd Jo Purle; Rev'd Teena Twelves;
Associate Priests: Rev'd Dawn Stamper (until March 2024); Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders; Rev'd Charlotte Coles.
Deputy Chair of PCC & PCC Secretary: Mrs Sally Lees
Lay Staff: Mrs Sophie Carnaby-Denyer (until October 2024)
Church Wardens: Mr Jerry Fox (until April 2024); Mrs Jenny Flaherty; Mr Julian Sheehan; Miss Caroline Hannah: Mrs Claire Mullard (from April 2024).
PCC Elected Members:
To serve until April 2025: Mrs Libby Varley; Mrs Lorraine Andrews
To serve until April 2027: Miss Amanda Hodgkinson; Mrs Christine Duchemin; Mrs Kathryn Salmon
Elected Deanery Synod Representatives (Ex Officio members of the PCC) Until 2026 APCM
Mrs Jane Appleton; Mrs Sally Lees: Mr Jacob Pradeep
Elected Diocesan Synod Members (Ex Officio members of the PCC) Until 31st July 2027
Mrs Shirley Leslie: Mrs Jill Humphreys: Mr Jacob Pradeep

Mrs Shirley Leslie continued to serve as Hon Treasurer, assisted by Mr J Small (Gift Aid Claims) Mr R & Mrs T Fincher, (Local Gift Aid administrators), Miss J Wenborn (Local Gift Aid and banking administrator) and Mr J Donovan, Mrs H West, Mrs A Sorrell, Mr C Grove and Mrs K Small (Local Banking administrators).

Mrs Lis Webb continued to serve as Safeguarding Officer.

Mrs Libby Varley continued to serve as Electoral Roll Officer.

The PCC met seven times during 2024:

Each local church has a Local Leadership or Local Management Team: these act as sub-committees of the PCC to deal with purely local matters of mission, ministry and fabric.



Approved by the PCC on 22nd March 2025 and signed by
Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen – Team Rector

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 13 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 26th / March /2025

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2024	TOTAL FUNDS *2023*
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	2a	277,715	149,253	-	426,968	307,396
Activities for Generating Funds	2b	23,267	5,927	-	29,194	30,940
Investment Income	2c	5,148	10,939	873	16,960	14,006
Church Activities	2d	110,021	-	-	110,021	99,501
Other Incoming Resources	2e	41,978	149,428	-	191,406	126,726
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		458,129	315,547	873	774,549	578,569
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church Activities	3a	454,138	328,337	582	783,057	546,051
Raising Funds	3b	3,320	-	-	3,320	4,491
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		457,458	328,337	582	786,377	550,542
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		671	(12,790)	291	(11,828)	28,027
Transfers between Funds		8,162	(7,526)	(636)	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		8,833	(20,316)	(345)	(11,828)	28,027
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:						
Realised	4b			7	7	
Unrealised	4b	-	9,098	338	9,436	31,916
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND		8,833	(11,218)	-	(2,385)	59,943
Balance b/forward @ 1st January 2024		64,273	494,127	15,752	574,152	514,209
Closing Balance @ 31 December 2024		**73,106**	**482,909**	**15,752**	**571,767**	**574,152**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
PV Panels	4a	2,929		3,564	
Investments	4b	453,227		444,384	
			456,156		**447,948**
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors & Prepayments	5	30,509		34,485	
Deposits	6	114,058		54,941	
Cash at bank and in hand	7	65,660		92,598	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		210,227		182,024	
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	8a	(89,624)		(50,828)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			**120,603**		**131,196**
Creditors - amounts falling due in more than one year	8a	(4,992)		(4,992)	
			(4,992)		(4,992)
TOTAL NET ASSETS			**571,767**		**574,152**
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted			73,106		64,273
Restricted	9		482,909		494,127
Endowment	10		15,752		15,752
			571,767		**574,152**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 23rd March 2024 and signed on its behalf by :-

.....
Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

.....
Canon Shirley Leslie - Hon Treasurer

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Cash Flow Statement
as at 31 December 2024

	2024		*2023*	
Net cash from operating activities		13,983		(10,421)
Cash flows from investing activities				
FIT Payments received	635		662	
Dividends & Interest	16,960		14,006	
Proceeds from sale of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Investments			-	
Purchase of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets for the use of the PCC				
Fixed Investments	600		-	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		18,195		14,668
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		32,178		4,246
Cash and Cash equivalents at 1 January		147,538		143,292
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**179,716**		**147,538**
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash at bank and in hand		65,660		92,598
Short-Term Deposits		114,058		54,941
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**179,718**		**147,539**

Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities:		
Net Income before investment gains 31 December	*(11,828)*	*28,027*
Adjustments for:		
Dividends & Interest	*(16,960)*	*(14,006)*
Decrease / (increase) in Debtors	*3,976*	*(9,663)*
(Decrease) / Increase in Creditors	*38,796*	*(14,779)*
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	*13,983*	*(10,421)*

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2024

Note 1 Accounting Policies:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)' and Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

Parish Share is a voluntary contrubution to the Diocese to cover central costs of Mission and Ministry. It is the policy of this Parish to recognise their responsibility for this contribution and to pay in full within the year to which it relates. However, where external factors beyond the control of the PCC prevent this, the maximum possible payment will be made and any shortfall reported by way of note to the accounts.

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

Insofar as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful life other than where insufficient cost information is available or where the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. In all cases, items are included in the relevant Church's inventories.

Tangible Fixed Assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 unless the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. They are valued at cost and depreciation is calculated to write off their currently anticipated cost over their estimated useful life as follows: Land - Nil: Fixtures & Fittings - 20 years: Computers - 3 years: Other electronic equipment - 5 years.
No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so the depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments are valued at their market value at 31 December. Gains and losses on the revaluation and disposals of investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund or at the bank.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are not therefore included in its 'free reserves'. The PCC aims to maintain a balance on free reserves amounting to at least 12.5% of unrestricted payments.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in notes to the accounts at notes 9 and 14. It is our policy to invest the short term investment funds with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend the capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital is restricted. Full details of the funds held and their restrictions are shown in notes 10 and 14. The funds are administered by Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodial Trustee and invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2024	TOTAL FUNDS *2023*
2	**INCOMING RESOURCES**	£	£	£	**£**	£
2a	**Voluntary Income**					
	Planned Giving : Gift Aid	152,764	-	-	**152,764**	**153,376**
	Tax recoverable	39,566	-	-	**39,566**	**41,066**
	Other Planned Giving	19,879	-	-	**19,879**	**18,081**
	Collections: Open Plate	35,182	-	-	**35,182**	**27,221**
	Tax recoverable	10,494	-	-	**10,494**	**8,049**
	Donations	18,339	147,615	-	**165,954**	**54,930**
	Legacies	-	1,638	-	**1,638**	**2,400**
	Special Appeals & Collections	1,491	-	-	**1,491**	**2,273**
		277,715	**149,253**	-	426,968	307,396
2b	**Activities for Generating Funds**					
	Events	22,393	5,927	-	**28,320**	**30,150**
	Magazine Adverts	874	-	-	**874**	790
		23,267	**5,927**	-	29,194	30,940
2c	**Investment Income**					
	Dividends & Interest	5,148	10,939	873	**16,960**	**14,005**
		5,148	**10,939**	**873**	16,960	14,005
2d	**Church Activities**					
	Occasional Office fees	20,651	-	-	**20,651**	**20,481**
	Church Magazine Sales	583	-	-	**583**	**886**
	Lettings	67,726	-	-	**67,726**	**60,079**
	Community Café	17,838	-	-	**17,838**	**16,292**
	Link Lunch	3,193	-	-	**3,193**	**1,763**
	Other	30	-	-	**30**	-
		110,021	-	-	110,021	99,501
2e	**Other Incoming Resources**					
	Grants	38,598	84,066	-	**122,664**	**96,481**
	Heating Surcharge	-	-	-	-	**17,176**
	Insurance Claims	-	64,390	-	**64,390**	**9,497**
	HMRC Allowance	1,872	-	-	**1,872**	**1,741**
	Other	1,508	972	-	**2,480**	**1,835**
		41,978	**149,428**	-	191,406	126,728
	Total Incoming Resources	**458,129**	**315,547**	**873**	774,549	578,570

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2024

			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2024	TOTAL FUNDS *2023*
		RESOURCES EXPENDED	£	£	£	**£**	£
3	3a	**Church Activities**					
		Charitable Giving					
		Charities Supported from special collections	2,914	1,988	-	**4,902**	7,516
		Total Charitable Giving	**2,914**	**1,988**	-	**4,902**	7,516
		Mission & Ministry					
		Mission & Evangelism					
		CAP / Fresh Start	-	-	-	**-**	1,200
		Ignite	866	-	-	**866**	2,584
		Children & Young People	724	8,866	-	**9,590**	2,786
		Mission & Outreach	3,389	7,578	-	**10,967**	2,393
		Total Mission & Evangelism	**4,979**	**16,444**	-	**21,423**	8,963
		Ministry					
		Parish Share	219,037	-	-	**219,037**	200,384
		Local Ministry					
		Salaries & Honoraria	51,538	-	-	**51,538**	48,484
		Clergy & Staff expenses	10,463	-	-	**10,463**	8,914
		Parish Office Costs	3,129	-	-	**3,129**	3,445
		Total Ministry Cost	**284,167**	**-**	-	**284,167**	261,227
		Church Running Costs					
		Centralised Costs	27,095	2,002	-	**29,097**	23,096
		Insurance	20,097	-	-	**20,097**	23,327
		Maintenance & Cleaning	22,407	143,184	-	**165,591**	59,987
		Energy & Water	37,333	-	-	**37,333**	50,600
		Churchyard upkeep	6,115	-	-	**6,115**	6,348
		Other Running Costs		-	-	**-**	965
			113,047	**145,186**	-	**258,233**	164,324
		Cost of Trading					
		Hall Running Costs	41,374	-	-	**41,374**	35,989
		Café Running Costs	7,657	-	-	**7,657**	5,804
			49,031	**-**	**-**	**49,031**	41,792
		Major Capital Expenditure					
		Capital projects	-	152,293	-	**152,293**	58,059
		Hall Major projects	-	2,010		**2,010**	-
		Project Professional Fees & Other Costs	-	10,416	582	**10,998**	4,170
			-	**164,719**	**582**	**165,301**	62,229
		Total Church Activities	**454,138**	**328,337**	**582**	**783,057**	546,051
	3b	**Cost of Raising Funds**					
		Events	3,320	-	-	**3,320**	4,491
		Total Cost of Raising Funds	**3,320**	**-**	**-**	**3,320**	4,491

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended
31 December 2024

Note

4a FIXED ASSETS

		2024	2023
1	13 x Panels purchased at a total cost of	8,329	8,329
	FIT payments to 31 December 2023	4,765	4,103
	Net Book Value at 1st January 2024	3,564	4,226
	Less FIT payments received in the period	635	662
	NET BOOK VALUE at 31 December 2024	**2,929**	**3,564**

4b INVESTMENTS

	Shares held 31/12/2023	Value @ 31/12/2023	Units Sold	Units Bought	Realised / Cost	Share Price 31/12/2024	Value at 31/12/2024	Unrealised Gain (Loss)
CCLA Investment Fund: Restricted	17,138	387,406	-	-	-	23.1227	396,273	8,867
CCLA Endowment Fund: Annie Marwick	680	15,372	27	-	600	23.1227	15,117	345
CCLA Propety Fund	33,962	41,607	-	-	-	1.2319	41,838	231
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		**444,385**					**453,228**	**9,443**

4c In July 2020, Oak Shakes were purchased from Tenterden Roofing Company at a net cost of £22390 in readiness for the repairs to Willesborough Church Spire. The work has yet to be carried out and the Shakes are stored at the premises of Tenterden Roofing Company. A vesting agreement proving ownership is held by the Church Warden responsible for matters relating to the local Willesborough Church community. For prudence, the PCC has not recognised the asset on the balance sheet given the uncertain timing of its use and current value. The purchase was made from Willesborough Restricted Project funds.

5 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

		2024	2023
Debtors			
Repayment Claims Gift Aid / GASDS: November - December		5,293	5,150
Pightand Trust		-	-
LPWG Claims		-	4,886
Insurance Claims		-	1,585
Outstanding Hall Rents		5,995	8,084
Other Outstanding Invoices		7,696	13,177
TOTAL DEBTORS		**18,984**	**32,882**
Prepayments		10,693	516
Accrued Income	CCLA INVESTMENT INCOME NOVEMBER - DECEMBER	452	284
	OTHER OUTSTANDING INCOME	380	803
TOTAL PREPAYMENTS		**11,525**	**1,603**
TOTAL DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS		**30,509**	**34,485**

6 DEPOSITS

	2024	2023
CCLA Endowment Funds	379	379
CCLA Restricted funds	39,863	27,534
Barclays	73,816	27,028
TOTAL DEPOSITS	**114,058**	**54,941**

7 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

				2024	2023
CASH	Ashford St Mary		(103)	-	-
	Kennington		743		
	Gt Chart		57		
	Kingsnorth		304		
	Willesborough Flower Account		234		
	Willesborough Link Lunch Account		453	1,688	819
	Cash in Hand: unbanked coin			-	-
	Willesborough Social Events	Includes café float		490	736
	Local Churches Clearing account: Kingsnorth Lite Bite			1	17
	Ignite Cash Account			59	
	TOTAL CASH			**2,238**	**1572**
BANK	BARCLAYS			63,422	91,026
TOTAL CASH & BANK				**65,660**	**92,598**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2024

Note		*2024*		*2023*	
8a	**CREDITORS**				
	Accruals general				
	Outstanding Invoices		65,384		17,973
	Accrued 100 Club Prizes	310		175	
	Accrued invoices	4,010		10,344	
	Independent Examination	2,160	6,480	2,160	12,679
	Accruals HMRC / Pension Fund				
	HMRC	308		183	
	Pension Fund	144	452	151	334
	Accruals Designated (Deferred Income)				
	2020 - 2024 Wedding deposits	7,075		5,120	
	Cemetery upkeep (Kennington)	160		-	
	Deferred Income - Hall Hire Rents & Deposits	4,000		7,615	
	Deferred Income - Funerals in Jan 2025	2,048			
	Other deferred income	2,173	15,456	4,016	16,751
	Barclaycard		932		2,171
	Accruals Restricted				
	Deferred Lunch Club Grant (Ashford St Mary)	500		500	
	Deferred Ball Lane Grant (Kennington)	420		420	
			920		920
	Creditors falling due in one year		**89,624**		**50,828**
	Custodial Funds				
	Kennington Fayre	-		-	
	Postponed Africa Trip	2,200		2,200	
	Bell Ringers Fund (Kingsnorth)	2,792		2,792	
			4,992		**4,992**
	TOTAL CREDITORS		**94,616**		**55,820**

8b Unrecognised Creditor - Parish Share

Due to the ongoing effect on income streams of the fall in attendance resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic, it has not been possible to achieve full payment of the amount requested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in respect of Parish Share. Taking into account the minimum level of cash holdings deemed necessary, 74.5% was paid leaving £75,000 unpaid at 31st December 2024 plus £247,332 from the previous 4 years. As this is a voluntary contribution, the debt is not accrued in the annual accounts.

8c Unrecognised Creditor - Diocesan Board of Finance

Due to historic cash accounting, two loans from Diocesan Board of Finance totalling £128,000 were not recognised in the 2016 Willesborough Balance Sheet. £25,000 was repaid during 2017 and £70,197 remitted by the Diocese in 2018. £32,803 remains outstanding at 31st December 2024.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2024

Note

9 MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Trust Funds	Local Church	Balance B/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fund	Christchurch	115,946	5,881	9,570		112,257
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	37,077	77,210	78,890		35,397
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	16,924	758	17,682		-
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	90,125	1,340	53,977		37,488
Mercy Apps	Kingsnorth	3,098	68	-		3,166
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	17,669	974			18,643
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	15,243	45,940	45,104		16,079
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	7,980	440			8,420
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	6,471	331			6,802
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	4,502	237			4,739
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	7,363	233			7,596
Total Trust Funds		**322,398**	**133,413**	**205,224**	**-**	**250,587**
Restricted Project Funds						
Imago Outreach Fund	Singleton	554	1,296	1,259		591
Youth & Families Worker	Singleton	-	2,548	47		2,501
Away Day	Singleton	-	1,140	-		1,140
Children & Young People	Singleton	-	1,500	634		866
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	2,333	71	-		2,404
Fabric Nave Altar / Choir stalls	Ashford St Mary	24,035	1,322	-		25,357
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	1,773	-	-		1,773
Communications Project	Ashford St Mary	295	-	-		295
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	835	-	-		835
Organ Fund	Ashford St Mary	18,683	3,097	3,878		17,902
Ignite	Ashford St Mary	7,527			(7,527)	-
Maintenance Fund	Kingsnorth	-	232	232		-
Kingsnorth Community Fund	Kingsnorth	1,176	427	499		1,104
Music Fund	Kingsnorth	5,060	120	5,000		180
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	16,145	147,165	86,613		76,697
Other Funds	Gt Chart	1,682	830	-		2,512
Fabric Funds (Building)	St Francis	226	3,125	3,351		-
Make Lunch project	St Francis	14,208	11,727	8,895		17,040
Children's Mission	St Francis	108				108
St Francis Hub	St Francis	(5,052)	5,133	4,679		(4,598)
Captial Project Funds	Willesborough	59,435	6,025	6,368		59,092
Capital Project Funds	Sevington	21,924	3,866			25,790
Youth Work	PCC	782	-	50		732
Acts 435 / WALK CHURCH	PCC	-	5,820	5,870		(50)
Total Restricted Project Funds		**171,729**	**195,444**	**127,375**	**(7,527)**	**232,271**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**494,127**	**328,857**	**332,599**	**-**	**482,858**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town+AA1:H50
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2024

Note

10 MOVEMENT ON ENDOWMENT FUNDS

	Local Church	Balance b/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Annie Marwick Deposit A/c	Shadoxhurst	379	-	-	-	379
Annie Marwick Investments	Shadoxhurst	15,373	1,218	(582)	(636)	15,373
TOTAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS		**15,752**	**1,218**	**(582)**	**(636)**	**15,752**

11 Movement on Funds held as Custodial Trustee	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses		Balance C/fwd
South Africa Trip	2,200	-	-	-	2,200
Bell Ringers Fund - Kinsgnorth	2,792	-		-	2,792
Total Custodial Funds	**4,992**	-	-	-	**4,992**

12

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Fixed Assets	2,929		-	2,929	3,564
Investments	-	438,110	15,117	453,227	444,384
Debtors	20,781	9,723	5	30,509	34,485
Deposits	29,915	83,764	379	114,058	54,941
Cash & Bank	65,267	141	252	65,660	92,598
Liabilities	(45,250)	(48,434)	-	(93,684)	(53,649)
Barclaycard	(537)	(395)	-	(932)	(2,171)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**73,106**	**482,909**	**15,752**	**571,767**	**574,152**

13

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND STAFF COSTS

No Trustee was paid an amount in excess of £60,000

Mrs L Varley was employed as a full time Parish Administrator
Mrs Varley was enrolled in the Church Lay Workers Pension Fund on 1st November 2017
Mrs J Stamp was enrolled in the Church Workers Pension Fund backdated to November 2021
The PCC contributes 5% of salary to the Pension Fund plus 0.5% for Life Insurance cover
Employees contribute 3% of salary to the Pension Fund
Mrs Stamp left the Pension Fund on termination of her employment on 31st August 2024
Five organists were paid honoraria for regular attendance and two organists each received payment as locum

Employee Benefits

None

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended
31 December 2024

Note

14 PURPOSE FOR RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Trust Funds		
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fund	Christchurch	Purchase of Minibus or Maintenance of the fabric of the church and hall
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of Kennington church and halls
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	Funds utilised for upgarde to AV system: now closed
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	Maintenance of the fabric and church life: part utilised in 2024 to upgrade AV
Mercy Apps Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Capital & interest restricted for the upkeep of the church earmarked for restoration of tombs
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	50% of interest for the Sunday School and 50% re-invested
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the Smyth Tombs
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	Upkeep of organ £50 & Asst organist £50 balance to choir fund
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Restricted Project Funds		
Imago Outreach Fund	Singleton CC	Grant funding for community outreach
Youth & Families Worker	Singleton CC	Long term project to fund additioonal human resource
Away Day	Singleton CC	Deposits and payments towards an event in 2026
Children & Young People	Singleton CC	Income and expenditure strictly relating to this community sector
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	Purchase of choir and music related costs
Fabric/Friends/Kneelers	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	Funds are raised in support of humanitarian projects
Communications Fund	Ashford St Mary	Based on a specific donation for the improvement of communication
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	A donation has been received to fund future drama productions
Organ fund	Ashford St Mary	Major refurbishment of the church organ
Community Fund	Kingsnorth	A Fund to offer grants to people in the Kingsnorth area who are struggling to pay their energy bills
Music Fund	Kingsnorth	(Renamed) Fund to help towards cost of music provision
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	Major project to upgrade the main church path and other fabric repairs
Other Funds	Gt Chart	Minor restricted reserves relating to Choir Fund and Bell fund
Fabric Funds	St Francis	Funding for the refurbushment of the Hall kitchen & other fabric matters
Make Lunch Funds	St Francis	Provision of meals and other goods for families which qualify for free school meals
Children's Mission	St Francis	Little Squeakers - Parent & Toddler Group (currently suspended)
St Francis Hub	St Francis	Hub set up funds - awaiting grant
Capital project	Willesborough	Funds being raised for major repairs to the fabric of the building
Capital Project	Sevington	Major refurbishment of the church building (Includes Lady Sharp Trust)
Youth Work	PCC	Donations to support youth work across the parish
Acts 435	PCC	Donations to support specific needs identified via the Acts 436 network
Endowment Funds		
Annie Marwick Fund	Kingsnorth	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance

Funds held as Custodial Trustee

South Africa Trip	Funds raised for a youth project - aborted due to Coronavirus. Small balance
Bell Ringers Fund	Funds transferred to PCC bank account on resignation of Tower Captain.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)
FRS102 Disclosure – 31st December 2024

ASHFORD TOWN PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:
the Defined Benefits Scheme
the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
- a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
- a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme
Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable **(2024: £4,375, 2023: £1,683).**

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a surplusof £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2025, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 2.7% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2024. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the 2022 valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2025.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, **ASHFORD TOWN PCC** could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Key Performance Indicators: year ended 31st December 2024

PLANNED GIVING	Shared	Ignite	Christchurch	Gt Chart / St Francis	Singleton	Kingsnorth	Town Centre	Kennington	Willesboro / Sevington	2024 Total	2023 Total	Difference
Planned Giving + Gift Aid	£7,732		£3,193	£31,911	£9,371	£31,407	£37,230	£35,057	£55,682	£211,584	£212,523	*(939)*
Average giving per week	£149		£61	£614	£180	£604	£716	£674	£1,071	£4,069	£4,087	-£18
Number of Regular Givers PGS	3		2	14	9	17	20	18	14	97	95	2
Number of Regular Givers Parish	1		5	12	2	21	12	19	36	108	118	*(10)*
Average giving per person per week	£37		£9	£24	£16	£16	£22	£18	£21	£20	£19	£1
Open Plate - Sunday			£5,450	£7,780	£3,346	£6,583	£7,181	£8,606	£7,481	£46,428	£23,215	£23,213
Average Weekly Attendance			24	40	55	60	56	39	83	357	344	13

OTHER VOLUNTARY INCOME	Shared		Christchurch	Gt Chart / St Francis	Singleton	Kingsnorth	Town Centre	Kennington	Willesboro / Sevington	2024 Total	2023 Total	Difference
Unrestricted Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	£212		£739	£3,567	£1,570	£758	£3,016	£3,322	£4,809	£17,994	£16,978	*1,016*
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme	-		£1,121	£1,870	£629	£1,446	£1,579	£1,892	£1,958	£10,495	£8,049	*2,446*
Total Voluntary Income	**£7,945**		**£10,503**	**£45,128**	**£14,916**	**£40,195**	**£49,007**	**£48,877**	**£69,930**	**£264,227**	**£25,027**	***239,200***

Unrestricted Investment Income	1,244	0	-	-	-	3,904	-	-	-	5,148	3,844	*1,304*
Unrestricted General Grants	7,800	235	-	1,850	-	7,200	-	-	-	17,085	34,551	*(17,466)*
Unrestricted Local Grants	-	650	170	-	-	4,875	15,200	618	-	21,513	-	*21,513*
Fund Raising Events/Magazine ads	123	75	924	1,992	-	974	5,248	6,065	7,847	23,248	30,940	*(7,692)*
Cost of Events	-		(30)	-	-	-	(663)	(874)	(1,696)	(3,263)	(4,185)	*922*
Net proceeds from Fund Raising	**123**	**75**	**894**	**1,992**	**-**	**974**	**4,585**	**5,191**	**6,150**	**19,985**	**26,754**	***(6,769)***

Café Income	-		-	638	-	100	2,683	959	12,950	17,330	13,528	*3,802*
Café costs	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,937)	(3,937)	(3,555)	*(382)*
Net Income	-		-	**638**	-	**100**	**2,683**	**959**	**9,013**	**13,393**	**9,973**	***3,420***
									70%	*77%*	*74%*	
Link Lunch Income	-		-	-	-	500	-	2,159	1,035	3,694	2,035	*1,659*
Link Lunch Costs	-		-	-	-	-	-	(890)	(661)	(1,551)	(1,969)	*418*
Net Income						500		**1,269**	**374**	**2,143**	**66**	***2,077***

Churchyard Fees	-		-	-	-	-	-	3,231	-	3,231	4,842	*(1,611)*
Churchyard Grant + Endowment Incom	-		-	-	-	2,982	-	-	-	2,982	-	*2,982*
Churchyard Maintenance Costs	-		-	-	-	(2,885)	-	(3,230)	-	(6,115)	-	*(6,115)*
Net Surplus (Deficit)	-		-	-	-	**97**	-	**1**	-	**98**	**4,842**	***(4,744)***
												-
												-

OUTGOINGS		Halls	Christchurch	Francis	Singleton	Kingsnorth	Town Centre	Kennington	Sevington	2024 Total	2023 Total	Difference
Insurance	-	(3,152)	(876)	(2,744)	(620)	(2,260)	(7,690)	(1,976)	(3,932)	(23,250)	**(23,327)**	*77*
Church General Cleaning & Maintenance			(751)	(3,561)	(13)	(2,954)	(4,949)	(6,580)	(3,598)	(22,405)	**(24,229)**	*1,824*
Energy	-		(3,193)	(3,904)	-	(4,531)	(11,488)	(2,934)	(10,555)	(36,606)	**(49,065)**	*12,459*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 13 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 26th / March /2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ASHFORD TOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1171191

Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2023

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

A Charity registered with The Charity Commission no 1171191

ASHFORD TOWN TEAM MINISTRY

comprised of the Parish Churches of

St Mary the Virgin, Ashford

St Mary's, Kennington

St Mary the Virgin, Willesborough

St Mary's, Gt Chart

St Michael & all Angels, Kingsnorth

Christchurch, South Ashford

and the Chapels of Ease of

St Mary's Sevington

St Peter & St Paul, Shadoxhurst

St Francis, South Ashford

and the Worshipping Community

of Singleton Community Church

ASHFORD TOWN PCC

Team Rector

Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen (from 21st October 2020)
7 Augustine Drive, Willesborough TN25 7GH

Team Vicars

Rev'd Jo Purle
The Vicarage, 212 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9AF
(Appointed January 2022)
Rev'd Adam Childs
The Rectory, Church Hill, Kingsnorth, Ashford, TN23 3EG
(Appointed January 2022)
Rev'd Teena Twelves
The College, Churchyard, Ashford, TN23 1QG
(Appointed March 2023)

Associate Priests

Rev'd Dawn Stamper: Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders: Rev'd Charlotte Coles

Assistant Curates

Rev'd Geoffrey Abasolo-Mummery (until April 2023)

Lay Staff

Mrs Sophie Carnaby-Denyer – Mission Enabler

Hon Treasurer: Mrs S E Leslie

76 Tritton Fields, Kennington, TN24 9HL

Hon Secretary: Mrs Sally Lees

Bucksford Lodge, Chart Road, Gt Chart, Ashford, TN23 3AE

Independent Examiner:

Mr S Whorlow FCA
Cassidy's Chartered Accountants
South Stour Offices, Roman Road, Mersham TN25 7HS

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, 66 High Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TL

Website

www.ashfordtownparish.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ashford Town in the Diocese of Canterbury
A Charity Registered with the Charity Commission No. 1171191

Contents

Annual Report	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 12
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 13
Balance Sheet	Page 14
Cash Flow	Page 15
Notes to the accounts	Page 16
Pension Fund Disclosure	Page 24

Annual Trustees Report 2023

1 Aim & Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC), has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. When planning activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

2 Objectives & Activities

At its Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2023, the following vision statement was agreed as encapsulating our hopes and prayers for the parish for the next five years:

> Our vision is to be **a family of churches that is centred on Jesus, serving the community, and sharing our faith**.
>
> As we have sought God's will for our parish over the next five years, we see this vision including:
>
> 1. A rich variety of discipleship activities and worship services that enable people of different ages and stages of faith to live lives **centred on Jesus**
> 2. Initiatives that are **serving the community** by having a transformative impact on people's lives in the most deprived areas of Ashford
> 3. An evolving range of 'bridge' activities that build relationships with people who are not currently part of a church community, including those living on newer estates, and provide opportunities for **sharing our faith**

As it seeks to achieve its priorities and fulfil its vision, the parish is committed to sustaining certain areas of activity as central to this. In particular, the parish

- Maintains a regular pattern of public worship
- Makes available weddings, funerals and baptisms for the people of the parish
- Encourages Christian discipleship for all ages
- Supports a range of activities to show God's love in practical action that responds to human need
- Ensures its buildings are maintained and where appropriate developed for use by the wider community as well as church congregations.

In January, the PCC identified three key objectives for the year ahead:

1. Embed Mission Action Planning at every level of our parish life
2. Foster the life of prayer within our parish
3. Support and enhance our children and young people provision.

3 Achievements & Performance

3.1 Embed Mission Action Planning at every level of our parish life

We wanted priorities and goals set by the MAP process to shape our meeting agendas, our finances, our calendars, and our allocation of time, including the time of our ordained ministers.

Mission Action Planning (MAP) provided a routine agenda item for PCC and Local Leadership Team (LLT) meetings. At PCC, we heard a presentation from each community on its MAP process over the course of the year, while we also received written updates from each church community twice a year as well.

We also set up a small MAP fund to support projects to which church communities has committed themselves in their written reports to PCC. All seven church communities applied for grants from the fund in the course of the year.

LLT Chairs and the Parish Mission Enabler had quarterly meetings to review progress. An external facilitator from the diocese led one of these, encouraging us to reflect prayerfully on what has been happening and how we might develop further.

3.2 Foster the life of prayer within our parish

Our objective here was that many people in our churches experience new opportunities for and approaches to prayer, and that we become a more prayerful family of church communities in our day to day activities.

Pete Grieg's *Lectio* course was offered across the parish in Lent and met with a generally positive response.

Our parish Pentecost service included prayer stations to enable people to experience a variety of ways to offer intercessions, some of which at least would have been new to many.

We held a Parish Prayer Morning in September, which was very ably led by the diocese's Changing Lives Prayer Network Co-ordinator. This also introduced people to a range of ways of praying.

In addition to the prayer groups and teaching about prayer offered in local church communities, we begun scheduling a break for prayer in small groups as part of every PCC meeting after the APCM.

3.3 Support and enhance our children and young people provision

Our hope was to create and maintain a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment for children and young people where they can learn about God's love, grow in their faith, and build meaningful relationships with one another. While a number of key initiatives continued across the parish, a network of those involved in this area was established and a first meeting held, to which the diocesan Lead Officer for Children and Young People Ministry contributed. 'Christmas Explored' sessions were offered to local Primary Schools by Kingsnorth church and proved very popular, with the hope that there can be made available elsewhere in the parish next year.

3.4 General comments

Mindful that the financial situation for the parish continues to be challenging, the PCC worked on a new approach to budget planning and management that would (a) set year on year targets to move towards a balanced budget and (b) give a greater share of responsibility for setting and monitoring budgets for each church community within this framework to individual LLTs, with an expectation that any surplus over budget at the end of the year would be carried forward into next year's budget for that church community. It was agreed to implement this new model in 2024.

Indicators of attendance were steady for the parish as a whole compared to 2022, with some rising slightly and some falling slightly. Perhaps the most encouraging statistic was the number of under 16s in our Average Weekly Attendance, which rose from 46 to 60 this year, while Average Weekly Attendance for adults also rose for the second year running, from 298 to 341. Numbers of baptisms and weddings fell compared to 2022, perhaps reflecting the number of life events held over from 2020 and 2021 that took place that year.

In March, the Rev'd Teena Twelves was licensed as a third Team Vicar, with half of the costs of her post covered for the first five years by money from the Church Commissioners' Lowest Income Communities Fund. Not long afterwards, our curate, the Rev'd Geoff Abasolo-Munnery, finished his training with us and left to take up the post of incumbent in a neighbouring parish. At the end of July, the Rev'd Charlotte

Coles was licensed as Associate Priest for the parish. We benefit hugely from the contributions of three highly gifted Self-Supporting Ordained Ministers.

4 Financial Review

4.1 Overview

Throughout 2023 our financial situation has continued to be very challenging with the result that for the 4th year running we have failed to meet the full amount of Parish Share requested. Although inflation gradually reduced throughout the year, concern for household budgets remained dominant and there has been little appetite for increasing planned giving. Once again, the effect has been to impose very strict control over expenditure: the negativity which this generates is highly discouraging and counterproductive in terms of growth, mission and outreach. Towards the end of the year the PCC concluded that we could only achieve 80% payment of Parish Share and that a long-term plan for recovery was needed. Further information can be found in section 5 of this report.

The final overall position for the year was a modest surplus of £8000 in the General Fund and an encouraging £52,000 in Restricted and Endowment funds, this largely as a result of a change in reporting standards by CCLA which yielded unrealized gains on revaluation of investments amounting to £32,000 compared with a small loss had the revaluation been calculated under the previous regime.

Since the beginning of the year we have submitted our own claims to HMRC for personal Gift Aid and under the Small Donations Scheme: this has proved to be far less onerous than predicted and settlement of claims is far more efficient than the old system of claiming via the Diocese. The Planned Giving Scheme (PGS), although very simple and straightforward from the individual's point of view, is cumbersome and extremely time-consuming in terms of accessing reports and extracting data both financially and for the purpose of communication with donors. Had we known the simplicity and ease of making direct claims to HMRC which flow automatically from our existing reporting systems, we might never have considered joining PGS or recommended it to our members. However, in its favour, the scheme does transfer funds both from donations and from the resultant gift aid claim promptly and efficiently. Both HMRC and PGS have contributed to improved cashflow throughout the year.

4.2 Incoming Resources

We are grateful, as ever, to all those who have faithfully continued their regular giving through the bank or by means of the PGS scheme or Free Will Offering envelopes. Planned Giving rose marginally by just over £1,000 while Service Collections fell by almost as much. The Planned Giving Scheme (PGS), saw a small increase in contributors bringing the total to 174 of which 157 add the benefit of Gift Aid. The main advantage of the PGS scheme is the opportunity to increase giving on a regular basis in line with inflation but, of the total membership, only 20 people have signed up to this option. This further underlines the uncertainties which still exist in households following the high levels of inflation through the winter of 2022/3 and the fact that any corresponding increase in incomes always lags behind.

General donations increased by almost 50% to £16,978 suggesting that the one-off gift option is more manageable for households than a regular commitment. Restricted Fund donations also increased marginally but these are largely project-based: Kennington's new heating project attracted donations of more than £16,000 including Gift Aid. Willesborough introduced two new projects – quinquennial repairs and support for the people of Ukraine which were both well supported.

Special Appeals raised funds for The Children's Society from Christingle services, The Royal British Legion through Remembrance Sunday service collections and we were also able to donate to The Brain

Charity, Oliver Steeple Foundation, World Vision (Turkish Earthquake appeal), British Red Cross for the Ukraine floods appeal, Animal Welfare Society, Royal Air Force Association through a funeral service collection, Mission to Seafarers and Medecins Sans Frontiere. The parish's outward generosity in this way increased by more than 50% over the previous year,

Life Events services continue to contribute to the life of the parish: 21 weddings were conducted in the year compared with 47 in 2022 when we were catching up with those which had been postponed in the preceding 2 years due to Covid restrictions. Due to the lower number of weddings, total fees at £20,481 were more than 25% lower than 2022.

YEAR	WEDDINGS	FUNERALS	CREMATION	INTERMENT OF ASHES
2018	41	38	76	4
2019	37	59	50	9
2020	16	16	48	4
2021	20	34	**	5
2022	47	54	**	16
2023	21	56	53	9

** No PCC Fee received for cremations in 2021 or 2022: 13 and 37 ceremonies conducted respectively

Hall and church lettings have flourished during the year: the highest revenue (£19,392) was generated at the St Mary's Community Centre. Willesborough Church is increasingly used by local organisations, raising additional income of £5,382. Energy costs remained challenging through the winter months and we continued to apply a small heating surcharge to all Hall users.

Willesborough's Inspire Café also continued to flourish, raising income of £13,426 which is some 30% higher than the previous year with a very creditable profit margin of 67%. The café is open every weekday morning and occasionally at weekends. The café at the Town Centre church is open on Tuesday and Saturday mornings with a net income of £2,338. A new café venture has been introduced at St Francis as part of the Hub development: takings amount to £116 with costs of £79 which includes some set up costs.

Community lunches have continued bi-monthly at Willesborough (Link Lunch) and monthly at Kingsnorth (Lite Bite). Kennington's Link Lunch continued through to August but the October and December events had to be cancelled: they will recommence in February 2024 and be held every month instead of bi-monthly. Willesborough generated a net income of £279, £200 of which was donated as a contribution towards heating costs: Kennington's net income was £247 out of which some additional items of catering equipment were purchased. Kingsnorth contributed £500 towards general funds. Coronation celebratory events were held at all three locations and the catering teams were also involved in fund raising events. The aim of the Link Lunches is to reach out to those who live alone or are isolated or living on the margins of society. Make Lunch at St Francis and Ignite at St Mary's Town Centre also offer outreach to the community offering hot food and other benefits to low income families, young children receiving free school meals and to homeless people. Both are managed through restricted funding although in the case of Ignite the diocesan funding has now ceased and Ignite will be morphed into our 8th Local Church Community in 2024.

Financial support from the Pightland Trust for general purposes at Kingsnorth has continued throughout the year albeit at the slightly reduced level of £800 per month (£1,000 in 2022) as we continue our efforts to reduce dependency on the Trust. Support for part time Administrator salary also continues: total grant for the year was £17,400. Ashford Parochial Charities continued to support the Town Centre church with a grant of £11,173 towards energy and insurance costs; further support for maintenance costs is reported under Restricted Funds at item 4.5 below.

We continue to qualify for HMRC's allowance for small employers: this was increased for the tax year 2022/23 from £4,000 to £5,000 and is more than sufficient to cover our entire Employer's NI liability of £1,741 for the calendar year

4.3 Expenditure

Total Unrestricted expenditure for the year was £445,073 compared with £414,309 in 2022: this represents an increase of around 7%. Parish Share paid (as opposed to due) remained almost constant as a result of the limitations of available incoming resources and reserve funds, at 80% of the total requested: the Parish Share shortfall amounted to £66,563 which brings the total outstanding Parish Share at the end of 2023 to £247,332.

Admin Salaries and Honoraria increased by slightly more than £3,000 (7%): Mrs Lynwen Paddy was appointed as regular organist at Willesborough for 3 Sundays per month plus festival occasions. Clergy and Staff Expenses remained at much the same level as the previous year. Church Running costs increased by some 24% overall, the largest increase being energy costs (2022 £31,706, 2023 £50,625), the main effect of the removal of the price cap in the autumn of 2022 being felt through the winter months January to March 202. In October 2023 we switched supplier from Total Energies via Parish buying to British Gas (Business) for electricity and British Gas Lite for gas supply: both are 100% green energy, supporting our intention to move towards carbon net zero. Significant savings were achieved especially in Standing Charges: in the 12 month period to 30th September 2024, assuming similar levels of energy consumption the cost savings will be in the region £15,300, £14,600 of which relates to reduced Standing Charges. St Mary's Town Centre secures the greatest benefit as the Standing Charges for Gas are reducing from £8.88 to £0.613 per day achieving over £3000 of savings. The town centre church continues to receive a 40% contribution towards energy costs from Revelation, co-partner in the joint venture with Ashford Borough Council for St Mary's to be a dual-purpose building to accommodate both the Arts and religion.

Insurance costs increased by some 10% in September 2022 but the comparative increase in September 2023 was relatively minor. Insurance claims during the year were honoured in respect of ongoing restoration work at Willesborough following Storm Eunice in 2022, and a contribution towards boiler repair work at the Town Centre church. At Kennington in December 2023 a significant leak from the oil storage tank contaminated the church building which had to be closed on several occasions. The remedial work is ongoing but Insurers have accepted full liability subject to the usual £250 policy excess. Costs incurred so far include decommissioning and removal of the tank and the remaining 1,000 or so litres of oil and pumping out the boiler room: these amount to £1985. Loss of income is also being assessed.

Maintenance of ancient buildings is always going to be one of the major costs and this year is no exception. Some £60,000 has been incurred this year but we are fortunate in having restricted funds

and local benefactors which account for well over half that sum. Major projects have included window protection and a new under-pew heating system at Kennington, medieval glass repair at Gt Chart which had been damaged by vandals, storm damage repairs at Willesborough and ongoing maintenance at the Town Centre church.

4.4 Restricted Funds.

a. Damage resulting from Storm Eunice in February 2022 was finally completed during the year.
b. Ashford Parochial Charities contributed almost £3,750 towards maintenance costs.
c. Ignite, the outreach activity which provides a hot meal, socialising and gospel teaching, has been awarded a grant of £6970 from NHS England for training and a peer support worker
d. Make Lunch, which provides free hot meals during school holidays for disadvantaged families, continues to thrive with donations from across the whole parish and beyond, grants £5235 and £1000 from Grow Church Ashford a local Borough Councillor respectively. The fund is in an extremely good position at the end of the year with £14,208 in reserve.
e. Willesborough Spire project is on hold and a new fund is now being supported raising funds for the essential quinquennial repairs. A separate fund was also set up to receive donations in support of the people of Ukraine: at the year end this fund stood at £1,267.
f. All of the Trust Funds, where the assets are largely invested in CCLA Investment fund units, benefitted from revaluation gains in the year due to a change in revaluation policy by CCLA. The Property fund which forms part of Kingsnorth's Myrtle Fund continues to underperform and realised a further revaluation loss of £2721. Revaluation Gains across the various funds are as follows:
g.

Church	Fund	Amount
Christchurch	Pat Holley Fund	£8,722
Kennington	Burgess /Pope/Hills/Knights	£4,948
Kennington	School Fund	£1,146
Kingsnorth	Myrtle Fund Investment Units Myrtle Fund Property Fund Mercy Apps Legacy	£4,254 (£2,721) £257
St Mary's Town Centre	Various Legacies	£6,929
Gt Chart	Janus Fund	£1,208
Willesborough	Spire Fund	£2,764
	Fabric Quinquennial fund	£700
Sevington	Lady Sharp Legacy	£2,386

The Annie Marwick endowment fund benefitted from a similar revaluation gain amounting to £1,322. This fund is restricted to Shadoxhurst churchyard maintenance: significant tree management work is anticipated in 2024 and the 2023 income has been deferred towards this cost.

h. Kennington's West Window protection was upgraded at a cost of £10,344 funded by donation from the Friends of St Mary's Kennington.
i. The Major Organ Refurbishment appeal at St Mary's Town Centre has continued to grow with donations from the congregation and beyond. It now stands at £18,683 and is currently held on deposit. As this is a long-term project with almost no ongoing costs, consideration should now be given to transferring the majority of this sum to CCLA Investment Units.

5 In conclusion

Whilst it remains our policy to hold free reserves equivalent to 3 months' unrestricted expenditure (£111,268 at 31st December 2023), the practicalities of post pandemic recovery reveal this to be impossible to achieve in the short term. It is to be hoped that, in time, external factors of inflation and spiralling energy tariffs will be brought under control and disposable income situations will resume fluidity: the continuing failure to pay full Paish Share has been a matter of concern for the PCC throughout the year. To this end, a 7-year plan has been constructed which is based on manageable targets by which we aim to achieve sustainability by 2030. It is a somewhat daunting task but the plan provides for control of budgets to be re-vested in each local church community to encourage 'ownership' of the income / expenditure balance at a more manageable level. Ultimately local church communities will have the freedom to decide how to invest their surplus funds in mission, outreach and growth: during the transition period, as some groups attain sustainability before others, there will be a system of cross – community mutual financial support. Overall, the scheme offers encouragement and a more positive approach.

Financial Utopia for any parish is where Voluntary Income is sufficient to support the Mission and Ministry costs and for other ordinary income to fund the day-to-day church running costs. If we examine the results for 2023 on this basis we can see that the first 'ambition' is close to being achieved were it not for the short payment of Parish Share!.

Income: Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Surplus / (Shortfall)
Voluntary income:	£267,044		
Mission & Ministry		£268,278	(1,234)
Short paid Parish Share		£66,563	(£66,563)
All other income	£185,791		
Church Running costs		£176,795	£8,996

6 Total Funds: as at 31st December 2023

Funds	Amount	Held in
Free Reserves	£64,674	Cash and bank, bank deposit, debtors and liabilities
Restricted Reserves	£494,126	Deposits, Investments, debtors and liabilities
Endowment Reserves	£15,752	Investments

A full analysis of funds can be seen at Note12 on page 22 of this report

7 Custodial Funds

Custodial Funds held at 31st December 2023:

Kingsnorth Bellringers' Fund £2792
Kingsnorth Africa Trip £2200

8 Future Plans

As noted above in section 2, we now have a vision statement to shape our life as a parish for the next five

years. Each of our seven church communities has a set of five-year priorities reflecting its unique context and aligned to the parish vision, and has identified specific goals for mission in 2024.

Building on what has been happening over the last two years through the MAP process, the following priority areas were identified by the PCC for action across the parish:

- *Children, Young People and Families:* every church community is investing in this area of ministry, including work with schools
- *Serving the Community:* range of different initiatives in terms of location and focus that are having a transformative impact on people's lives reviewing and renewing the pattern of our Sunday services
- *Adult Education and Discipleship:* all adult congregation members are able to access a range of opportunities to support them in discipleship, including prayer, beyond Sunday services, and most are making some use of this
- *Oversight and Governance:* positive sense of connectedness as family of churches reflected in strong team relationships and sustainable levels of financial support
- *Buildings:* on track for Carbon Net Zero in line with national and diocesan policy.

9 Risk Management

9.1 Principle Risk:

9.1.1 Insufficient or inadequate levels of regular giving to sustain payment of essential basic running costs

9.1.2 Although now only a small element of our incoming funds and widely spread across a team of volunteers, cash security always poses some risk albeit minor.

9.2 Damage Limitation

Strict control continues to be exercised over expenditure.

At parish level almost the only sanction available to protect cash flow is reduction in payment of Parish Share. As a PCC we were committed to full payment since the Ashford Town Parish was formed but the effects of the pandemic decimated free reserves. This decision to limit payment of Share was taken with much regret and as a last resort. A 7-year plan is anow in pace to achieve sustainability.

The PGS scheme offers the opportunity to increase giving annually. Generosity Sunday is now common practice at least once a year kin every local church community when generous giving not only of money but also of time and talents is preached and encouraged.

New contactless devices are being planned under a diocesan subsided scheme.

9.3 Future Management

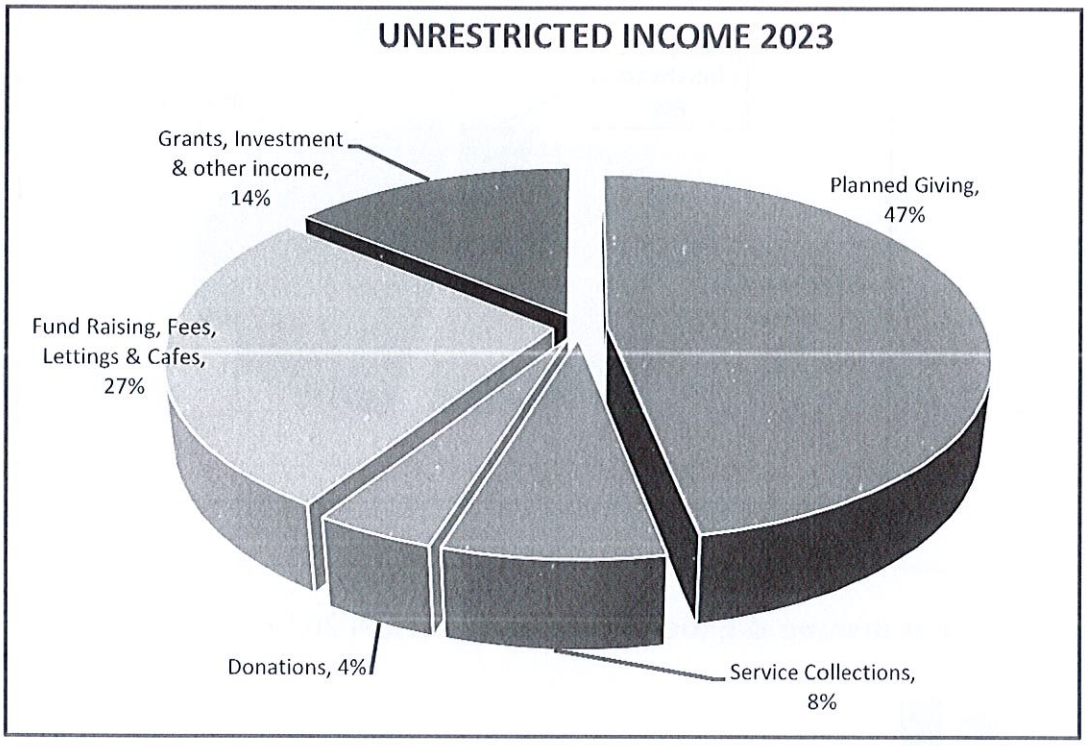
Going forward, Risk Assessments for all our buildings will need to be regularly reviewed and updated. As part of the Mission Action Plan, numerical growth in membership and new income streams will be investigated and we will continue to try to convert cash giving to electronic or other forms which can be easily sustained through any future crisis. Good stewardship and the promotion of generosity will be at the forefront of our financial planning.

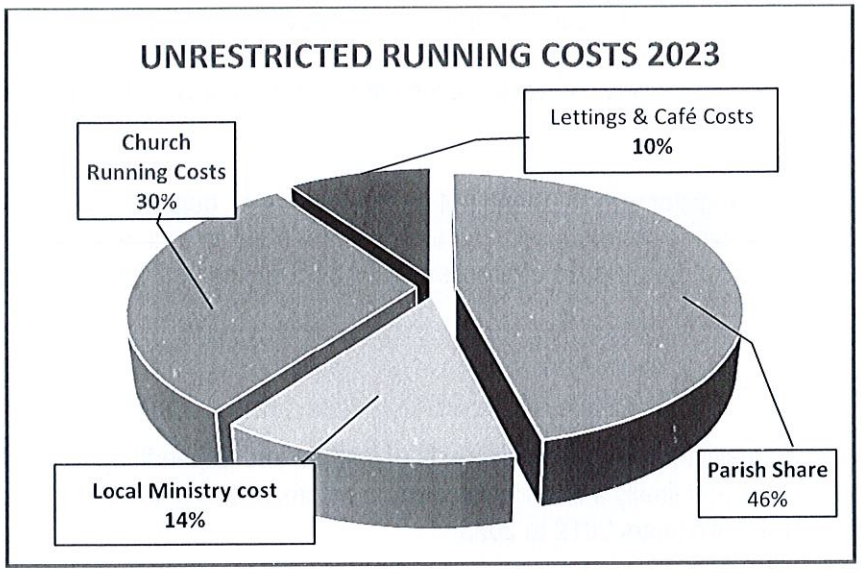
We will continue to explore and develop facilities for digital giving at public services especially at weddings and funerals. These methods are much dependent on good internet or mobile phone connections and our church buildings are not always blessed in this way. However, technology is always moving forward and we will constantly monitor developments.

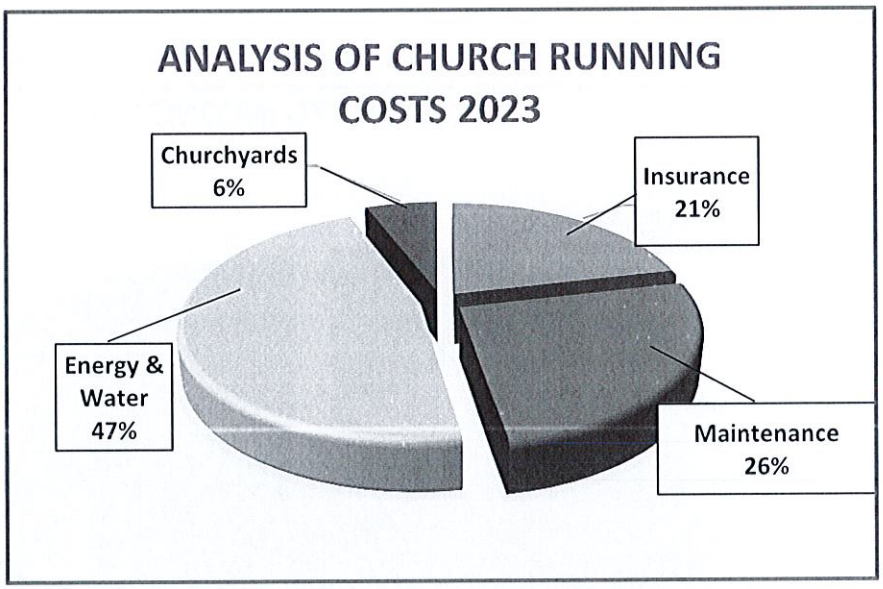
We have invited all church members to register with PGS and will continue to foster generosity - generosity towards creation, towards other people, being generous with our time and our skills as well as with our money. We have registered with HMRC for the purpose of processing GASDS claims and Gift Aid claims where donors have not transferred to PGS.

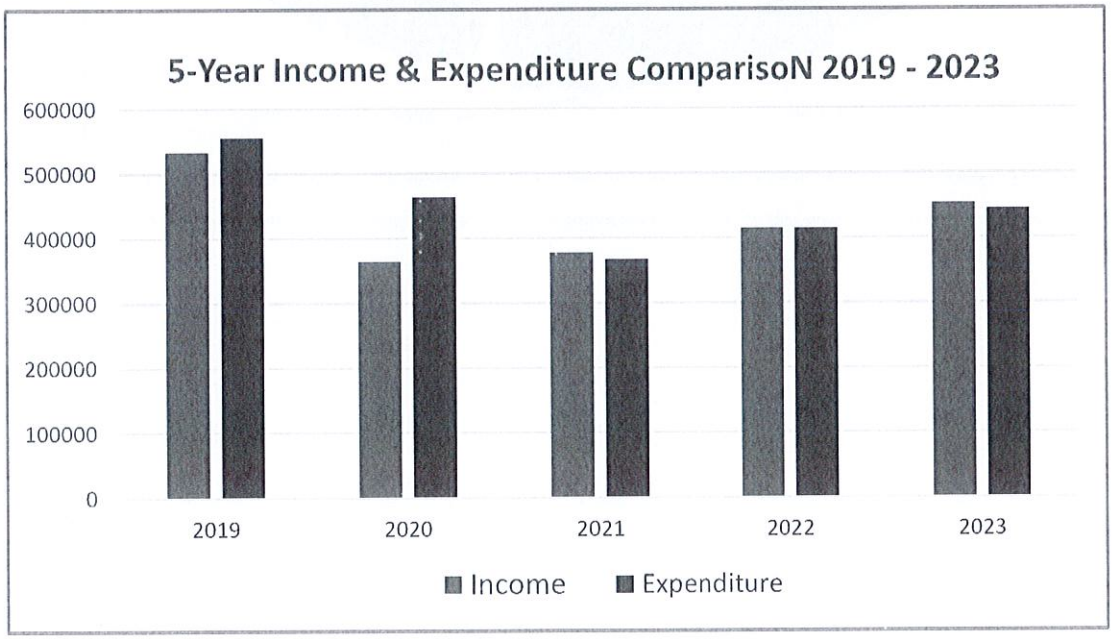
10 Information in Diagrammatic Form

The following charts show in diagrammatic form the basic elements of Income and Expenditure with some further analysis of church running costs and finally a chart which depicts a comparison of the changes in income and expenditure levels over the five years 2019 to 2023.




UNRESTRICTED RUNNING COSTS 2023
Lettings & Café Costs
10%
Church
Running Costs
30%
Parish Share
46%
Local Ministry cost
14%


ANALYSIS OF CHURCH RUNNING
COSTS 2023
Churchyards
6%
Insurance
21%
Energy &
Water
47%
Maintenance
26%


5-Year Income & Expenditure ComparisoN 2019 - 2023
600000
500000
400000
300000
200000
100000
0
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
Income
Expenditure

11 Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and operates in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. It is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1171191.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation rules. PCC members are ex officio, co-opted, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to serve for a period of three years, retiring by rotation. During the year, the maximum number of churchwardens was increased from 2 to 7 being one form each local church. Lay members of both the Deanery and Diocesan Synods are ex officio members of the PCC.

Membership

Team Rector and Chair of PCC: Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen (from October 2020)
Clergy: Rev'd Adam Childs; Rev'd Jo Purle; Rev'd Teena Twelves;
Associate Priests: Rev'd Dawn Stamper; Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders; Rev'd Charlotte Coles.
Deputy Chair of PCC & PCC Secretary: Mrs Sally Lees
Lay Staff: Mrs Sophie Carnaby-Denyer
Church Wardens: Mr Jerry Fox; Mrs Jenny Flaherty; Mr Julian Sheehan; Mr Robert Sharp: Miss Caroline Hannah.
PCC Elected Members:
To serve until April 2023: Mrs Sally Lees; Mrs Susan Mullan; Mrs Maureen Drury
To serve until April 2024: Mrs Morag Sharp; Mrs Christine Duchemin Mr Alan Stamp: Mrs Kathryn Salmon
To serve until April 2025: Mrs Libby Varley; Mrs Lorraine Andrews: Mr Ken Blanshard (resigned September 2023): Mrs Hannah Morris (resigned November 2023).
Elected Deanery Synod Representatives (Ex Officio members of the PCC) Until 2026 APCM
Mrs Jane Appleton; Mrs Sally Lees: Mr Jerry Fox: Mr Jacob Pradeep
Elected Diocesan Synod Members (Ex Officio members of the PCC) Until 31st July 2026
Mrs Shirley Leslie: Mrs Jill Humphreys

Mrs Shirley Leslie continued to serve as Hon Treasurer, assisted by Mr J Small (Gift Aid Claims) Mr R & Mrs T Fincher, (Local Gift Aid administrators), Miss J Wenborn (Local Gift Aid and banking administrator) and Mr J Donovan, Mrs H West, Mrs A Sorrell, Mr C Grove and Mrs K Small (Local Banking administrators).

Mrs Lis Webb continued to serve as Safeguarding Officer.

Mrs Libby Varley continued to serve as Electoral Roll Officer.

The PCC met seven times during 2023:

Each local church has a Local Leadership or Local Management Team: these act as sub-committees of the PCC to deal with purely local matters of mission, ministry and fabric.

Approved by the PCC on 23rd March 2024 and signed by
Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen – Team Rector

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 13 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 03 / April /2024

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2023	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	2a	267,044	40,352	-	307,396	297,607
Activities for Generating Funds	2b	22,177	8,763	-	30,940	34,268
Investment Income	2c	4,202	9,804	-	14,006	13,344
Church Activities	2d	99,501	-	-	99,501	92,970
Other Incoming Resources	2e	59,910	66,816	-	126,726	103,720
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		452,834	125,735	-	578,569	541,909
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church Activities	3a	441,940	104,111	-	546,051	504,790
Raising Funds	3b	3,133	1,358	-	4,491	6,302
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		445,073	105,469	-	550,542	511,092
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		7,761	20,266	-	28,027	30,817
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		7,761	20,266	-	28,027	30,817
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:						
Realised	4b					
Unrealised	4b	-	30,594	1,322	31,916	(55,010)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND		7,761	50,860	1,322	59,943	(24,193)
Balance b/forward @ 1st January 2023		56,512	443,267	14,430	514,209	538,402
Closing Balance @ 31 December 2023		**64,273**	**494,127**	**15,752**	**574,152**	**514,209**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
PV Panels	4a	3,564		4,226	
Investments	4b	444,384		412,469	
			447,948		**416,695**
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors & Prepayments	5	34,485		24,822	
Deposits	6	54,941		43,779	
Cash at bank and in hand	7	92,598		99,512	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		182,024		168,113	
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	8a	(50,828)		(70,599)	
		(50,828)		(70,599)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			**131,196**		**97,514**
Creditors - amounts falling due in more than one year	8a	(4,992)		-	
			(4,992)		-
TOTAL NET ASSETS			**574,152**		**514,209**
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted			64,273		56,512
Restricted	9		494,127		443,267
Endowment	10		15,752		14,430
			574,152		**514,209**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 23rd March 2024 and signed on its behalf by :-

.....
Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

.....
Canon Shirley Leslie - Hon Treasurer

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Cash Flow Statement
as at 31 December 2023

	2023		*2022*	
Net cash from operating activities		(10,421)		25,006
Cash flows from investing activities				
FIT Payments received	662		641	
Dividends & Interest	14,006		13,344	
Proceeds from sale of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Investments	-		-	
Purchase of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets for the use of the PCC				
Fixed Investments	-		-	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		14,668		13,985
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		4,246		38,992
Cash and Cash equivalents at 1 January		143,291		104,299
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**147,537**		**143,291**
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash at bank and in hand		92,598		99,512
Short-Term Deposits		54,941		43,779
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**147,539**		**143,291**

Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities:		
Net Income before investment gains 31 December	*28,027*	*30,817*
Adjustments for:		
Dividends & Interest	*(14,006)*	*(13,344)*
Decrease / (increase) in Debtors	*(9,663)*	*12,134*
(Decrease) / Increase in Creditors	*(14,779)*	*(4,602)*
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	*(10,421)*	*25,066*

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2023

Note 1 Accounting Policies:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)' and Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

Parish Share is a voluntary contrubution to the Diocese to cover central costs of Mission and Ministry. It is the policy of this Parish to recognise their responsibility for this contribution and to pay in full within the year to which it relates. However, where external factors beyond the control of the PCC prevent this, the maximum possible payment will be made and any shortfall reported by way of note to the accounts.

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

Insofar as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful life other than where insufficient cost information is available or where the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. In all cases, items are included in the relevant Church's inventories.

Tangible Fixed Assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 unless the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. They are valued at cost and depreciation is calculated to write off their currently anticipated cost over their estimated useful life as follows: Land - Nil: Fixtures & Fittings - 20 years: Computers - 3 years: Other electronic equipment - 5 years.
No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so the depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments are valued at their market value at 31 December. Gains and losses on the revaluation and disposals of investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund or at the bank.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are not therefore included in its 'free reserves'. The PCC aims to maintain a balance on free reserves amounting to at least 3 months unrestricted payments.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in notes to the accounts at notes 9 and 14. It is our policy to invest the short term investment funds with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend the capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital is restricted. Full details of of the funds held and their restrictions are shown in notes 10 and 14. The funds are administered by Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodial Trustee and invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2023	TOTAL FUNDS *2022*
2	**INCOMING RESOURCES**	£	£	£	**£**	£
2a	**Voluntary Income**					
	Planned Giving : Gift Aid	153,376	-	-	**153,376**	150,293
	Tax recoverable	41,066	-	-	**41,066**	39,077
	Other Planned Giving	18,081	-	-	**18,081**	21,957
	Collections: Open Plate	27,221	-	-	**27,221**	27,746
	Tax recoverable	8,049	-	-	**8,049**	8,367
	Donations	16,978	37,952	-	**54,930**	44,089
	Legacies	-	2,400	-	**2,400**	4,328
	Special Appeals & Collections	2,273	-	-	**2,273**	1,750
		267,044	**40,352**	-	**307,396**	297,607
2b	**Activities for Generating Funds**					
	Events	21,387	8,763	-	**30,150**	33,535
	Magazine Adverts	790	-	-	790	733
		22,177	**8,763**	-	**30,940**	34,268
2c	**Investment Income**					
	Dividends & Interest	4,201	9,804	-	**14,005**	13,344
		4,201	**9,804**	-	**14,005**	13,344
2d	**Church Activities**					
	Occasional Office fees	20,481	-	-	**20,481**	27,370
	Church Magazine Sales	886	-	-	**886**	703
	Lettings	60,079	-	-	**60,079**	49,334
	Community Café	16,292	-	-	**16,292**	15,563
	Link Lunch	1,763	-	-	**1,763**	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
		99,501	-	-	**99,501**	92,970
2e	**Other Incoming Resources**					
	Grants	39,867	56,614	-	**96,481**	75,259
	Heating Surcharge	17,176	-	-	**17,176**	
	Insurance Claims	-	9,497	-	**9,497**	25,479
	HMRC Allowance	1,741	-	-	**1,741**	2,018
	Other	1,129	705	-	**1,835**	964
		59,912	**66,816**	-	**126,728**	103,720
	Total Incoming Resources	**452,835**	**125,735**	-	**578,570**	**541,909**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2023	TOTAL FUNDS *2022*
	RESOURCES EXPENDED		£	£	£	£	£
3	3a	**Church Activities**					
		Charitable Giving					
		Acts 435	-	3,745	-	**3,745**	-
		Charities Supported from special collections	3,771	-	-	**3,771**	3,131
		Total Charitable Giving	**3,771**	**3,745**	-	**7,516**	3,131
		Mission & Ministry					
		Mission & Evangelism					
		CAP / Fresh Start	1,200	-	-	**1,200**	3,200
		Ignite	-	2,584	-	**2,584**	2,630
		Children & Young People	303	2,483	-	**2,786**	4,457
		Mission & Outreach	1,777	616	-	**2,393**	680
		Total Mission & Evangelism	**3,280**	**5,683**	-	**8,963**	10,967
		Ministry					
		Parish Share	200,384	-	-	**200,384**	228,857
		Local Ministry					
		Salaries & Honoraria	48,484	-	-	**48,484**	45,473
		Clergy & Staff expenses	8,914	-	-	**8,914**	8,418
		Parish Office Costs	3,445	-	-	**3,445**	3,033
		Total Ministry Cost	**261,227**	-	-	**261,227**	299,879
		Church Running Costs					
		Centralised Costs	23,096	-	-	**23,096**	23,282
		Insurance	23,327	-	-	**23,327**	20,839
		Maintenance & Cleaning	28,499	31,488	-	**59,987**	54,549
		Energy & Water	50,600	-	-	**50,600**	31,706
		Churchyard upkeep	6,348		-	**6,348**	2,707
		Other Running Costs		965	-	**965**	-
			131,870	**32,454**	-	**164,324**	133,083
		Cost of Trading					
		Hall Running Costs	35,989	-	-	**35,989**	21,622
		Café Running Costs	5,804	-	-	**5,804**	5,524
			41,792	-	-	**41,792**	27,146
		Major Capital Expenditure					
		Capital projects	-	58,059	-	**58,059**	28,531
		Hall Major projects	-	-	-	-	7,181
		Project Professional Fees & Other Costs	-	4,170	-	**4,170**	8,970
			-	**62,229**	-	**62,229**	44,682
		Total Church Activities	**441,940**	**104,111**	-	**546,051**	507,921
	3b	**Cost of Raising Funds**					
		Events	3,133	1,358	-	**4,491**	2,494
		Total Cost of Raising Funds	**3,133**	**1,358**	-	**4,491**	2,494

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended
31 December 2023

Note

4a FIXED ASSETS

		2023	2022
1	13 x Panels purchased at a total cost of	8,329	8,329
	FIT payments to 31 December 2022	4,103	3,462
	Net Book Value at 1st January 2023	4,226	4,867
	Less FIT payments received in the period	662	641
	NET BOOK VALUE at 31 December 2023	**3,564**	**4,226**

4b INVESTMENTS

	Shares held 31/12/2022	Value @ 31/12/2022	SOLD	Bought	Realised / Cost	Share Price 31/12/2023	Value at 31/12/2023	Unrealised Gain (Loss)
CCLA Investment Fund: Restricted	17,138	354,091	-	-	-	22.6053	387,406	33,315
CCLA Endowment Fund: Annie Marwick	680	14,050	-	-	-	22.6053	15,372	1,322
CCLA Propety Fund	33,962	44,328	-	-	-	1.2251	41,607	(2,721)
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		**412,469**					**444,385**	**31,916**

4c In July 2020, Oak Shakes were purchased from Tenterden Roofing Company at a net cost of £22390 in readiness for the repairs to Willesborough Church Spire. The work has yet to be carried out and the Shakes are stored at the premises of Tenterden Roofing Company. A vesting agreement proving ownership is held by the Church Warden responsible for matters relating to the local Willesborough Church community. For prudence, the PCC has not recognised the asset on the balance sheet given the uncertain timing of its use and current value. The purchase was made from Willesborough Restricted Project funds.

5 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

			2023	2022
Debtors				
Repayment Claims Gift Aid / GASDS: November - December			5,150	7,210
Pightand Trust			-	1,650
LPWG Claims			4,886	2,951
Insurance Claims			1,585	-
Outstanding Hall Rents			8,084	4,093
Other Outstanding Invoices			13,177	7,775
TOTAL DEBTORS			**32,882**	**23,678**
Prepayments			516	1,144
Accrued Income	CCLA INVESTMENT INCOME NOVEMBER - DECEMBER		284	
	OTHER OUTSTANDING INCOME		803	
TOTAL PREPAYMENTS			**1,603**	**1,144**
TOTAL DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS			**34,485**	**24,822**

6 DEPOSITS

	2023	2022
CCLA Endowment Funds	379	379
CCLA Restricted funds	27,534	16,299
Barclays	27,028	27,101
TOTAL DEPOSITS	**54,941**	**43,779**

7 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

				2023	2022
CASH	Ashford St Mary		(41)	-	-
	Kennington		275		
	Gt Chart		58		
	Kingsnorth		148		
	Link Lunch	Willesborough	379	819	790
Cash in Hand: unbanked coin				-	-
Willesborough Social Events		Includes café float		736	747
Local Churches Clearing account: Kingsnorth Lite Bite				17	17
TOTAL CASH				**1,572**	**1553**
BANK	BARCLAYS			91,026	97,924
TOTAL CASH & BANK				**92,598**	**99,477**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

Note		2023		2022	
8a	**CREDITORS**				
	Accruals general				
	Outstanding Invoices		17,973		22,616
	Accrued 100 Club Prizes	175		250	
	Accrued invoices	10,344		8,701	
	Independent Examination	2,160	12,679	2,160	11,111
	Accruals HMRC / Pension Fund				
	HMRC	183		154	
	Pension Fund	151	334	129	283
	Accruals Designated (Deferred Income)				
	2020 - 2024 Wedding deposits	5,120		3,595	
	Cemetery upkeep (Kennington)	-		550	
	Deferred Income - Hall Hire Rents & Deposits	7,615		5,348	
	CBDF Heating Grant January - March 2023	-		17,700	
	Other deferred income	4,016	16,751	1,803	28,996
	Barclaycard		2,171		1,680
	Accruals Restricted				
	Deferred Lunch Club Grant (Ashford St Mary)	500		500	
	Deferred Ball Lane Grant (Kennington)	420		420	
			920		920
	Creditors falling due in one year		**50,828**		**65,606**
	Custodial Funds				
	Kennington Fayre	-		-	
	Postponed Africa Trip	2,200		2,200	
	Bell Ringers Fund (Kingsnorth)	2,792		2,792	
			4,992		**4,992**
	TOTAL CREDITORS		**55,820**		**70,598**

8b Unrecognised Creditor - Parish Share

Due to the ongoing effect on income streams of the fall in attendance resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic, it has not been possible to achieve full payment of the amount requested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in respect of Parish Share. Taking into account the minimum level of cash holdings deemed necessary, 80.5% was paid leaving £66,563 unpaid at 31st December 2022 plus £180,769 from the previous 3 years. As this is a voluntary contribution, the debt is not accrued in the annual accounts.

8c Unrecognised Creditor - Diocesan Board of Finance

Due to historic cash accounting, two loans from Diocesan Board of Finance totalling £128,000 were not recognised in the 2016 Willesborough Balance Sheet. £25,000 was repaid during 2017 and £70,197 remitted by the Diocese in 2018. £32,803 remains outstanding at 31st December 2022. The outstanding amount will be settled by way of deduction from a Diocesan grant arising from the sale of Gt Chart Vicarage.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

Note

9 MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Trust Funds	Local Church	Balance B/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fund	Christchurch	95,735	22,157	1,946	-	115,946
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	46,592	21,339	12,376	(18,478)	37,077
Church Heating Fund	Kennington	-	22,877	40,880	18,003	-
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Fund	Kennington	(475)	-	-	475	-
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	13,328	3,596	-	-	16,924
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	90,291	1,749	1,915	-	90,125
Mercy Apps	Kingsnorth	2,841	257	-	-	3,098
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	15,810	1,859	-	-	17,669
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	13,839	1,404	-	-	15,243
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	7,130	850	-	-	7,980
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	5,790	681	-	-	6,471
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	4,023	4,979	4,500	-	4,502
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	6,570	793	-	-	7,363
Total Trust Funds		**301,474**	**82,541**	**61,617**	**-**	**322,398**
Restricted Project Funds						
Imago Outreach Fund	Singleton	-	800	246	-	554
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	2,270	63	-	-	2,333
Fabric Nave Altar / Choir stalls	Ashford St Mary	21,070	2,965		-	24,035
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	1,773	-	-	-	1,773
Communications Project	Ashford St Mary	295	-	-	-	295
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	835	-	-	-	835
Organ Fund	Ashford St Mary	14,047	5,926	1,290	-	18,683
Ignite	Ashford St Mary	2,414	7,697	2,584	-	7,527
Maintenance Fund	Kingsnorth	-	649	649	-	-
Toy Fund	Kingsnorth	-	70	70	-	-
Meet Heat & Eat	Kingsnorth	1,476	-	300	-	1,176
Music Co-ordinator Fund	Kingsnorth	60	5,000	-	-	5,060
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	16,946	6,827	7,628	-	16,145
Other Funds	Gt Chart	1,682	-	-	-	1,682
Fabric Funds (Building)	St Francis	3,441	3,620	6,835	-	226
Make Lunch project	St Francis	5,409	11,207	2,408	-	14,208
Children's Mission	St Francis	172	136	200	-	108
St Francis Hub	St Francis	-	178	5,230	-	(5,052)
Captial Project Funds	Willesborough	50,027	22,000	12,592	-	59,435
Capital Project Funds	Sevington	18,870	3,054	-	-	21,924
Youth Work	PCC	857		75	-	782
Acts 435	PCC	150	3,595	3,745	-	-
Total Restricted Project Funds		**141,794**	**73,787**	**43,852**	**-**	**171,729**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**443,268**	**156,328**	**105,469**	**-**	**494,127**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

Note

10 MOVEMENT ON ENDOWMENT FUNDS

	Local Church	Balance b/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Annie Marwick Deposit A/c	Shadoxhurst	379	-	-	-	379
Annie Marwick Investments	Shadoxhurst	14,051	1,322			15,373
TOTAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS		**14,430**	**1,322**	**-**	**-**	**15,752**

11 Movement on Funds held as Custodial Trustee	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses		Balance C/fwd
South Africa Trip	2,200	-	-	-	2,200
Bell Ringers Fund - Kinsgnorth	2,792	-		-	2,792
Total Custodial Funds	**4,992**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**4,992**

12

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Fixed Assets	3,564	-	-	3,564	4,226
Investments	-	429,011	15,373	444,384	412,469
Debtors	17,583	16,902		34,485	24,822
Deposits	-	54,562	379	54,941	43,779
Cash & Bank	92,296	(138)	440	92,598	99,511
Liabilities	(47,080)	(6,129)	(440)	(53,649)	(68,918)
Barclaycard	(2,089)	(82)	-	(2,171)	(1,680)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**64,273**	**494,127**	**15,752**	**574,152**	**514,209**

13

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND STAFF COSTS

No Trustee was paid an amount in excess of £60,000

Mrs L Varley was employed as a full time Parish Administrator
Mrs Varley was enrolled in the Church Lay Workers Pension Fund on 1st November 2017
The PCC contributes 5% of salary to the Penson Fund plus 0.5% for Life Insurance cover
Mrs Varley contributes 3% of salary to her fund
Five organists were paid honoraria for regular attendance and one organist received payment as locum

Employee Benefits

None

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 13 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 03 / April /2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ASHFORD TOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1171191

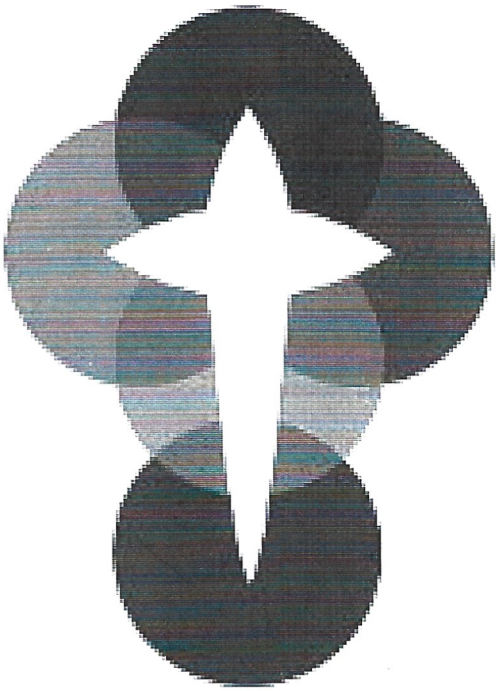
Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2022

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

A Charity registered with The Charity Commission no 1171191



ASHFORD TOWN TEAM MINISTRY

comprised of the Parish Churches of

St Mary the Virgin, Ashford

St Mary's, Kennington

St Mary the Virgin, Willesborough

St Mary's, Gt Chart

St Michael & all Angels, Kingsnorth

Christchurch, South Ashford

and the Chapels of Ease of

St Mary's Sevington

St Peter & St Paul, Shadoxhurst

St Francis, South Ashford

and the Worshipping Community

of Singleton

ASHFORD TOWN PCC

Team Rector

Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen (from 21st October 2020)
7 Augustine Drive, Willesborough TN25 7GH

Team Vicars

Rev'd Jo Purle
The Vicarage, 212 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9AF
(Appointed January 2022)
Rev'd Adam Childs
The Rectory, Church Hill, Kingsnorth, Ashford, TN23 3EG
(Appointed January 2022)

Priest to Ashford Town Church and Chaplain to Ashford School

Rev'd Richard Bellamy
1, The College, Church Yard, Ashford, TN23 1QG
(Retired June 2022)

Associate Priests

Rev'd Dawn Stamper: Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders

Assistant Curates

Rev'd Andrew Brown (Until April 2022): Rev'd Bruce Watson (Until June 2022)
Rev'd Geoffrey Abasolo-Mummery (until April 2023)

Lay Staff

Ms Sophie Carnaby – Mission Enabler
Mr P Sibbald – Team Development Officer (until February 2022)

Hon Treasurer: Mrs S E Leslie

76 Tritton Fields, Kennington, TN24 9HL

Hon Secretary: Mr P Sibbald (until February 2022)
Mrs Sally Lees (from February 2022)

Independent Examiner:

Mr S Whorlow FCA
Cassidy's Chartered Accountants
South Stour Offices, Roman Road, Mersham TN25 7HS

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, 66 High Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TL

Website

www.ashfordtownparish.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ashford Town in the Diocese of Canterbury
A Charity Registered with the Charity Commission No. 1171191

Contents

Annual Report	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 11
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 12
Balance Sheet	Page 13
Cash Flow	Page 14
Notes to the accounts	Page 15
Pension Fund Disclosure	Page 23

Annual Trustees Report 2022

1 Aim & Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC), has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. When planning activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

2 Objectives & Activities

In January, the PCC identified three main priorities for the year ahead:

1. Moving our Mission Action Planning into action
2. Improving our financial situation
3. Growing in our relationship as a family of churches.

At its Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2022, the following vision statement was agreed as encapsulating our hopes and prayers for the parish for the next five years:

> Our vision is to be **a family of churches that is centred on Jesus, serving the community, and sharing our faith**.
> As we have sought God's will for our parish over the next five years, we see this vision including:
> 1. A rich variety of discipleship activities and worship services that enable people of different ages and stages of faith to live lives **centred on Jesus**
> 2. Initiatives that are **serving the community** by having a transformative impact on people's lives in the most deprived areas of Ashford
> 3. An evolving range of 'bridge' activities that build relationships with people who are not currently part of a church community, including those living on newer estates, and provide opportunities for **sharing our faith**

As it seeks to achieve its priorities and fulfil its vision, the parish is committed to sustaining certain areas of activity as central to this. In particular, the parish

- Maintains a regular pattern of public worship
- Makes available weddings, funerals and baptisms for the people of the parish
- Encourages Christian discipleship for all ages
- Supports a range of activities to show God's love in practical action that responds to human need
- Ensures its buildings are maintained and where appropriate developed for use by the wider community as well as church congregations.

3 Achievements & Performance

3.1 Moving our Mission Action Planning into action

During the course of the year, our seven church communities each worked on a Mission Action Planning document setting out medium-term priorities for the period 2022–27, specific goals for the next couple of years, and initial steps that could be taken in 2022 itself. During 2022, all our church communities began to take action guided by the process of Mission Action Planning, while well-established missional activities such as MakeLunch and Ignite also continued.

At the same time, the Parish Leadership Team and the PCC were also attentive to how the process at church community level related to what we might say about the parish as a whole. In the light of the initial presentation of church community MAP documents, the draft parish vision statement from 2021 was revised and then formally adopted at the APCM in the form quoted in the previous section.

At the end of the year, each church community submitted a MAP document for 2023 to the PCC outlining three key goals for the coming year, in the light of their medium-term priorities as shaped by the shared parish vision.

We were delighted to welcome the Archbishop of Canterbury to the deanery for Holy Week, with the theme of 'Sharing our Story'. This was also the theme of the Parish Lent Course, addressing a key dimension of mission within our parish MAP process. As well as leading and speaking at services within the parish, the Archbishop visited key institutions, including the William Harvey Hospital and Ashford College, and addressed an audience of business people in an event that brought together the church with the local chamber of commerce and Ashford Borough Council.

3.2 Improving our financial situation

Following the lead of the Diocese of Canterbury, we launched the 'Year of Living Generously' in January, as the theological and spiritual context for all our communication about finance. That included monthly preaching on the theme of generosity in the first half of the year, while a leaflet was also produced to explain our financial situation to all church members and ask them to respond to it. In September, the PCC discussed a paper setting out various options as to how to narrow the current gap between income and expenditure. After some delays, we were able to set up the parish on the Parish Giving Scheme and invite every church member to consider regular giving through it. We have seen new people giving regularly, some existing members increasing their giving, and raised income compared to last year from fund-raising events (including some notable success with our Christmas Fayres) and, especially, hall lettings. With rising energy costs and other expenses, however, we have only been able to reduce, not eliminate, our underpayment of parish share, as following sections of the report make clear.

3.3 Growing in our relationship as a family of churches

We have continued to foster existing cross-parish teams, including the Parish Ministry Team, the Safeguarding Officers Team, and the Finance Officers Team. We have also set up a new group for Communications Officers. Churchwardens and Assistant Churchwardens have met together for some time, but in July we received approval to increase our number of Churchwardens for the parish from two to seven, which we hope will enable them to work more effectively as a crucial element in connecting our parish. Jenny Flaherty, Jerry Fox, Robert Sharp and Julian Sheeran were duly appointed. The APCM approved a reduction in numbers of PCC members and supported the model for membership of one ordained and two lay members from each church community; these changes will take effect from 2023. In a new departure, the APCM included time for church communities to meet in separate groups, while we had our first fully in-person Parish Pentecost service since the pandemic and held a Parish Mini Conference for the second year running in November. When two new Team Vicars joined the parish in January, their role descriptions included support for areas of ministry across the whole parish as well as pastoral responsibility for specific churches, in contrast with previous appointments.

3.4 General comments

This was the first year since 2019 when church activities have been relatively unaffected by restrictions relating to the Coronavirus pandemic. That has been reflected in our Average Weekly Attendance, which rose from 223 in 2021 to 298 (before the first lockdown it had been 425), numbers of weddings (47 compared with 20 in 2021) and baptisms (81 compared with 42 in 2021) and also in increased use of church facilities (church buildings and church halls) for both church events and outside bookings. We have seen new people joining our congregations, and also more regular participation from families with children. The need to improve what we offer to children, families and young people is evident from the priorities and goals in the MAP documents for our church communities.

In February, the PCC expressed its thanks to Phil Sibbald, as his externally funded post of Parish Development Officer came to an end. Sally Lees took over as PCC Secretary, while as already noted we

increased the number of Churchwardens. In January, we were able to welcome the Revd. Adam Childs and the Revd. Jo Purle as new Team Vicars, while in December we announced the appointment of the Revd. Teena Twelves, half of the costs of whose Team Vicar post will covered for the first five years by money from the Church Commissioners' Lowest Income Communities Fund.

4 Financial Review

4.1 Overview

Our Management accounts throughout the year had predicated a shortfall of around £67,000 based on the commitment to pay Parish Share in full. In the event, with much regret, we fell short of full payment by £62,942, having an Unrestricted net inflow of just £1242 and insufficient General Reserves to fulfil the shortfall: this brings the total outstanding Parish Share at the end of 2022 to £180,773.

Planned Giving – the bedrock of our incoming resources fell by over £4,000 with almost 25% fewer regular givers, although there is evidence of an increase in service collections which in part reflects the uncertainty and concern surrounding energy price increases and rampant inflation.

Fees and service collections at life event services have continued to increase: - many of them coming to fruition after cancellation due to COVID restrictions in 2020 and 2021.

Hall Lettings have seen a significant recovery with income almost trebled, although still lagging some way behind pre-Covid levels: inevitably running costs were also higher but the net outturn at 56% outstripped the 2019 result of 52%. Similarly, café income showed a significant increase over 2021 with a very creditable 74% net outturn. Link Lunches continued at Willesborough and were also introduced in Kennington at St Mary's Community Centre where a local borough council Member Grant enabled the upgrade of some kitchen white goods to commercial standard: attendance at Willesborough remained steady at around 50 per session and Kennington's grew from a modest start to 40 for the Christmas meal. Kingsnorth's Lite Bite community lunches yielded a contribution to church funds of £150: these and the Link Lunches are essentially Social Outreach and 'not for profit' activities.

4.2 Incoming Resources

General Fund Income has reflected the fact that 2022 was largely unaffected by COVID restrictions although it is clear that some of our elderly and vulnerable members have still not resumed church service attendance. We are grateful, as ever, to all those who have faithfully continued their regular giving through the bank or by means of the Free Will Offering envelopes. However, the national financial situation impacted on our Year of Generosity as far as Planned Giving was concerned and income from this source actually fell by an average of £81 per week with significantly fewer members able to commit to regular giving. On the other hand, Open Plate collections rallied, and the amount claimed under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme also increased with the result that overall, Unrestricted Voluntary Income was more than £12,000 higher than in 2021

Life Events services increased as many of the wedding postponements from 2020 and 2021 finally came to fruition: 47 weddings were conducted in the year compared with 15 in 2021. Total fees at £27,370 were actually higher than 2019 and over £4,000 higher than 2021 whilst open plate collections at these services yielded a further £1,460. 91 Funeral services were conducted with more than half including church services across the parish. Total Fee income for the year was £27,370.

YEAR	WEDDINGS	FUNERALS	CREMATION	INTERMENT OF ASHES
2017	47	66	46	8
2018	41	38	76	4
2019	37	59	50	9
2020	16	16	48	4
2021	20	34	**	5
2022	47	54	**	16

** No PCC Fee received for cremations in 2021 or 2022: 13 and 37 ceremonies conducted respectively

Hall and church lettings have flourished during the year: the highest revenue (£16,077) was generated at the town centre Parish Rooms. Willesborough Church is now extensively used by local organisations raising additional income of £3,855. Due to the high energy costs incurred a small heating surcharge has been levied since November and will continue until March 2023. Willesborough's Inspire Café has also flourished, raising income of £10,635.

Financial support from the Pightland Trust for general purposes at Kingsnorth has continued throughout the year albeit at the slightly reduced level of £1,000 per month (£1,200 in 2021) as we continue our efforts to reduce dependency on the Trust. Support for part time Administrator salary also continues: total grant for the year was £19,800. Ashford Parochial Charities continued to support the Town Centre church with a grant of £11,173 towards energy and insurance costs; further support for maintenance costs is reported under Restricted Funds at item 4.5 below.

Support has been received from Church Commissioners via the Diocese for the extensive increases in energy costs: a grant of £19,900 was awarded in December, £2,200 of which was allocated across the parish in December with £17,700 deferred to cover the remaining winter months of January to March when heating costs remain high. We continue to qualify for HMRC's allowance for small employers: this was increased for the tax year 2022/23 from £4,000 to £5,000 and is more than sufficient to cover our entire Employer's NI liability of £2,017 for the calendar year.

4.3 Expenditure

Total Unrestricted expenditure for the year was £414,309 compare with £366,025 in 2021: this represents an increase of some 13%. Parish Share paid (as opposed to due) remained almost constant as a result of the limitations of available incoming resources and reserve funds.

Admin Salaries and Honoraria increased by £10,175 (22%) due to various factors including the fact that Honoraria were suspended during the pandemic and did not recommence until April 2021, a new organist was appointed late in 2021, and a review of salaries which were below minimum wage. Clergy and Staff Expenses increased by £2,000 (33%) for similar reasons – travel was curtailed for the first 3 months of 2021 resulting in fewer mileage claims and two clergy posts were vacant from September 2021 until January 2022. With churches closed until April 2021, Church Running costs are similarly lower in that year: the overall increase in running costs in 2022 was a little over £21,000 (33%), the main increase being energy costs (2021 £16,736 – 2022 £31,706): Maintenance and Insurance costs showed only minor increases.

By the same token, Hall Running costs are higher in 2022, showing an increase of 72% reflecting the very cautious resumption of lettings: café costs doubled in 2022 again due to Covid restrictions being imposed until mid-year 2021.

4.4 Restricted Funds.

a. Extensive roof damage was suffered at six of our church buildings during Storm Eunice in February 2022: after deducting £250 per claim our Insurers have contributed £25,479 towards the cost of repairs some of which are still not fully completed.
b. Ashford Parochial Charities contributed almost £7,500 towards maintenance costs and two grants of £1200 were received from Borough Council Members towards the repair of the Audio-Visual screen at St Mary's Town Centre.
c. Ignite, the outreach activity which provides a hot meal, socialising and gospel teaching, having been relocated to St Mary's Town Centre church has incurred some infrastructure costs as well as expanding its weekly activities in terms of attendees, with a view to moving towards financial self sufficiency over time: external funding has now ceased.
d. Make Lunch, which provides free hot meals during school holidays for disadvantaged families, continues to thrive with donations from across the whole parish and beyond, grants from KCC of £4,636 and Ashford Borough Council (£880) for the purchase of new chairs, and costs minimised by low cost food supplies from Fare Share. This latter source is now becoming significantly reduced due to the Supermarkets' removal of 'sell-by' dates for fresh produce. However, the fund is in an extremely good position at the end of the year with £5,409 in reserve.
e. Willesborough Spire project has not moved forward but professional fees of £2,838 have been recorded: a new heating boiler was installed at a cost of £10,243 largely funded by donations from members of the congregation.
f. All of the Trust Funds, where the assets are largely invested in CCLA Investment fund units, suffered revaluation losses in the year. This was very disappointing as the share prices, having dropped very early in the year had recovered slowly over time but suffered a setback very shortly before the year end. Total Losses amounted to £53,136 on restricted funds: individual Fund Losses were as follows:

Church	Fund	Amount
Christchurch	Pat Holley Fund	£12,368
Kennington	Burgess /Pope/Hills/Knights	£6,748
Kennington (SMCC)	Chevalier Fund	£269
Kennington	School Fund	£1,625
Kingsnorth	Myrtle Fund Investment Units Myrtle Fund Property Fund Mercy Apps Legacy	£6,033 £5,892 £364
St Mary's Town Centre	Various Legacies	£9,826
Gt Chart	Janus Fund	£1,714
Willesborough	Spire Fund	£4,912
Sevington	Lady Sharp Legacy	£3,384

The Annie Marwick endowment fund suffered similar revaluation losses amounting to £1,875. This fund is restricted to Shadoxhurst churchyard maintenance and costs appropriate to the amount of income in a year are transferred from Unrestricted Kingsnorth & Shadoxhurst funds.

g. Kennington's East Window protection was upgraded at a cost of £11010 funded by donation from the Friends of St Mary's Kennington.
h. The Major Organ Refurbishment appeal at St Mary's Town Centre has continued to grow with donations from the congregation and beyond. It now stands at £14,047 and is currently held on deposit. As this is a long-term project with almost no ongoing costs, consideration should now be given to transferring the majority of this sum to CCLA Investment Units.

5 In conclusion

Whilst it remains our policy to hold free reserves equivalent to 3 months' unrestricted expenditure (£103,577 at 31st December 2022), the practicalities of post pandemic recovery reveal this to be impossible to achieve in the short term. It is to be hoped that, in time, external factors of inflation and spiralling energy tariffs will be brought under control and disposable income situations will resume fluidity: then and only then will we reach a point where we can realistically look to our members to review and increase giving on an annual basis.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), which we joined in the autumn, encourages people to increase giving in line with inflation, but this is an option which most of those who have transferred their giving have chosen not to take up. Membership of PGS, which involves switching from Standing Order payments to the church bank account to Direct Debit collected initially by a third party charity, has been embraced cautiously: the advantages from a Parish perspective are that funds including Gift Aid are received in the parish within the month of the original donation: where Gift Aid has historically been claimed on our behalf by the Diocese, claims have at times been delayed by as much as four months. There is clearly a cashflow advantage and a reduction in administration of the Gift Aid claims but the major advantage – that of regular increases in giving in line with inflation – has yet to become reality.

Expenditure has been under very tight control since the inception of the Ashford Town Parish and has now become the norm. It is difficult to see where any further cost savings can be achieved and the only other means of easing our financial situation from 'critical' is by growth. Happily, we have seen our average attendance numbers increase in 2022 which is a definitive sign of green shoots: the challenge now is not only to continue to attract numerical growth but also to nurture and convert it to financial growth. Biblical teaching is very clear – particularly in the letters of St Paul that giving in support of the mission and ministry of the church is essential and should be regular, proportionate to our personal income, given willingly and joyfully and, perhaps most importantly, we are called to give to God what is right – not what is left.

Financial Utopia for any parish is where Voluntary Income is sufficient to support the Mission and Ministry costs and for other ordinary income to fund Church Running costs. If we examine the results for 2022 on this basis we can see that the second 'ambition is indeed fulfilled. We have only to achieve the first!

Income: Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Surplus / (Shortfall)
Voluntary income: Mission & Ministry	£260,840	£292,338	(31,498)
All other income Church Running costs	£154,711	£121,971	£32,740
Available for further mission			£1,242

6 Total Funds: as at 31 st December 2022

Funds	Amount	Held in
Free Reserves	£56,512	Cash and bank, bank deposit, debtors and liabilities
Restricted Reserves	£443,267	Deposits, Investments, debtors and liabilities
Endowment Reserves	£14,430	Investments

A full analysis of funds can be seen at Note12 on page 21 of this report

7 Custodial Funds

Custodial Funds held at 31 st December 2022:

Kingsnorth Bell Fund £2,792
Kingsnorth South Africa Trip £2,200

8 Future Plans

As noted above in section 2, we now have a vision statement to shape our life as a parish for the next five years. Each of our seven church communities has a set of five-year priorities reflecting its unique context and aligned to the parish vision, and has identified specific goals for mission in 2023. Overlapping areas in the Mission Action Planning documents for our church communities include:

supporting participation of children and young people in worship and discipleship, through working with our schools as well as through what we offer in our church services and other activities
fostering new initiatives to help us serve our communities by showing the love of God in action
reviewing and renewing the pattern of our Sunday services
developing our buildings to make them more effective as hubs for mission.

We have identified three parish objectives for 2023, to support work across our church communities to take forward our parish vision:

Embed Mission Action Planning at every level of our parish life
Foster the life of prayer within our parish
Support and enhance our children and young people provision.

We are also looking forward to the arrival of the Revd Teena Twelves to join the clergy team in March 2023, with a special focus on the second element in our parish vision statement: 'Initiatives that are **serving the community** by having a transformative impact on people's lives in the most deprived areas of Ashford.'

9 Risk Management

9.1 Principle Risk:
9.1.1 Insufficient or inadequate levels of regular giving to sustain payment of essential basic running costs
9.1.2 Although now only a small element of our incoming funds and widely spread across a team of volunteers, cash security always poses some risk albeit minor.

9.2 Damage Limitation

Strict control continues to be exercised over expenditure.

At parish level almost the only sanction available to protect cash flow is reduction in payment of Parish Share. As a PCC we were committed to full payment since the Ashford Town Parish was formed but the effects of the pandemic decimated free reserves. This decision to limit payment of Share was taken with much regret and as a last resort.

Opportunities to increase income have been minimal but at the first opportunity we opened a digital platform for personal giving which runs alongside our existing card payment facility. The Give A Little campaign is now being replaced by PGS for one-off giving. The take up has been relatively small. Advertising is through the church website and QR code posters in each church.

It is hoped that the switch to PGS will encourage a review of giving levels as has been evident among the majority of those who joined in 2022

9.3 Future Management

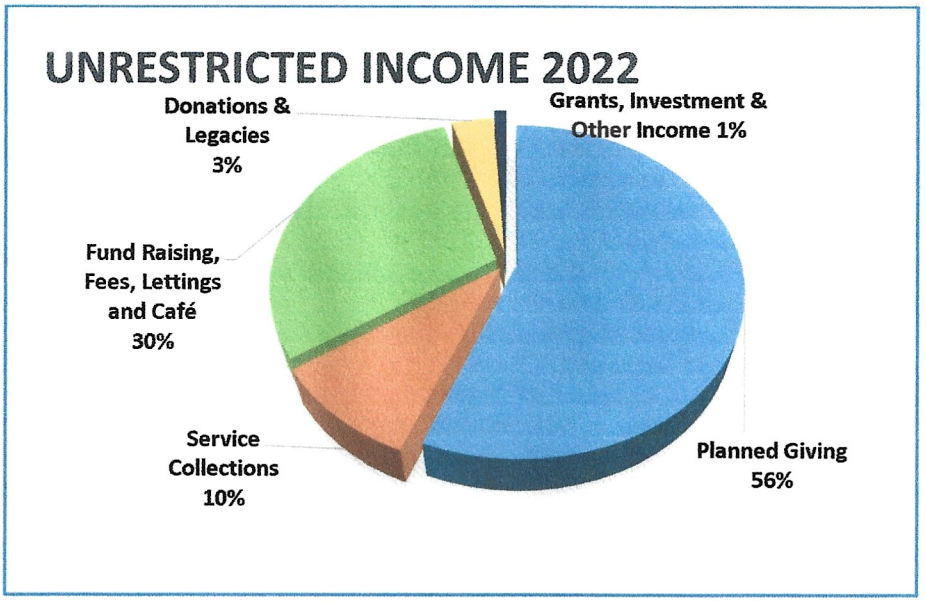
Going forward, Risk Assessments for all our buildings will need to be regularly reviewed and updated. As part of the Mission Action Plan, numerical growth in membership and new income streams will be investigated and we will continue to try to convert cash giving to electronic or other forms which can be easily sustained through any future crisis. Good stewardship and the promotion of generosity will be at the forefront of our financial planning.

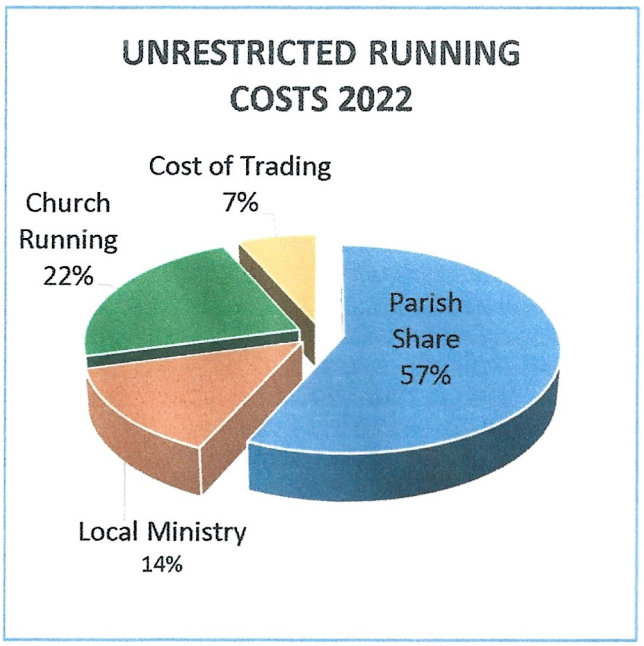
We will continue to explore and develop facilities for digital giving at public services especially at weddings and funerals. These methods are much dependent on good internet or mobile phone connections and our church buildings are not always blessed in this way. However, technology is always moving forward and we will constantly monitor developments.

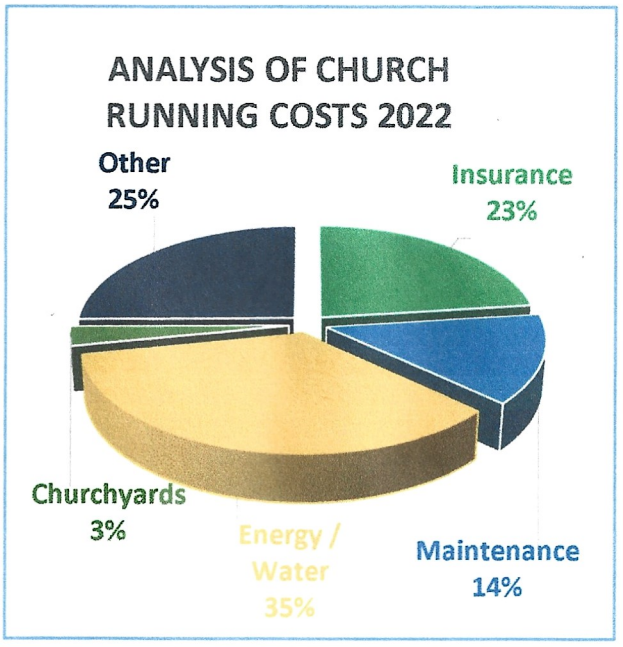
We have invited all church members to register with PGS and will continue to foster generosity - generosity towards creation, towards other people, being generous with our time and our skills as well as with our money. We will register with HMRC for the purpose of processing GASDS claims and Gift Aid claims where donors have not transferred to PGS.

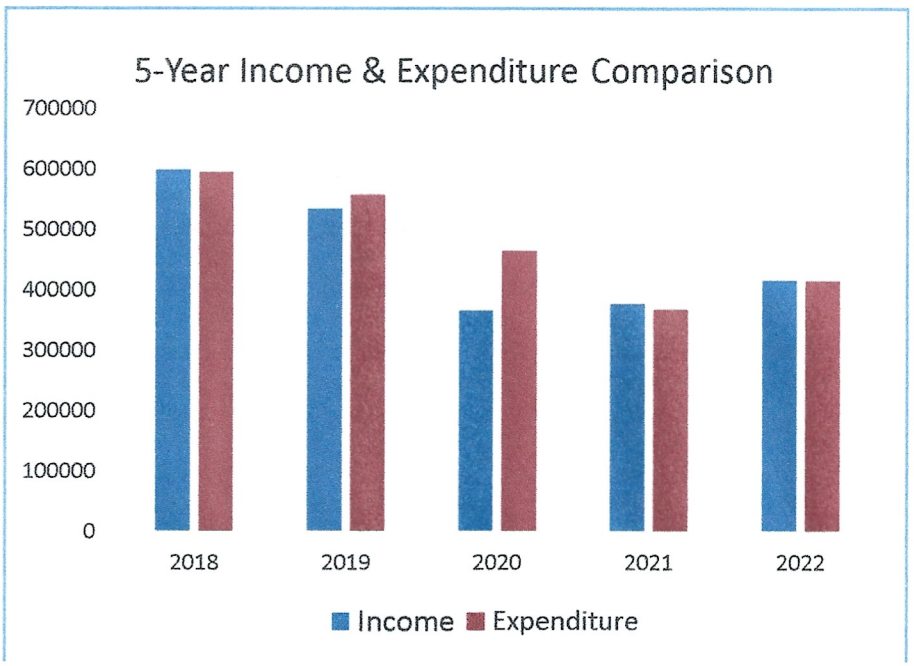
10 Information in Diagrammatic Form

The following page shows in diagrammatic form the basic elements of Income and expenditure with some further analysis of church running costs and finally a chart which depicts a comparison of the decline in income and expenditure levels over the five years 2018 to 2022


UNRESTRICTED INCOME 2022
Donations & Legacies 3%
Grants, Investment & Other Income 1%
Fund Raising, Fees, Lettings and Café 30%
Service Collections 10%
Planned Giving 56%


UNRESTRICTED RUNNING COSTS 2022
Cost of Trading 7%
Church Running 22%
Parish Share 57%
Local Ministry 14%


ANALYSIS OF CHURCH RUNNING COSTS 2022
Other 25%
Insurance 23%
Churchyards 3%
Energy / Water 35%
Maintenance 14%


5-Year Income & Expenditure Comparison
700000
600000
500000
400000
300000
200000
100000
0
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
Income
Expenditure

11 Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and operates in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. It is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1171191.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation rules. PCC members are ex officio, co-opted, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to serve for a period of three years, retiring by rotation. During the year, the maximum number of churchwardens was increased from 2 to 7 being one form each local church. Lay members of both the Deanery and Diocesan Synods are ex officio members of the PCC.

Membership

Team Rector and Chair of PCC: Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen (from October 2020)
Clergy: Rev'd Adam Childs; Rev'd Jo Purle; Rev'd Richard Bellamy (Retired June 2022); Rev'd Dawn Stamper; Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders; Rev'd Andrew Brown (until May 2022); Rev'd Bruce Watson (Until June 2022): Rev'd Geoffrey Abasolo-Munnery
Deputy Chair of PCC: Mrs Sally Lees
Lay Staff: Mr Phil Sibbald (until February 2022); Mrs Sophie Carnaby-Denyer
Church Wardens: Mr Jerry Fox; Mrs Jenny Flaherty; Mr Julian Sheehan; Mr Robert Sharp
Lay Readers: Mr Derek Goodwin, Mrs Alison Gunther; Dr James Beck.
Deanery Synod Representatives: (until Oct 2023) Mrs Jane Appleton.
Diocesan Synod Representatives: (until May 2024) Mrs Shirley Leslie; Mrs Jill Humphreys
Elected members:

.
To serve until April 2023: Mrs Sally Lees; Mrs Sarah Ansell; Mrs Susan Mullan; Mrs Maureen Drury; Miss Caroline Hannah.
To serve until May 2024: Mrs Morag Sharp; Mr Alan Stamp; Mrs Christine Duchemin.
To serve until April 2025: Mrs Libby Varley; Mrs Lorraine Andrews; Mr Ken Blanshard; Mrs Hannah Morris.

Mr Phil Sibbald continued to serve as Hon Secretary until February 2022 and Electoral Roll officer until May 2022.
Mrs Sally Lees became PCC Secretary from February 2022.
Mrs Shirley Leslie continued to serve as Hon Treasurer, assisted by Mr J Small (Gift Aid Claims) Mr R & Mrs T Fincher, (Local Gift Aid administrators), Miss J Wenborn (Local Gift Aid and banking administrator) and Mr J Donovan, Mrs H West, Mrs A Sorrell, Mr C Grove and Mr D Peters (Local Banking administrators).

Mrs Lis Webb continued to serve as Safeguarding Officer.

Mrs Libby Varley took up the role of Electoral Roll Officer from May 2022.

The PCC met seven times during 2022:

Each local church has a Local Leadership or local Management Team: these act as sub-committees of the PCC to deal with purely local matters of ministry and fabric.

Approved by the PCC on 30th March 2023 and signed by
Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen – Team Rector

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 12 to 22.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 31 / March /2023

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2022	TOTAL FUNDS 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	2a	260,840	36,767	-	297,607	303,386
Activities for Generating Funds	2b	20,291	13,977	-	34,268	29,097
Investment Income	2c	3,844	9,079	421	13,344	13,349
Church Activities	2d	92,970	-	-	92,970	47,004
Other Incoming Resources	2e	37,185	66,535	-	103,720	121,811
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		415,130	126,358	421	541,909	514,647
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church Activities	3a	410,123	94,667	-	504,790	553,387
Raising Funds	3b	4,186	2,116	-	6,302	2,494
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		414,309	96,783	-	511,092	555,881
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		821	29,575	421	30,817	(41,234)
Transfers between Funds		421	-	(421)	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		1,242	29,575	-	30,817	(41,234)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:						
Realised	4b					2,744
Unrealised	4b	-	(53,136)	(1,874)	(55,010)	58,490
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND		1,242	(23,561)	(1,874)	(24,193)	20,000
Balance b/forward @ 1st January 2022		55,270	466,828	16,304	538,402	518,402
Closing Balance @ 31 December 2022		**56,512**	**443,267**	**14,430**	**514,209**	**538,402**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
PV Panels	*4a*	4,226		4,867	
Investments	*4b*	412,469		467,479	
			416,695		**472,346**
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors & Prepayments	*5*	24,822		36,956	
Deposits	*6*	43,779		39,010	
Cash at bank and in hand	*7*	99,512		65,290	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		168,113		141,256	
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	*8a*	(68,918)		(73,579)	
Credit Card account		(1,680)		(1,621)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			**97,514**		**66,056**
Creditors - amounts falling due in more than one year	*8b*	-		-	
			-		-
TOTAL NET ASSETS			**514,209**		**538,402**
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted			56,512		55,270
Restricted	*9*		443,267		466,828
Endowment	*10*		14,430		16,304
			514,209		**538,402**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 30th March 2023 and signed on its behalf by :-

Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

Mrs Shirley Leslie - Hon Treasurer

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Cash Flow Statement
as at 31 December 2022

	2022		*2021*	
Net cash from operating activities		25,006		(8,864)
Cash flows from investing activities				
FIT Payments received	641		544	
Dividends & Interest	13,344		13,349	
Proceeds from sale of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Investments	-		25,000	
Purchase of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets for the use of the PCC				
Fixed Investments	-		-	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		13,985		38,893
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		38,992		30,029
Cash and Cash equivalents at 1 January		104,299		74,270
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**143,291**		**104,299**
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash at bank and in hand		99,512		65,290
Short-Term Deposits		43,779		39,010
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**143,291**		**104,300**

Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities:		
Net Income before investment gains 31 December	*30,817*	*(41,234)*
Adjustments for:		
Dividends & Interest	*(13,344)*	*(13,349)*
Decrease / (increase) in Debtors	*12,134*	*69*
(Decrease) / Increase in Creditors	*(4,602)*	*45,650*
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	*25,006*	*(8,864)*

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2022

Note 1 Accounting Policies:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)' and Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

Parish Share is a voluntary contrubution to the Diocese to cover central costs of Mission and Ministry. It is the policy of this Parish to recognise their responsibility for this contribution and to pay in full within the year to which it relates. However, where external factors beyond the control of the PCC prevent this, the maximum possible payment will be made and any shortfall reported by way of note to the accounts.

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

Insofar as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful life other than where insufficient cost information is available or where the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. In all cases, items are included in the relevant Church's inventories.

Tangible Fixed Assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 unless the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. They are valued at cost and depreciation is calculated to write off their currently anticipated cost over their estimated useful life as follows: Land - Nil: Fixtures & Fittings - 20 years: Computers - 3 years: Other electronic equipment - 5 years.
No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so the depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments are valued at their market value at 31 December. Gains and losses on the revaluation and disposals of investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund or at the bank.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are not therefore included in its 'free reserves'. The PCC aims to maintain a balance on free reserves amounting to at least 3 months unrestricted payments.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in notes to the accounts at notes 9 and 14. It is our policy to invest the short term investment funds with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend the capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital is restricted. Full details of their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts. The funds are administered by Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodial Trustee and invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2022	TOTAL FUNDS 2021
2	**INCOMING RESOURCES**	£	£	£	**£**	£
2a	**Voluntary Income**					
	Planned Giving : Gift Aid	150,293	-	-	**150,293**	149,194
	Tax recoverable	39,077	-	-	**39,077**	38,704
	Other Planned Giving	21,957	-	-	**21,957**	27,626
	Collections: Open Plate	27,746	-	-	**27,746**	15,823
	Tax recoverable	8,367	-	-	**8,367**	4,751
	Donations	11,650	32,439		**44,089**	64,077
	Legacies	-	4,328		**4,328**	2,213
	Special Appeals & Collections	1,750			**1,750**	997
		260,840	**36,767**	-	**297,607**	303,386
2b	**Activities for Generating Funds**					
	Events	19,558	13,977	-	**33,535**	27,119
	Magazine Adverts	733	-	-	733	1,978
		20,291	**13,977**	-	**34,268**	29,097
2c	**Investment Income**					
	Dividends & Interest	3,844	9,079	421	**13,344**	13,349
		3,844	**9,079**	**421**	**13,344**	13,349
2d	**Church Activities**					
	Occasional Office fees	27,370	-	-	**27,370**	23,357
	Church Magazine Sales	703	-	-	**703**	522
	Lettings	49,334	-	-	**49,334**	17,117
	Community Café	15,563	-	-	**15,563**	6,008
	Minibus income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
		92,970	-	-	**92,970**	47,004
2e	**Other Incoming Resources**					
	Grants	34,551	40,708	-	**75,259**	105,794
	Insurance Claims	-	25,479	-	**25,479**	10,453
	HMRC Allowance	2,018	-	-	**2,018**	4,010
	Other	616	347	-	**964**	1,554
		37,185	**66,535**	-	**103,720**	121,811
	Total Incoming Resources	**415,130**	**126,358**	**421**	**541,909**	**514,647**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2022

			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2022	TOTAL FUNDS 2021
		RESOURCES EXPENDED	£	£	£	**£**	£
3	3a	**Church Activities**					
		Charitable Giving					
		Overseas Relief & Development	-	-	-	**-**	-
		Other Charities Supported from special collections	3,131		-	**3,131**	1,481
		Total Charitable Giving	**3,131**	**-**	**-**	**3,131**	1,481
		Mission & Ministry					
		Mission & Evangelism					
		CAP / Fresh Start	3,200		-	**3,200**	2,200
		Ignite	-	2,630	-	**2,630**	643
		Children & Young People	227	4,230	-	**4,457**	1,569
		Other Mission Work	-	680	-	**680**	-
		Total Mission & Evangelism	**3,427**	**7,540**		**10,967**	4,412
		Ministry					
		Parish Share	228,857	-	-	**228,857**	229,081
		Local Ministry					
		Salaries & Honoraria	45,473	-	-	**45,473**	35,298
		Clergy & Staff expenses	8,418	-	-	**8,418**	6,111
		Parish Office Costs	3,033	-	-	**3,033**	4,642
		Total Ministry Cost	**292,338**	**7,540**	-	**299,879**	279,544
		Church Running Costs					
		Church running Costs	22,892	390	-	**23,282**	22,095
		Insurance	20,839	-	-	**20,839**	19,134
		Maintenance	12,494	42,055	-	**54,549**	26,703
		Energy & Water	31,706	-	-	**31,706**	16,736
		Churchyard upkeep	2,707	-	-	**2,707**	6,232
		Minibus Costs	-	-	-	**-**	-
			90,638	**42,445**	-	**133,083**	90,900
		Cost of Trading					
		Hall Running Costs	21,622	-	-	**21,622**	12,576
		Café Running Costs	5,524	-	-	**5,524**	2,622
			27,146	**-**	**-**	**27,146**	15,198
		Major Capital Expenditure					
		Capital projects	-	28,531	-	**28,531**	95,152
		Hall Major projects	-	7,181	-	**7,181**	44,137
		Project Professional Fees & Other Costs	-	8,970	-	**8,970**	26,976
			-	**44,682**	-	**44,682**	166,265
		Total Church Activities	**410,123**	**94,667**	-	**507,921**	553,387
	3b	**Cost of Raising Funds**					
		Events	4,186	2,116	-	**6,302**	2,494
		Total Cost of Raising Funds	**4,186**	**2,116**	-	**6,302**	2,494

Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended
31 December 2022

Note

4a FIXED ASSETS

		2022	2021
1	13 x Panels purchased at a total cost of	8,329	8329
	FIT payments to 31 December 2021	3,462	2918
	Net Book Value at 1st January 2022	4,867	5411
	Less FIT payments received in the period	641	544
	NET BOOK VALUE at 31 December 2022	**4,226**	**4867**

4b INVESTMENTS

	Shares held 31/12/2021	Value @ 31/12/2021	SOLD	Bought	Realised / Cost	Share Price 31/12/2022	Value at 31/12/2022	Unrealised Gain (Loss)
CCLA Investment Fund: Restricted	17,138	401,335	-	-	-	20.6614	354,091	(47,244)
CCLA Endowment Fund: Annie Marwick	680	15,924	-	-	-	20.6614	14,050	(1,874)
CCLA Propety Fund	33,962	50,220	-	-	-	1.3052	44,328	(5,892)
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		**467,479**					**412,469**	**(55,010)**

5 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

	2022	2021
Debtors		
Repayment Claims Gift Aid / GASDS: November - December	7,210	12,608
Pightand Trust	1,650	650
LPWG Claims	2,951	17,513
Outstanding Hall Rents	4,093	1,887
Other Outstanding Invoices	7,775	3,841
TOTAL DEBTORS	**23,678**	**36,498**
Willesborough Social Events	150	-
Other Prepayments	994	458
TOTAL PREPAYMENTS	**1,144**	**458**
TOTAL DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS	**24,822**	**36,956**

6 DEPOSITS

	2022	2021
CCLA Endowment Funds	379	379
CCLA Restricted funds	16,299	5,604
Barclays	27,101	33,027
TOTAL DEPOSITS	**43,779**	**39,010**

7 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

				2022	2021
CASH	Grapevine Float - Gt Chart			-	-
		Kennington	333		
		Gt Chart	58		
		Link Lunch	Willesborough 400	790	627
	Cash in Hand: unbanked coin			0	13
	Willesborough Social Events	Includes café float		747	1042
Rev'd Dr Je Local Churches Clearing account: Kingsnorth Lite Bite				17	167
	TOTAL CASH			**1,553**	**1848**
BANK	BARCLAYS			97,924	63,442
TOTAL CASH & BANK				**99,477**	**65,290**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2022

Note		2022		2021	
8a	**CREDITORS**				
	Accruals general				
	Outstanding Invoices		22,616		48,918
	Accrued 100 Club Prizes	250		310	
	Accrued invoices	8,701		2,874	
	Independent Examination	2,160	11,111	2,160	5,344
	Accruals HMRC / Pension Fund				
	HMRC	154		548	
	Pension Fund	129	283	373	920
	Accruals Designated (Deferred Income)				
	2020 - 2024 Wedding deposits	3,595		7,780	
	Cemetery upkeep (Kennington)	550		1,000	
	Deferred Income - Hall Hire Rents & Deposits	5,348		2,963	
	CBDF Heating Grant January - March 2023	17,700		-	
	Other deferred income	1,803	28,996	442	12,185
	Accruals Restricted				
	Deferred Lunch Club Grant (Ashford St Mary)	500		500	
	Deferred Ball Lane Grant (Kennington)	420		700	
			920		1,200
	Creditors falling due in one year		**63,926**		**68,567**
	Custodial Funds				
	Kennington Fayre	-		-	
	Postponed Africa Trip	2,200		2,200	
	Bell Ringers Fund (Kingsnorth)	2,792		2,812	
			4,992		**5,012**
	TOTAL CREDITORS		**68,918**		**73,579**

8b Unrecognised Creditor - Parish Share

Due to the ongoing effect on income streams of the fall in attendance resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic, it has not been possible to achieve full payment of the amount requested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in respect of Parish Share. Taking into account the minimum level of cash holdings deemed necessary, 78% was paid leaving £62,942 unpaid at 31st December 2022 plus £117,831 from the previous 2 years. As this is a voluntary contribution, the debt is not accrued in the annual accounts.

8c Unrecognised Creditor - Diocesan Board of Finance

Due to historic cash accounting, two loans from Diocesan Board of Finance totalling £128,000 were not recognised in the 2016 Willesborough Balance Sheet. £25,000 was repaid during 2017 and £70,197 remitted by the Diocese in 2018. £32,803 remains outstanding at 31st December 2022. The outstanding amount will be settled by way of deduction from a Diocesan grant arising from the sale of Gt Chart Vicarage.

Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2022

Note

9 MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Trust Funds	Local Church	Balance B/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fund	Christchurch	105,011	7,580	16,856	-	95,735
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	45,538	19,382	18,328	-	46,592
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Fund	Kennington	2,387	4,588	7,450	-	(475)
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	14,584	369	1,625	-	13,328
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	101,666	6,668	18,043	-	90,291
Mercy Apps	Kingsnorth	3,205	1,249	1,613	-	2,841
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	17,351	453	1,994	-	15,810
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	15,004	7,881	9,046	-	13,839
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	7,835	207	912	-	7,130
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	6,355	166	731	-	5,790
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	4,489	120	586		4,023
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	7,488	409	918	(409)	6,570
Total Trust Funds		**330,912**	**49,070**	**78,101**	**(409)**	**301,472**
Restricted Project Funds						
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	2,221	-	-	49	2,270
Fabric Nave Altar / Choir stalls	Ashford St Mary	23,603	1,847	4,380	-	21,070
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	1,773	-	-	-	1,773
Communications Project	Ashford St Mary	295	-	-	-	295
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	835	-	-	-	835
Organ Fund	Ashford St Mary	8,285	5,740	338	360	14,047
Ignite	Ashford St Mary	4,894	150	2,630		2,414
Meet Heat & Eat	Kingsnorth	-	1,476	-		1,476
Music Co-ordinator Fund	Kingsnorth	-	60	-	-	60
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	7,361	17,318	7,733	-	16,946
Other Funds	Gt Chart	5,282	8,713	12,313	-	1,682
Fabric Funds (Building)	St Francis	6,492	-	3,049	-	3,441
Make Lunch project	St Francis	1,613	7,749	3,953	-	5,409
Children's Mission	St Francis	102	347	277	-	172
Captial Project Funds	Willesborough	50,818	30,618	31,409	-	50,027
Capital Project Funds	Sevington	21,485	2,440	5,056	-	18,869
Youth Work	PCC	857	-	-	-	857
Acts 435	PCC	-	830	680	-	150
Total Restricted Project Funds		**135,916**	**77,288**	**71,818**	**409**	**141,795**
		-				-
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**466,828**	**126,358**	**149,919**	**-**	**443,267**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2022

Note

10 MOVEMENT ON ENDOWMENT FUNDS

	Local Church	Balance b/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Annie Marwick Deposit A/c	Shadoxhurst	379	-	-	-	379
Annie Marwick Investments	Shadoxhurst	15,925	420	(1,874)	(420)	14,051
TOTAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS		**16,304**	**420**	**(1,874)**	**(420)**	**14,430**

11 Movement on Funds held as Custodial Trustee	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses		Balance C/fwd
South Africa Trip	2,200	-	-	-	2,200
Bell Ringers Fund - Kinsgnorth	2,812	-	(20)	-	2,792
Total Custodial Funds	**5,012**	**-**	**(20)**	**-**	**4,992**

12

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Fixed Assets	4,226	-	-	4,226	4,867
Investments	-	398,418	14,051	412,469	467,479
Debtors	16,400	8,422	-	24,822	36,956
Deposits	-	43,400	379	43,779	39,010
Cash & Bank	#REF!	#REF!	-	99,511	65,290
Liabilities	#REF!	#REF!	-	(67,998)	(73,579)
Barclaycard	(1,655)	(25)	-	(1,680)	(1,621)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**56,512**	**443,267**	**14,430**	**514,209**	**538,402**

13

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND STAFF COSTS

No Trustee was paid an amount in excess of £60,000

Mrs L Varley was employed as a full time Parish Administrator
Mrs Varley was enrolled in the Church Lay Workers Pension Fund on 1st November 2017
The PCC contributes 5% of salary to the Penson Fund plus 0.5% for Life Insurance cover
Mrs Varley each contributes 3% of salary to their respective funds
Five organists were paid honoraria for regular attendance and one organist received payment as locum

Employee Benefits

None

Note

14 PURPOSE FOR RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Trust Funds

Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fun	Christchurch	Maintenance of the fabric of the church and church halls
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of the Kennington church halls
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Fund	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of the Kennington church halls
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	Costs of direct benefit to pupils of Kennington Junior Academy
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Mercy Apps Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Capital & interest restricted for the upkeep of the church earmarked for restoration of tombs
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	50% of interest for the Sunday School and 50% re-invested
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the Smyth Tombs
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	Upkeep of organ £50 & Asst organist £50 balance to choir fund
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church

Restricted Project Funds

Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	Purchase of choir and music related costs
Fabric/Friends/Kneelers	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	Funds are raised in support of humanitarian projects
Communications Fund	Ashford St Mary	Based on a specific donation for the improvement of communication
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	A donation has been received to fund future drama productions
Ignite	Ashford St Mary	Mission & Outreach project - Christchuch and St Francis former funds combined
Organ fund	Ashford St Mary	Major refurbishment of the church organ
Meet Heat & Eat	Kingsnorth	A Fund to offer grants to people in the Kingsnorth area who are struggling to pay their energy bills
Music Co-ordinator Fund	Kingsnorth	Donations to support the post of Music co-ordinator to be appointed 2023
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	Major project to provide hispitality and toilet facilities in the church
Other Funds	Gt Chart	Minor restricted reserves relating to Choir Fund and Bell fund
Fabric Funds	St Francis	Funding for the refurbushment of the Hall kitchen & other fabric matters
Make Lunch Funds	St Francis	Provision of meals and other goods for families which qualify for free school meals
Children's Mission	St Francis	Little Squeakers - Parent & Toddler Group
Capital project	Willesborough	Funds being raised for major repairs to the steeple roof
Capital Project	Sevington	Major refurbishment of the church building (Includes Lady Sharp Trust)
Youth Work	PCC	Donations to support youth work across the parish
Acts 435	PCC	Donations to support specific needs identified via the Acts 436 network
Annie Marwick Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance

Funds held as Custodial Trustee

South Africa Trip	Funds raised for a youth project - aborted due to Coronavirus. Small balance Rev'd Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair
Bell Ringers Fund	Funds transferred to PCC bank account on resignation of Tower Captain.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ASHFORD TOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1171191

Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2021

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

A Charity registered with The Charity Commission no 1171191

ASHFORD TOWN TEAM MINISTRY

comprised of the Churches of

St Mary the Virgin, Ashford

St Mary's, Kennington

St Mary the Virgin, Willesborough

St Mary's, Gt Chart

St Michael & all Angels, Kingsnorth

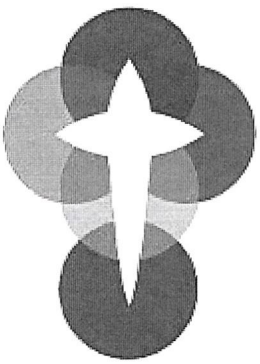
Christchurch, South Ashford

and the Chapels of Ease of

St Mary's Sevington

St Peter & St Paul, Shadoxhurst

St Francis, South Ashford



ASHFORD TOWN PCC

Team Rector

Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen (from 21st October 2020)
7 Augustine Drive, Willesborough TN25 7GH

Team Vicars

Rev'd Eve Lanchantin-Piggott
The Vicarage, 212 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9AF
(Retired June 2021)
Rev'd Caroline Mansley
The Rectory, Church Hill, Kingsnorth, Ashford, TN23 3EG
(Retired September 2021)

Priest to Ashford Town Church and Chaplain to Ashford School

Rev'd Richard Bellamy
1, The College, Church Yard, Ashford, TN23 1QG

Associate Priests

Rev'd Dawn Stamper: Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders
Rev'd Bonnie Appleton (from October 2021)

Assistant Curates

Rev'd Andrew Brown: Rev'd Bruce Watson
Rev'd Geoffrey Abasolo-Mummery (from June 2021)

Lay Staff

Ms Sophie Carnaby – Mission Enabler (from September 2021)
Mr P Sibbald – Team Development Officer

Hon Treasurer: Mrs S E Leslie

76 Tritton Fields, Kennington, TN24 9HL

Hon Secretary: Mr P Sibbald

36 Tritton Fields, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9HE

Independent Examiner:

Mr S Whorlow FCA
Cassidy's Chartered Accountants
South Stour Offices, Roman Road, Mersham TN25 7HS

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, 66 High Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TL

Website

www.ashfordchurches.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ashford Town in the Diocese of Canterbury
A Charity Registered with the Charity Commission No. 1171191

Contents

Annual Report	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 11
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 12
Balance Sheet	Page 13
Cash Flow	Page 14
Notes to the accounts	Page 15
Pension Fund Disclosure	Page 23

The Parish of Ashford Town
Annual Trustees Report 2021

1 Aim & Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC), has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. When planning activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

2 Objectives & Activities

In its communications, the parish uses the strapline 'Loving God: Serving Ashford' to encapsulate its sense of purpose.

In order to love God and serve Ashford, the parish:

- Maintains a regular pattern of public worship
- Makes available weddings, funerals and baptisms for the people of the parish
- Encourages Christian discipleship for all ages
- Supports a range of activities to show God's love in practical action that responds to human need
- Ensures its buildings are maintained and where appropriate developed for use by the wider community as well as church congregations.

In January, the PCC identified six priorities for the year ahead:

1. Reflecting on missional calling
2. Addressing missional context
3. Responding to missional opportunities
4. Strengthening communication
5. Praying with and for one another
6. Promoting organisational health.

3 Achievements & Performance

Response to the Coronavirus pandemic continued to have a significant effect on our principal activities in 2021. We decided to close our church buildings for public worship at the beginning of the year because of high infection rates in the community and resumed a pattern of online worship only. As rates began to decline, we were able to return to worship in church buildings in time for Easter, though St Mary's Singleton, which meets in Singleton Village Hall, was not able to benefit from the exemption for places of worship in the government's guidance. With the move to 'Stage 4' in July, a wider range of church activities could begin again or take place in person rather than online. Weddings, baptisms and funerals with substantial congregations became a regular part of parish life once more. When September came and rates of infection remained low, there was a cautious sense of finally settling into a pattern that might just be reasonably stable – before that was disturbed again by the arrival of the Omicron variant, with the reintroduction of mandatory face coverings and government advice to work from home where possible.

The need to keep adjusting to a changing public health situation and corresponding shifts in government and Church of England guidance dominated church life for much of the year. Inevitably, tensions in society between those concerned to minimise the risk of infection and those wanting to maximise their freedom within the law were also reflected within our congregations. Generally

speaking, we were able to strike a balance that was acceptable to most people, in part by agreeing parish-wide parameters through the PCC but giving significant latitude to local leadership teams in terms of how they operated within them.

By the end of the year, however, it had become apparent that congregational numbers would remain at a level that was significantly lower than they had been at the beginning of 2020. Average weekly attendance at services across the parish in the first quarter of 2020 (pre lockdown) was 425. During the final quarter of 2020, when churches were partially open for worship, physical attendance was down to 163. In autumn 2021 it was estimated at 263.

The decline in average attendance has been greater in some churches than others, and it remains hard to be entirely sure whether it has yet stabilised, but the reality of substantial loss in numbers of active members needs to be acknowledged. With that comes a corresponding reduction in the numbers of those willing to give of their time, talents and money to the work of the church, leading to fresh pressures being experienced by those who remain. To compound the challenges here, some churches have reported that families with school age children have been particularly likely not to return to regular involvement in 2021.

The financial situation therefore remains serious. As well as a decline in congregational giving, we have struggled to resume the level of rental bookings we had in our church buildings before the pandemic, with a consequent drop in income.

There were also, however, many encouraging developments. A joint Church of England – Methodist youth group, hosted at the Methodist Church in Cade Road, was launched in September, and quickly grew to a membership of around 30 young people, drawn from different churches across the parish. We welcomed the Bishop of Dover to a Deanery Confirmation service in October, with candidates from across the generations. Over 130 people took part in our online Parish Lent course. Many new initiatives have been launched by churches in the parish, and older ones resumed. At the end of the year, the PCC committed to participation in the Canterbury Diocese's 'Year of Living Generously' in 2022.

2021 saw significant changes in stipendiary and paid staff. The Revd Eve Lanchantin-Piggott and the Revd Caroline Mansley both retired, and the Revd Adam Childs and the Revd Jo Purle were appointed as Team Vicars, to be licensed in early 2022. In June, the Revd Geoff Abasolo-Munnery started his stipendiary curacy in the parish and in September, Sophie Carnaby joined us as Parish Mission Enabler, serving as a stipendiary licensed lay worker. Helen West left the newly formed Parish Admin Team in September and was replaced by Jacquie Stamp.

Progress was made regarding the six priorities identified at the start of the year. Work will continue into 2022 on the first five, while the major undertaking on the sixth has now been concluded.

Reflecting on missional calling: Mission Action Planning initiated, with the process including online congregational meetings, focused preaching, participation of church members in survey exercise, and 'mini conference' for local leadership teams; initial identification of vision, goals and priorities – priorities in mission for the parish and for each church community; appointment of Parish Mission Enabler.

Addressing missional context: greater coordination of service planning, including provision of online worship; engagement via Parish Leadership Team with Borough Council and Ashford Together regarding changing community needs; attention given to questions of resources.

Responding to missional opportunities: renovation of kitchen at St Francis to support continuing use by and for the local community; work on major development projects designed to enhance community use

of our buildings in other parts of Ashford; Ignite community established again at new town centre venue from September.

Strengthening communication: Parish Admin Team created with central hub; progress made on sharing information across different churches to enhance administrative efficiency; initial review of current websites; new email bulletin launched in March, initially monthly and then weekly from November.

Praying with and for one another: services held in every church in the parish for Novena of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost; new pattern established of online evening prayer; points for prayer in email bulletin.

Promoting organisational health: Employee Handbook, HR policies, Health and Safety policy and finance policies approved by the PCC; new Scheme of Delegation setting out responsibilities of PCC and Churchwardens and how these are shared with local leadership teams and Assistant Church Wardens in our multi-church parish drafted and approved.

4 Financial Review

4.1 Overview.

The hopes we expressed at the end of 2020 for a return to normal life early in the new year proved to be unfounded and it was not until Easter that public services in church could resume. The cautious response from members of our congregations, as mentioned in section 3 above reflected in continuing low levels of income from service collections: however, once baptisms were resumed, support from those attending by way of open plate collections was very encouraging and has remained so throughout the rest of 2021.

Hall Lettings on the other hand remained extremely cautious and only 1 of our many regular hires resumed in April, most of the others either deferring any decision until the autumn or declining to return at all having, during the periods of lockdown and restrictions on gatherings, developed an online regime which was to continue. Consequently, income from Lettings and also from our Cafes remained more than 75% lower than the pre-COVID levels of 2019 although slightly higher than 2020.

The summer season saw a welcome return to marriage services and funerals in church and we saw around a 50% increase in fee income compared with 2020 but still well below 2019.

As a consequence of the minimal recovery we were unable to sustain full payment of Parish Share, there being no further free reserves available to shore up the lack of income. Sadly, we managed full payment only in October and November and closed with arrears of £103,331 for the year. This, along with the £14,500 short paid in 2020 will at some point in the future have to be paid to the Diocese but the priority for 2022 will be the attainment of full payment for this year in return for a 10% reduction in Share. This will present a significant challenge.

At the close of the year, the accounts show a small surplus of £9,872 bringing Unrestricted Reserves to £55,270 – still well below the required level of around £150,000

We continue to be blessed with extensive Restricted Funds which for the most part relate to the maintenance and development of our buildings: whilst spending exceeded income during the year (*see paragraph 4.5 below*), there was a net surplus of £8,135 after taking into account share revaluation gains of almost £56,500. This brings the Restricted Funds value to £466,828 and Endowment Funds to £16,304.

4.2 Overall results.

Income

General Fund Income has reflected the very slow and cautious recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic and its associated restrictions. We are grateful, as ever, to all those who have faithfully continued their regular giving through the bank or have resumed regular giving by means of the Free Will Offering envelopes. However, with so many people suffering loss of income and impaired financial situations themselves, we declined to pursue any kind of broad based review of giving and the income from Planned Giving - the mainstay of our General Fund - is in the region of 10% lower than in 2019 and marginally lower than in 2020.

Life events services in Church continued for part of the year to be limited by the social restrictions of the pandemic. There were also fewer services at the Crematorium conducted by parish ministers, largely due to restrictions on numbers able to attend. The Table below indicates the numbers of services over the 5 year period 2017 – 2021. Six of the funeral services in 2021 were conducted at the graveside only and not in church.

YEAR	WEDDINGS	FUNERALS	CREMATION	INTERMENT OF ASHES
2017	47	66	46	8
2018	41	38	76	4
2019	37	59	50	9
2020	16	16	48	4
2021	20	34	17	5

4.4 Expenditure

With the severely diminished level of General Reserves at the end of 2020, we were forced into the difficult decision of restricting payment of Parish Share within the constraints of cash flow. We were only able to pay £229,081 out of a requested contribution of £332,411, leaving £103,331 outstanding. As this is a voluntary contribution, the debt is not accrued in the annual accounts but is covered in Note 8b on page 19. Nevertheless, Parish Share remains by far the greatest proportion of annual expenditure at 63%: total Ministry costs account for 76% of all expenditure. Analysis of the Church Running costs is shown in the pie chart on Page 9.

Due to the limitations of cash flow, Unrestricted maintenance has again been closely monitored and only the most essential work or that which is a legal requirement carried out.

Churchyard costs at Kingsnorth, with effect from this year, are covered by local parish council grants equal to the amount billed. Gt Chart churchyard maintenance is billed direct to the local parish council with effect from September 2021: no grant was awarded for costs incurred from January to August. Kennington currently has no such financial support from their local council.

4.5 Restricted Funds & Fabric

Some Restricted Funds have continued to grow but significant expenditure on professional fees has been incurred, particularly at Sevington (£18,293), as the major project moves slowly forward. Hopes for a further injection of S106 funding have not materialised: the project plans have been modified

following the construction of the government's Inland Border Facility on part of the land adjacent to Sevington church appointed for industrial warehousing.

At St Mary's Kennington considerable sums have been expended on repairs following water ingress into the vestry and other work arising from the 2020 Quinquennial report: the overall cost in 2021 was £72,539 funded through an Insurance claim (£7,373), grant from Friends of Kent Churches (£10,000), grant from Friends of St Mary's (£6,000), VAT reclaim under the Listed Places of Worship Grant scheme (£12,059) and sale of CCLA Investment Units (£25,000). The balance was funded from deposits relating to Restricted Funds. The final invoice has yet to be received: some minor tasks remained outstanding at the year end.

St Mary's in the town centre has commissioned a new Guide Book at a cost of £3,499 and this was launched in November 2021. Some of the cost will be recovered over time by sales of the publication. The Organ Restoration fund has also been launched. Initial donations together with a transfer of funds from the former Friends of St Mary's bring the fund to a total of £8,285 by the year end. This is a long term project and we plan to invest funds in CCLA units.

St Francis had a small restricted fund for work with children & young people: the Little Squeakers funds have now been almost completely used up in providing appropriate resources and equipment. The Make Lunch and Kitchen refurbishment projects have continued to benefit from donations and grants as well as many gifts in kind including food and other items from suppliers such as Fair Share and Tesco. During the year the new kitchen was installed at St Francis at a total cost of £46,881 and the provision of meals and activities was able to recommence in the school summer holiday period.

The Christchurch Ignite project was merged with Ignite at St Francis but for much of the year face to face meetings were not possible. In the autumn it was agreed to transfer operations to St Mary's Church in the town centre for ease of access: the funds from Christchurch and St Francis (£1,635 and £2,202 respectively) were combined and transferred to St Mary's.

Little progress has been made in the project for the major extension of the church hall at Christchurch but extensive electrical works were undertaken in order to satisfy the requirements of the quinquennial Electrical Inspection required by our Insurers, paid for from Restricted Fabric funds.

4.6 Investment Performance.

Restricted and Endowment funds continue to be invested with CCLA which manages investments for charities, religious organisations and the public sector. The company aims to deliver strong long-term returns and has unmatched experience in providing ethical and responsible investment policies. They offer long-term growth in capital and efficient access to a wide range of investments. They aim to achieve an overall return on investment of between 5% and 10%. Our own investment rationale subscribes to these objectives and invests those funds which are unlikely to be utilised within 12 months. Revaluation Gains at the year end resulted in our Restricted Funds share portfolio having increased in value by £52,220 and actual gains of £2,744 were realised on sale of Investment Units from the Kennington Burgess fund. Endowment Funds increased in value by £1,993. The CCLA Property fund also resulted in revaluation gains of £6,269, bringing the portfolio value to £4,072 above the original investment. Performance can be seen in the following table:

Fund	Investment Fund 2021 Performance	Property Fund 2021 Performance	Property Fund 2017 - 2021 5-year Performance
Initial Investment			46,148
Valuation at 31/12/2020	£373,364	£43,950	
Dividend Income	£9,399	£1,371	£8,510

Percentage return	3.0%	3.7%	15.5%
Shares Sold	£22.256		
Realised Gains	£2,744		
Revaluation gains	£52,220	£6,269	£4,072
Percentage return	6.8%	14.3%	8.8%
Total return	£64,363	£7,640	£12,582
Overall percentage	**17.2%**	**17.4%**	**27.3%**
Comparable Deposit Interest Rate	0.15%		

5 Reserves policy

Our stated Reserves Policy is to hold sufficient free reserves to cover three months' unrestricted expenditure which equates to £91,506 at the end of 2021, assuming that the first 3 months of 2022 continue at the 2021 levels. Actual free reserves stood at £55,270 but only by virtue of accumulated Parish Share debt of £103,331. Significant investment of time and effort is now needed to restore financial activity to the 2019, pre-COVID levels and beyond and the restoration of free reserves and repayment of Parish Share debt are long-term goals.

Given the extreme circumstances in which we and almost every other Church of England parish and diocese were operating, we controlled our outgoings according to the amount of unrestricted cash available and adjusted payment of Parish Share accordingly, holding in reserve sufficient cash to cover normal outgoings plus a reduced parish share payment for one month. For 2022, the Diocese has reduced Parish Share by 10% in return for a commitment to full payment, but this clearly represents a significant challenge: a major review of giving by committed church members is required at the earliest opportunity, but this will no doubt be measured against factors in the wider world such as rising inflation and spiraling energy costs. A full recovery from the effects of the pandemic on other activities such as Hall Lettings is also essential.

6 Total Funds: as at 31st December 2021

Funds	Amount	Held in
Free Reserves	£55,270	Cash and bank, bank deposit, debtors and liabilities
Restricted Reserves	£466,828	Deposits, Investments, debtors and liabilities
Endowment Reserves	£16,304	Investments

A full analysis of funds can be seen at Note12 on page 21 of this report

7 Custodial Funds

Custodial Funds remain as held at 31st December 2020:

Kingsnorth Bell Fund £2,812
Kingsnorth South Africa Trip £2,200

8 Future Plans

Three major priorities have been identified for 2022:

1. Moving our Mission Action Planning into action
2. Improving our financial situation
3. Growing in our relationship as a family of churches.

The Mission Action Planning process is expected to move into the 'action' phase no later than summer 2022. It is expected that the priorities arising from this for the parish and for each church will increasingly shape our plans for the future, keeping in mind our financial situation. The vision for the parish is to be 'Centred on Jesus, serving the community, growing in faith'.

9 Risk Management

9.1 Principle Risk:

9.1.1 The possibility of continuing restrictions to movement of people and gatherings in church buildings which adversely affect income, service collections, hall rentals, community café takings and many fund raising activities.

9.1.2 Insufficient or inadequate levels of regular giving to sustain payment of essential basic running costs

9.1.3 Although now only a small element of our incoming funds and widely spread across a team of volunteers, cash security always poses some risk albeit minor.

9.2 Damage Limitation

Strict control continues to be exercised over expenditure.

Each administrator was able either to work from home or to maintain distancing regulations if working from their office.

At parish level almost the only sanction available to protect cash flow is reduction in payment of Parish Share. As a PCC we have been committed to full payment since the Ashford Town Parish was formed but as 2020 progressed and cash resources dwindled at an alarming rate, as a last resort it was agreed that reduced payments would be made from August 2020 onwards and continued throughout 2021. This decision to limit payment of Share was taken with much regret, realising that the knock-on effect would be detrimental to the Diocese in meeting its own financial commitments and would incur debts which although not accrued in the annual accounts will nevertheless need to be repaid over time.

Opportunities to increase income were minimal but at the first opportunity we opened a digital platform for personal giving which runs alongside our existing card payment facility. The Give A Little campaign was advertised through our Zoom services as an opportunity to contribute to a virtual collection plate, with or without Gift Aid. The take up has been relatively small. Once churches were able to open again for services, collections plates have been made available close to the exit of each church: the practice of taking up physical collections by passing the plate has not been resumed for reasons of safety in the continuing pandemic.

Recognising that many people had suffered financially during the course of the various levels of restriction, it was not deemed politic to engage in a review of giving during 2021.

Risk Assessments were reviewed for all our churches and church halls as each new phase of restriction emerged so that some degree of 'normality' could be restored and lettings and café activities recommence.

9.3 Future Management

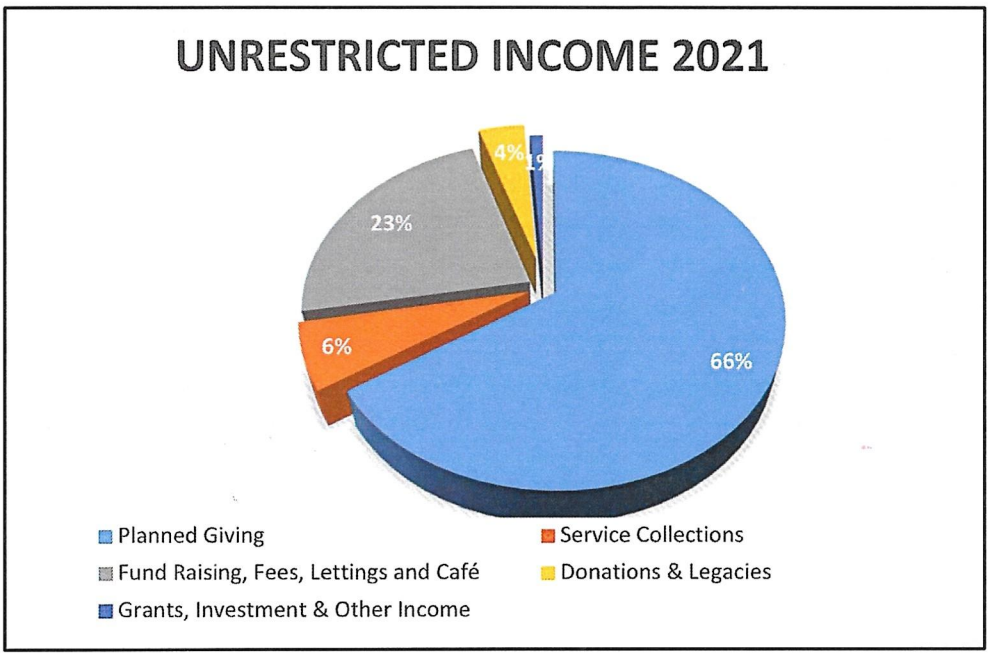
Going forward, Risk Assessments for all our buildings will need to be regularly reviewed and updated. As part of the Mission Action Plan, numerical growth in membership and new income streams will be investigated and we will continue to try to convert cash giving to electronic or other forms which can be easily sustained through any future pandemic. Good stewardship and the promotion of generosity will be at the forefront of our financial planning.

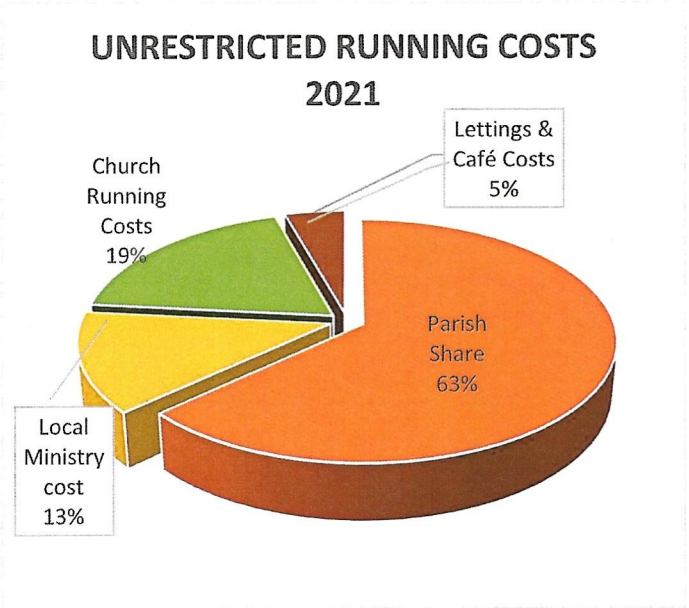
Living through the pandemic restrictions has opened the way for alternative means of giving besides cash. We will continue to explore and develop facilities for digital giving at public services especially at weddings and funerals. These methods are much dependent on good internet or mobile phone connections and our church buildings are not always blessed in this way. However, technology is always moving forward and we will constantly monitor developments.

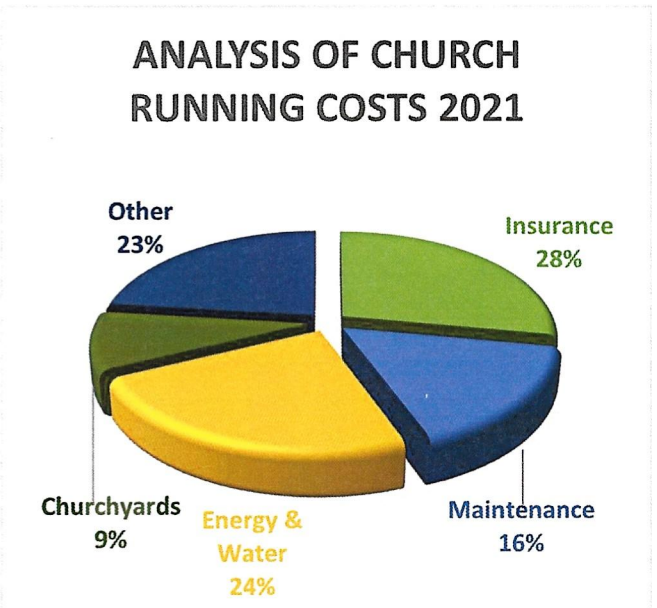
We have invited all church members to engage in a 'Year of Generosity' – generosity towards creation, towards other people, being generous with our time and our skills as well as with our money. As part of this we will be focusing on generosity in regular financial giving to enable the parish to fulfil its primary role of Mission and Ministry. We also plan to register with the Parish Giving Scheme which collects regular giving by Direct Debit, handles gift aid claims, and passes funds promptly to the parish: it also offers the opportunity for members to sign up to inflation-based annual increases in giving so that in future income hopefully keeps pace more closely with expenditure.

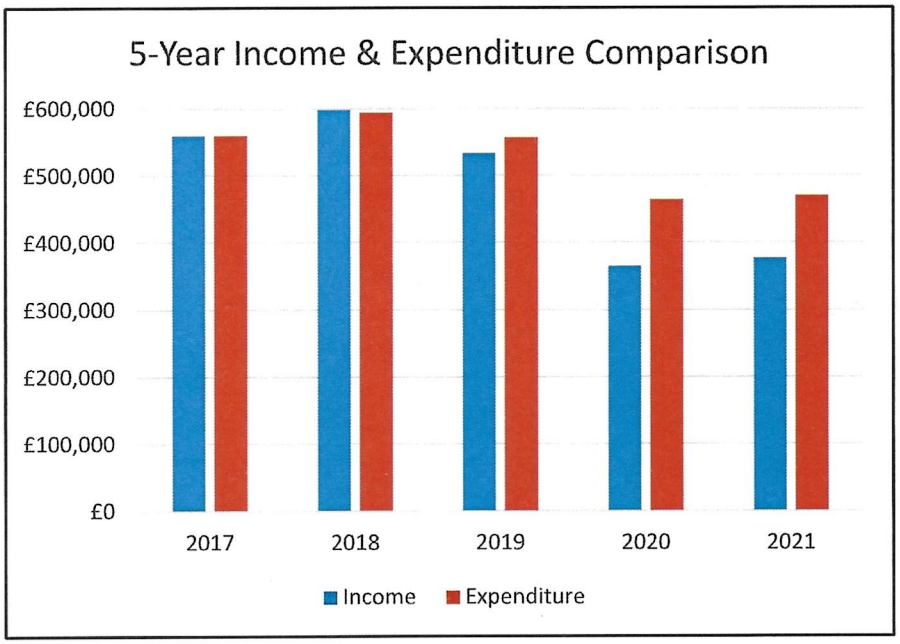
10 Information in Diagrammatic Form

The following page shows in diagrammatic form the basic elements of Income and expenditure with some further analysis of church running costs and finally a chart which depicts a comparison of the decline in income and expenditure levels over the five years 2017 to 2021


UNRESTRICTED INCOME 2021
4%
23%
6%
66%
Planned Giving
Service Collections
Fund Raising, Fees, Lettings and Café
Donations & Legacies
Grants, Investment & Other Income


UNRESTRICTED RUNNING COSTS 2021
Lettings & Café Costs 5%
Church Running Costs 19%
Parish Share 63%
Local Ministry cost 13%


ANALYSIS OF CHURCH RUNNING COSTS 2021
Other 23%
Insurance 28%
Churchyards 9%
Energy & Water 24%
Maintenance 16%


5-Year Income & Expenditure Comparison
£600,000
£500,000
£400,000
£300,000
£200,000
£100,000
£0
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
Income
Expenditure

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and operates in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. It is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1171191.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation rules. PCC members are ex officio, co-opted, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting to serve for a period of three years, retiring by rotation. A maximum of fifteen elected members is permitted: Lay members of both the Deanery and Diocesan Synods are ex officio members of the PCC.

Membership

Team Rector and Chair of PCC: Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen (from October 2020)
Clergy: Rev'd Caroline Mansley (Retired September 2021); Rev'd Eve Lanchantin-Piggott (Retired June 2021); Rev'd Richard Bellamy; Rev'd Dawn Stamper; Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders; Rev'd Bonnie Appleton; Rev'd Andrew Brown; Rev'd Bruce Watson: Rev'd Geoffrey Abasolo-Munnery
Deputy Chair of PCC: Mrs Sally Lees
Lay Staff: Mr Phil Sibbald Ms Sophie Carnaby
Church Wardens: Mr Jerry Fox; Mr Derek Goodwin
Lay Readers: Mr Derek Goodwin, Mrs Alison Gunther; Dr James Beck.
Deanery Synod Representatives: (until Oct 2023) Mrs Helen West; Mrs Jane Appleton.
Diocesan Synod Representatives: (until May 2024) Mrs Shirley Leslie; Mrs Jill Humphreys
Elected members:
To serve until April 2022: Mrs Libby Varley; Mrs Lorraine Andrews; Mr Ken Blanshard.
To serve until April 2023: Dr Arthur Waters; Mrs Sally Lees; Mrs Sarah Ansel; Mrs Susan Mullan; Mrs Maureen Drury.
To serve until May 2024: Mrs Morag Sharp; Mr Robert Sharp; Mr Alan Stamp; Mrs Janet Eaves; Mrs Christine Duchemin.

Mr Phil Sibbald continued to serve as Hon Secretary and Electoral Roll officer.
Mrs Shirley Leslie continued to serve as Hon Treasurer, assisted by Mr J Small (Gift Aid Claims) Mr R & Mrs T Fincher, (Local Gift Aid administrators), Miss J Wenborn (Local Gift Aid and banking administrator) and Mr J Donovan, Mrs H West, Mr C Grove and Mr D Peters (Local Banking administrators).

Mrs Lis Webb continued to serve as Safeguarding Officer

The PCC meets six times a year: during 2021 most of these meetings were held virtually over the Zoom platform.

Each local church has a Local Leadership or local Management Team: these act as sub-committees of the PCC to deal with purely local matters of ministry and fabric.



Approved by the PCC on 17th March 2022 and signed by
Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen – Team Rector

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 12 to 22.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

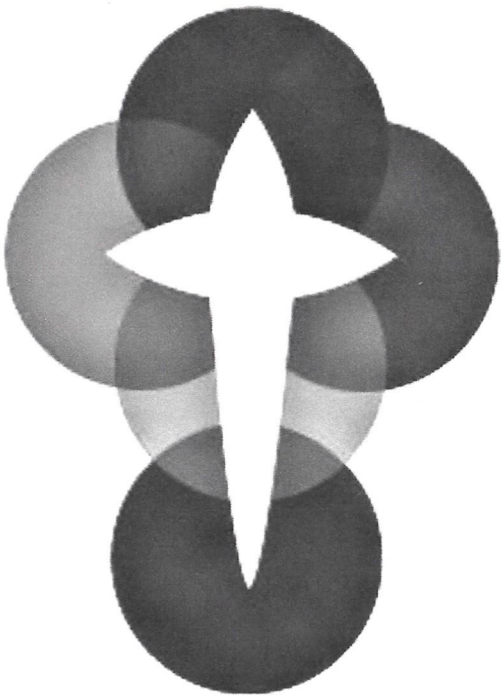
Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 31 / MARCH /2022

ASHFORD TOWN PCC

Financial Statements

for the year ended 31st December 2021



Registered Charity number 1171191

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2021	TOTAL FUNDS 2020
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	2a	248,706	54,680		303,386	297,789
Activities for Generating Funds	2b	27,786	1,311		29,097	9,671
Investment Income	2c	3,543	9,402	404	13,349	12,496
Church Activities	2d	47,004	-		47,004	36,496
Other Incoming Resources	2e	49,805	72,005		121,811	188,765
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		376,845	137,398	404	514,647	545,217
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church Activities	3a	363,531	189,856	-	553,387	577,789
Raising Funds	3b	2,494	-	-	2,494	1,903
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		366,025	189,856	-	555,881	579,692
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		10,820	(52,458)	404	(41,234)	(34,475)
Transfers between Funds		(948)	1,352	(404)	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		9,872	(51,106)	-	(41,234)	(34,475)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:						
Realised	4b	-	2,744	-	2,744	-
Unrealised	4b	-	56,497	1,993	58,490	20,810
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND		9,872	8,135	1,993	20,000	(13,665)
Balance b/forward @ 31st December 2020		45,398	458,693	14,311	518,402	532,066
Closing Balance @ 31 December 2021		**55,270**	**466,828**	**16,304**	**538,402**	**518,401**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
PV Panels	*4a*	4,867		5,411	
Investments	*4b*	467,479		431,246	
			472,346		**436,657**
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors & Prepayments	*5*	36,956		37,025	
Deposits	*6*	39,010		39,927	
Cash at bank and in hand	*7*	65,290		34,343	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		141,256		111,295	
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	*8a*	(73,579)		(27,148)	
Credit Card account		(1,621)		(2,403)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			**66,056**		**81,744**
Creditors - amounts falling due in more than one year	*8b*	-		-	
			-		-
TOTAL NET ASSETS			**538,402**		**518,401**
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted			55,270		45,398
Restricted	*9*		466,828		458,693
Endowment	*10*		16,304		14,311
			538,402		**518,402**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 23rd April 2022 and signed on its behalf by :-

Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

Mrs Shirley Leslie - Hon Treasurer

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Cash Flow Statement
as at 31 December 2021

		2021		*2020*
Net cash from operating activities			(8,864)	(49,512)
Cash flows from investing activities				
FIT Payments received	544		579	
Dividends & Interest	13,349		12,496	
Proceeds from sale of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Investments	25,000		-	
Purchase of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets for the use of the PCC				
Fixed Investments	-		(25,700)	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities			38,893	(12,625)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			30,029	(62,137)
Cash and Cash equivalents at 1 January			74,270	136,407
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December			**104,299**	**74,270**
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash at bank and in hand			65,290	34,343
Short-Term Deposits			39,010	39,927
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December			**104,300**	**74,270**

Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities:		
Net Income before investment gains 31 December	*(41,234)*	*(34,475)*
Adjustments for:		
Dividends & Interest	*(13,349)*	*(12,496)*
Decrease / (increase) in Debtors	*69*	*(5,128)*
(Decrease) / Increase in Creditors	*45,650*	*2,588*
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	*(8,864)*	*(49,512)*

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2021

Note 1 Accounting Policies:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. The accounts have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)). Accounts are prepared on the Accruals Basis.

Parish Share is a voluntary contrubution to the Diocese to cover central costs of Mission and Ministry. It is the policy of this Parish to recognise their responsibility for this contribution and to pay in full within the year to which it relates. However, where external factors beyond the control of the PCC prevent this, the maximum possible payment will be made and any shortfall reported by way of note to the accounts

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

Insofar as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful life other than where insufficient cost information is available or where the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. In all cases, items are included in the relevant Church's inventories.

Tangible Fixed Assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 unless the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. They are valued at cost and depreciation is calculated to write off their currently anticipated cost over their estimated useful life as follows: Land - Nil: Fixtures & Fittings - 20 years: Computers - 3 years: Other electronic equipment - 5 years.
No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so the depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments are valued at their market value at 31 December. Gains and losses on the revaluation and disposals of investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund or at the bank.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are not therefore included in its 'free reserves'. The PCC aims to maintain a balance on free reserves amounting to at least 3 months unrestricted payments.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in notes to the accounts at notes 9 and 14. It is our policy to invest the short term investment funds with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend the capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital is restricted. Full details of their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts. The funds are administered by Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodial Trustee and invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2020	TOTAL FUNDS 2020
2	**INCOMING RESOURCES**	£	£	£	**£**	£
	2a Voluntary Income					
	Planned Giving : Gift Aid	149,194	-	-	**149,194**	145,002
	Tax recoverable	38,704	-	-	**38,704**	39,539
	Other Planned Giving	27,626	-	-	**27,626**	35,982
	Collections: Open Plate	15,823	-	-	**15,823**	8,948
	Tax recoverable	4,751	-	-	**4,751**	523
	Donations	10,610	53,467		**64,077**	40,931
	Legacies	1,000	1,213		**2,213**	26,399
	Special Appeals & Collections	997			**997**	466
		248,706	**54,680**	-	**303,386**	297,789
	2b Activities for Generating Funds					
	Events	25,808	1,311	-	**27,119**	9,013
	Magazine Adverts	1,978	-	-	1,978	658
		27,786	**1,311**	-	**29,097**	9,671
	2c Investment Income					
	Dividends & Interest	3,543	9,402	404	**13,349**	12,496
		3,543	**9,402**	**404**	**13,349**	12,496
	2d Church Activities					
	Occasional Office fees	23,357	-	-	**23,357**	15,707
	Church Magazine Sales	522	-	-	**522**	656
	Lettings	17,117	-	-	**17,117**	14,970
	Community Café	6,008	-	-	**6,008**	4,668
	Minibus income	-	-	-	-	494
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
		47,004	-	-	**47,004**	36,495
	2e Other Incoming Resources					
	Grants	44,242	61,552	-	**105,794**	181,898
	Insurance Claims	-	10,453	-	**10,453**	1,330
	HMRC Allowance	4,010	-	-	**4,010**	3,063
	Other	1,554	-	-	**1,554**	2,474
		49,806	**72,005**	-	**121,811**	188,765
	Total Incoming Resources	**376,845**	**137,398**	**404**	**514,647**	**545,216**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2021

			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2021	TOTAL FUNDS 2021
		RESOURCES EXPENDED	£	£	£	**£**	£
3	3a	**Church Activities**					
		Charitable Giving					
		Overseas Relief & Development	-	-	-	-	50
		Other Charities Supported from special collections	1,481	-	-	**1,481**	170
		Total Charitable Giving	**1,481**	**-**	-	**1,481**	220
		Mission & Ministry					
		Mission & Evangelism					
		CAP / Fresh Start	2,200		-	**2,200**	2,800
		Ignite	-	643	-	**643**	595
		Children & Young People	293	1,276	-	**1,569**	3,742
		Other Mission Work	-	-	-	**-**	227
		Total Mission & Evangelism	**2,493**	**1,919**		**4,412**	7,364
		Ministry					
		Parish Share	229,081	-	-	**229,081**	321,272
		Local Ministry					
		Salaries & Honoraria	35,298	-	-	**35,298**	31,039
		Clergy & Staff expenses	6,111	-	-	**6,111**	4,189
		Parish Office Costs	4,642	-	-	**4,642**	4,196
		Total Ministry Cost	**277,625**	**1,919**	-	**279,544**	368,060
		Church Running Costs					
		Church running Costs	15,888	6,207	-	**22,095**	18,151
		Insurance	19,134	-	-	**19,134**	23,146
		Maintenance	11,238	15,465	-	**26,703**	43,458
		Energy & Water	16,736	-	-	**16,736**	18,572
		Churchyard upkeep	6,232	-	-	**6,232**	8,770
		Minibus Costs	-	-	-	**-**	714
			69,228	**21,672**	**-**	**90,900**	112,811
		Cost of Trading					
		Hall Running Costs	12,576	-	-	**12,576**	13,210
		Café Running Costs	2,622	-	-	**2,622**	2,158
			15,198	**-**	**-**	**15,198**	15,368
		Major Capital Expenditure					
		Capital projects	-	95,152	-	**95,152**	49,399
		Hall Major projects	-	44,137	-	**44,137**	718
		Project Professional Fees & Other Costs	-	26,976	-	**26,976**	31,212
			-	**166,265**	**-**	**166,265**	81,330
		Total Church Activities	**363,531**	**189,856**	-	**553,387**	577,789
	3b	**Cost of Raising Funds**					
		Events	2,494	-	-	**2,494**	1,903
		Total Cost of Raising Funds	**2,494**	**-**	**-**	**2,494**	1,903

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2021

Note			2021	2020
4a	**FIXED ASSETS**			
	1	13 x Panels purchased at a total cost of	8,329	8329
		FIT payments to 31 December 2020	2,918	2339
		Net Book Value at 1st January 2019	5,411	5990
		Less FIT payments received in the period	544	579
		NET BOOK VALUE at 31 December 2021	**4,867**	5411

4b	INVESTMENTS	Shares held 31/12/2020	Value @ 31/12/2020	SOLD	Bought	Realised / Cost	Share Price 31/12/2021	Value at 31/12/2021	Unrealised Gain (Loss)
	CCLA Investment Fund: Restricted	18,224	373,364	-1,086	-	-22,256	23.4181	401,335	50,227
	CCLA Endowment Fund: Annie Marwick	680	13,931	-	-	-	23.4181	15,924	1,993
	CCLA Propety Fund	33,962	43,951	-	-	-	1.4787	50,220	6,269
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS							**467,479**	**58,489**

5	DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS	2021	2020
	Debtors		
	Repayment Claims Gift Aid / GASDS: October - December	12,608	7,073
	Outstanding Hall Rents	1,887	128
	Other Outstanding Invoices	3,841	11,834
	TOTAL	**18,336**	19,035
	Accrued Claims		
	Grant Claims	17,513	6,137
	Accrued Grant Pightland Trust	650	10,000
	Accrued Energy overcharges	-	1,267
	TOTAL DEBTORS	**36,498**	**36,439**
	Prepaid Insurance - Minibus	-	-
	Willesborough Social Events	-	250
	Other Prepayments	458	337
	TOTAL PREPAYMENTS	**458**	**587**
	TOTAL DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS	**36,956**	**37,025**

6	DEPOSITS	2021	2020
	CCLA Endowment Funds	379	379
	CCLA Restricted funds	5,604	9,079
	Barclays	33,027	30,469
	TOTAL DEPOSITS	**39,010**	**39,927**

7	CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND				2021	2020
	CASH	Grapevine Float - Gt Chart			-	-
		Flower Fund Cash	Ashford	-3		
			Kennington	345		
			Gt Chart	21		
			Link Lunch	Willesborough/Christchurch	264	627	1,527
		Cash in Hand: unbanked coin			13	9
		Willesborough Social Events		Includes café float	1042	800
		Local Churches Clearing account: Kingsnorth Lite Bite			167	-
		TOTAL CASH			**1,848**	**2336**
	BANK	BARCLAYS			63,442	32,007
	TOTAL CASH & BANK				**65,290**	**34,343**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2021

Note		2021		2020	
8a	**CREDITORS**				
	Accruals general				
	Outstanding Invoices		48,918		4,038
	Accrued 100 Club Prizes	310		290	
	Accrued invoices	2,874		2,221	
	Independent Examination	2,160	5,344	2,160	4,671
	Accruals HMRC / Pension Fund				
	HMRC	548		655	
	Pension Fund	373	920	354	1,009
	Accruals Designated (Deferred Income)				
	2020 - 2023 Wedding deposits	7,780		9,843	
	Cemetery upkeep (Kennington)	1,000		1,000	
	Agency Fee - Choir	-		-	
	Deferred Income - Kingsnorth Discretionery fund	375		375	
	Deferred Income - Hall Hire Rents & Deposits	2,588		-	
	Other deferred income	442	12,185		11,218
	Accruals Restricted				
	Deferred donation	-			
	Deferred Income (St Francis)	-		-	
	Deferred Lunch Club Grant (Ashford St Mary)	500		500	
	Deferred Ball Lane Grant (Kennington)	700		700	
			1,200		1,200
	Creditors falling due in one year		**68,567**		**22,136**
	Custodial Funds				
	Kennington Fayre	-		-	
	Postponed Africa Trip	2,200		2,200	
	Bell Ringers Fund (Kingsnorth)	2,812		2,812	
			5,012		5,012
	TOTAL CREDITORS		**73,579**		**27,148**

8b Unpaid Parish Share

Due to the effect on income streams of the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus pandemic, it has not been possible to achieve full payment of the amount requested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in respect of Parish Share. Taking into account the minimum level of cash holdings deemed necessary, 69% was paid leaving £103,331 unpaid at 31st December 2021 plus £14,500 from the previous year.

8c Undisclosed Creditor - Diocesan Board of Finance

Due to historic cash accounting, two loans from Diocesan Board of Finance totalling £128,000 were not recognised in the 2016 Willesborough Balance Sheet. £25,000 was repaid during 2017 and £70,197 remitted by the Diocese in 2018. £32,803 remains outstanding at 31st December 2021. The outstanding amount will be settled by way of deduction from a Diocesan grant arising from the sale of Christchurch Vicarage.

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2021

Note

9 MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Trust Funds	Local Church	Balance B/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fund	Christchurch	91,999	16,056	3,044	-	105,011
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	69,430	61,402	85,294	-	45,538
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Fund	Kennington	2,038	349	-	-	2,387
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	12,508	2,076	-	-	14,584
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	88,983	12,684	-	-	101,666
Mercy Apps	Kingsnorth	2,818	387	-	-	3,205
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	14,821	2,530	-	-	17,351
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	13,815	7,074	5,885	-	15,004
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	6,778	1,157	100	-	7,835
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	5,428	927	-	-	6,355
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	4,512	(23)	-	-	4,489
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	6,512	1,156	-	(180)	7,488
Total Trust Funds		**319,642**	**105,773**	**94,323**	**(180)**	**330,912**
Restricted Project Funds						
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	2,031	100		90	2,221
Fabric Nave Altar / Choir stalls	Ashford St Mary	24,348	4,054	4,799	-	23,603
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	1,773	-	-	-	1,773
Communications Project	Ashford St Mary	472	-	177	-	295
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	835	-	-	-	835
Organ Fund	Ashford St Mary	-	8,195	-	90	8,285
Ignite	Ashford St Mary	3,837	1,700	643	-	4,894
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	10,606	6,129	10,052	678	7,361
Other Funds	Gt Chart	2,140	3,820	-	(678)	5,282
Fabric Funds (Kitchen)	St Francis	29,835	17,046	46,881	-	-
Fabric Funds (Building)	St Francis	-	10,705	4,213		6,492
Make Lunch project	St Francis	1,007	1,739	1,133	-	1,613
Children's Mission	St Francis	1,233	-	1,131	-	102
Captial Project Funds	Willesborough	25,767	33,119	8,068	-	50,818
Capital Project Funds	Sevington	35,167	4,611	18,293	-	21,485
Youth Work	PCC	-	1,000	143		857
Total Restricted Project Funds		**139,051**	**92,218**	**95,533**	**180**	**135,916**
		-				-
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**458,693**	**197,991**	**189,856**	**-**	**466,828**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2021

Note

10 MOVEMENT ON ENDOWMENT FUNDS

	Local Church	Balance b/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Annie Marwick Deposit A/c	Shadoxhurst	379	-	-	-	379
Annie Marwick Investments	Shadoxhurst	13,932	2,397	-	(404)	15,925
TOTAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS		**14,311**	**2,397**	**-**	**(404)**	**16,304**

11 Movement on Funds held as Custodial Trustee	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses		Balance C/fwd
South Africa Trip	2,200	-	-	-	2,200
Bell Ringers Fund - Kinsgnorth	2,812	-	-	-	2,812
Total Custodial Funds	**5,012**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**5,012**

12

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Fixed Assets	4,867	-	-	4,867	5,411
Investments	-	451,555	15,925	467,479	431,246
Debtors	17,977	18,979	-	36,956	37,025
Deposits	23,308	15,323	379	39,010	39,927
Cash & Bank	65,290	-	-	65,290	34,343
Liabilities	(24,918)	(48,661)	-	(73,579)	(27,148)
Barclaycard	(1,621)	-	-	(1,621)	(2,403)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**55,270**	**466,828**	**16,304**	**538,402**	**518,401**

13

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND STAFF COSTS

No Trustee was paid an amount in excess of £60,000

Mrs L Varley was employed as a full time Parish Administrator
Mr P Sibbald was employed as Team Development Officer and Parish Administrator
Mr Sibbald and Mrs Varley were enrolled in the Church Lay Workers Pension Fund on 1st November 2017
The PCC contributes 5% of salary to the Penson Fund plus 0.5% for Life Insurance cover
Mr Sibbald and Mrs Varley each contribute 3% of salary to their respective funds
Mr Sibbald makes an additional voluntary contribution
One part-time Administrator employed for 12 hours per week left in September 2021.
One additional Parish Administrator was employed from November 2021 for 20 hours per week.
Five organists were paid honoraria for regular attendance and one organist received payment as locum

Employee Benefits
None

Note

14 PURPOSE FOR RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Trust Funds		
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fun	Christchurch	Maintenance of the fabric of the church and church halls
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of the Kennington church halls
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Fund	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of the Kennington church halls
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	Costs of direct benefit to pupils of Kennington Junior Academy
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Mercy Apps Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Capital & interest restricted for the upkeep of the church earmarked for restoration of tombs
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	50% of interest for the Sunday School and 50% re-invested
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the Smyth Tombs
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	Upkeep of organ £50 & Asst organist £50 balance to choir fund
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Restricted Project Funds		
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	Purchase of choir and music related costs
Fabric/Friends/Kneelers	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	Funds are raised in support of humanitarian projects
Communications Fund	Ashford St Mary	Based on a specific donation for the improvement of communication
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	A donation has been received to fund future drama productions
Ignite	Ashford St Mary	Mission & Outreach project - Christchuch and St Francis former funds combined
Organ fund	Ashford St Mary	Major refurbishment of the church organ
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	Major project to provide hispitality and toilet facilities in the church
Other Funds	Gt Chart	Minor restricted reserves relating to Choir Fund and Bell fund
Fabric Funds	St Francis	Funding for the refurbushment of the Hall kitchen & other fabric matters
Make Lunch Funds	St Francis	Provision of meals and other goods for families which qualify for free school meals
Children's Mission	St Francis	Little Squeakers - Parent & Toddler Group
Capital project	Willesborough	Funds being raised for major repairs to the steeple roof
Capital Project	Sevington	Major refurbishment of the church building (Includes Lady Sharp Trust)
Endowments		
Annie Marwick Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance

Funds held as Custodial Trustee

South Africa Trip	Funds raised for a youth project - aborted due to Coronavirus. Small balance retained for potential future trip.
Bell Ringers Fund	Funds transferred to PCC bank account on resignation of Tower Captain.

Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)
31st December 2021

ASHFORD TOWN PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
    a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
    b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme
Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable **(2021: £4262, 2020: £4092).**

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 3% following improvements in the funding position over 2021. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, **ASHFORD TOWN PCC** could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 12 to 22.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 31 / MARCH /2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ASHFORD TOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1171191

Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2020

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

A Charity registered with The Charity Commission no 1171191

ASHFORD TOWN TEAM MINISTRY

comprised of the Churches of

St Mary the Virgin, Ashford

St Mary's, Kennington

St Mary the Virgin, Willesborough

St Mary's, Gt Chart

St Michael & all Angels, Kingsnorth

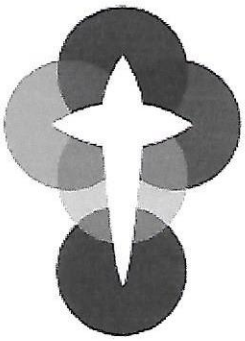
Christchurch, South Ashford

and the Chapels of Ease of

St Mary's Sevington

St Peter & St Paul, Shadoxhurst

St Francis, South Ashford



ASHFORD TOWN PCC

Team Rector
Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen (from 21st October 2020)
7 Augustine Drive, Willesborough TN25 7GH

Team Vicars
Rev'd Eve Lanchantin-Piggott
The Vicarage, 212 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9AF
Rev'd Caroline Mansley
The Rectory, Church Hill, Kingsnorth, Ashford, TN23 3EG

Priest to Ashford Town Church and Chaplain to Ashford School
Rev'd Richard Bellamy
1, The College, Church Yard, Ashford, TN23 1QG

Associate Priests
Rev'd Dawn Stamper
Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders

Assistant Curates
Rev'd Andrew Brown
Rev'd Bruce Watson

Lay Staff
Mr P Sibbald – Team Development Officer

Hon Treasurer: Mrs S E Leslie
76 Tritton Fields, Kennington, TN24 9HL

Hon Secretary: Mr P Sibbald
36 Tritton Fields, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9HE

Independent Examiner:
Mr S Whorlow FCA
Cassidy's Chartered Accountants
South Stour Offices, Roman Road, Mersham TN25 7HS

Bankers
Barclays Bank plc, 66 High Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TL

Website
www.ashfordchurches.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ashford Town in the Diocese of Canterbury
A Charity Registered with the Charity Commission No. 1171191

Contents

Annual Report	Page 1
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 11
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 12
Balance Sheet	Page 13
Cash Flow	Page 14
Notes to the accounts	Page 15
Pension Fund Disclosure	Page 23

The Parish of Ashford Town
Annual Trustees Report 2020

1 Aim & Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC), has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. When planning activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

2 Objectives & Activities

In its communications, the parish uses the strapline 'Loving God: Serving Ashford' to encapsulate its sense of purpose.

In order to love God and serve Ashford, the parish:

2.1 Maintains a regular pattern of public worship
2.2 Makes available weddings, funerals and baptisms for the people of the parish
2.3 Encourages Christian discipleship for all ages
2.4 Supports a range of activities to show God's love in practical action that responds to human need
2.5 Ensures its buildings are maintained and where appropriate developed for use by the wider community as well as church congregations.

The range of activities normally associated with these objectives had to be significantly limited, as the effects of the global pandemic profoundly changed what was possible for the parish from March onwards. Although access to church buildings for public worship and other activities was possible at certain points, this was strictly limited, and many of the activities we had planned would be taking place in 2020 had to be abandoned or postponed.

3 Achievements & Performance

There can be little doubt that the effects of the limitations and restrictions imposed in the control of the Coronavirus pandemic have dominated the life of the parish for three quarters of this year and impacted disastrously on our financial resources. The resultant loss of income was almost entirely beyond our control: closure of our church buildings and halls precluded or diminished many of the missional, community or regular fund raising events of the year. However, some aspects of church life have been able to continue albeit in a limited or changed format and have served even greater needs than before. The introduction of the Zoom platform for group meetings and various forms of worship across the internet has been utilized in many innovative ways and attracted attendance often greater than experienced pre-COVID19.

3.1. Pattern of worship

The PCC had to give careful attention to ensuring that all church activities, including public services, conform to law and guidance, from the government and from the Church of England centrally, through the various changes of situation following the initial lockdown in March. To assist with this task, the PCC's Health and Safety Group coordinated the preparation and initial evaluation of Risk Assessments for all church activities prior to their submission for approval to the full PCC. Apart from its first meeting in January, all meetings of the PCC itself and bodies reporting took place online.

Sustaining public worship during the pandemic has been a key priority. Initially, all public worship moved online, in accordance with government requirements. This required clergy and congregations to learn new skills and adjust to a different way of meeting for services. Different platforms were used at

various points, although over the course of time a clear preference emerged for live services on Zoom, not least because of the potential it offered for interaction between participants before and after the service itself. Online provision was used to support daily prayer as well as regular Sunday worship, and also for other church activities, including informal meetings. Many different types of service have been offered in this way including some of the special services of the Christmas period.

When it became possible for congregations to meet for services in church buildings again, rigorous Risk Assessments were undertaken and all necessary measures put in place. Different churches within the parish took different approaches on how to make use of this possibility, but by October all were offering some form of Sunday worship in church buildings, in many cases alongside continuing provision for online participation to help those still self-isolating or fearful of engaging in any form of public gathering.

Average weekly attendance at services across the parish in the first quarter of 2020 (pre lockdown) was 425: during the final quarter when churches were partially open for worship physical attendance was down to 163 which reflects the fears and concerns of many parishioners. Throughout lockdown and Tier 4 periods an average of around 200 attended virtual (online) worship across the parish.

3.2. Weddings, funerals and baptisms

Funerals and wedding services were offered in accordance with government guidelines. The parish includes three open churchyards, which continue to be regularly used.

No Service of Confirmation was held in the year due to pandemic restrictions and no Baptisms between March and December.

3.3. Engaging all ages

Online provision has been used in creative ways to enable people to meet and learn together. This has included all-age services and children's activities, including some specially designed for Christmas.

3.4. Practical action that responds to human need

CAP: Unfortunately, the Ashford Debt Centre which works in partnership with Christians Against Poverty had to close to new clients during the pandemic because of the difficulty associated with meeting people and the collection and processing of paperwork. However work with existing clients did progress and nine people were set free from the burden of debt during the year. Several other clients continue to work towards this goal.
CAP very kindly adjusted the monthly charges to reflect the low level of engagement with clients during lockdown so the PCC benefitted from reduced contributions towards the cost of the work in 2020.
We intend to reopen the debt centre to new clients as soon as Government restrictions allow us to do so and we anticipate that the demand for support will be high.

Make Lunch, the scheme whereby children who during term time receive free school meals are given a hot meal twice a week during holidays, had to be curtailed because the hall and kitchen at St Francis were not conducive to social distancing or group size rules. However, with support from suppliers such as Fare Share and Tesco, a willing group of volunteers and copious donations from church members, local councillors and others, the scheme was morphed into *Boxes of Hope* which delivered a weekly box of food and other supplies to the homes of needy children. Easter eggs were delivered to every child on the list and at Christmas the *Christmas Boxes* contained a wrapped gift for each member of each household. Initially some 45 homes benefitted from the scheme each week but by Christmas this had risen to 55. In total some 1200 boxes were delivered.

The original intention was to fund this activity through church members' donations but funding has flowed in from a variety of grant sources and also suppliers have made generous donations in kind. As a result there are surplus funds from this project which are to be combined with the funds specifically raised to extend and refit the kitchen at St Francis which has become not fit for purpose as the scheme has grown.

3.5. Opening our doors to the wider community

All events such as Summer and Christmas Fayres had to be cancelled: we lost not only these valuable sources of additional income but also the interaction with our wider communities. Despite the pandemic, some innovative and imaginative 'virtual' events took place including, among others, numerous quizzes, a plant sale, an on-line auction, a grand Christmas draw with entertainment, drinks and nibbles. For the most part, despite being widely advertised on our website and through social media, the events were largely only supported by church family. Nevertheless, we were able to subscribe to the adage that Fund Raising should be Fun and raised over £7000 across the parish. Needless to say this was far below the target for the year but nevertheless a worthy effort given the circumstances.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, it has not been possible to rent out our church buildings to community organizations as we have done in the past.

The PCC received regular updates on fabric issues and took action to ensure the upkeep and improvement of buildings for which it bears responsibility.

4 Financial Review

4.1 Overview.

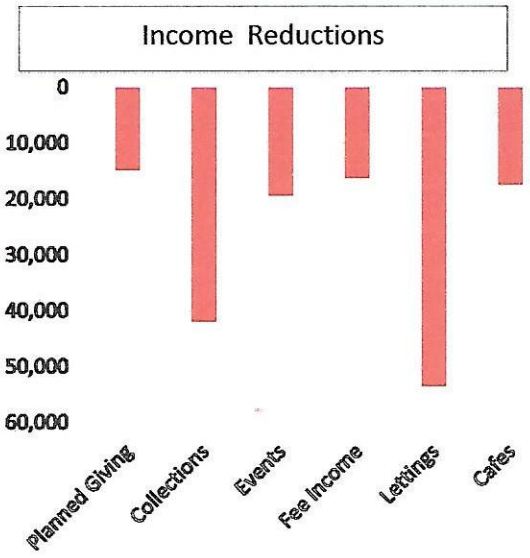
Hopes for reopening the halls and cafes were frustrated by delays and uncertainties and eventually destroyed completely by the increased levels of government restrictions in the late autumn. As a result, our Reserves Policy proved unattainable and our decision to countermand the policy of full payment of parish share was determined only by the perceived need to secure the level of cash holding at around £30,000 in order to continue to meet salary and basic running cost requirements. The final toll inflicted by the pandemic amounted to a general fund overspend of almost £99,000 and Free Reserves reduced to slightly over £45,000. A further grant of £10,000 from the Pightland Trust helped to mitigate the overspend. Also contributory to this level of reserves is the fact that although only 96% of Parish Share was paid in the year, the outstanding balance of £14,500 does not constitute a legal creditor as Parish Share is a voluntary contribution. Recovery will necessarily be long-term and linked with missional plans for growth. In the short term we are determined to ensure readiness for a return to full normal activities at the earliest possible opportunity.

We have extensive Restricted Funds and whilst there has been a good deal of spending during the year (*see paragraph 4.5 below*), there was a net excess of Income over expenditure of £64,000 and share revaluation gains of almost £20,000 bringing the restricted Funds value to £456,693 and Endowment funds to £14,310.

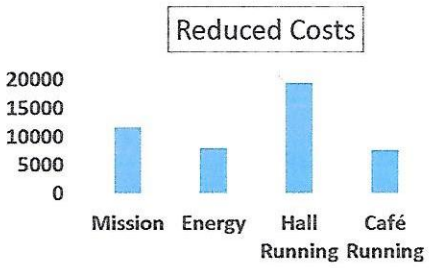
4.2 Overall results.

The full and devastating effect of the pandemic can best be seen in the table to the right of income losses in 2020 compared to 2019.

Mitigating cost savings were mainly evident in energy costs and Hall and Café running costs as in the table BELOW. We were unable to achieve our committed percentage investment in Mission and Evangelism due to income losses.



4.3



Income

General Fund Income as we have seen in the table above has been severely damaged by the Coronavirus restrictions. We are grateful, as ever, to all those who have faithfully continued or have switched their regular giving to direct payment through the bank. This not only saves us a good deal of time but is more secure and also has precluded the need for us to physically carry cash to the bank during the lockdown and tiered restriction periods. It has helped to keep us safe in more ways than one. For 2021 we have just 50 sets of envelopes in use – reduced from 130 at the beginning of 2020 and we will continue to promote the benefits of regular giving by other means than cash. The small reduction in planned giving between 2019 and 2020 represents those who give via the envelope scheme and have not been able to pass on their envelopes by one means or another during the restrictions. A rough estimate of the age profile across the parish indicates around 60% of membership in the over 65 bracket – the vulnerable, those living alone or in isolation and potentially less mobile.

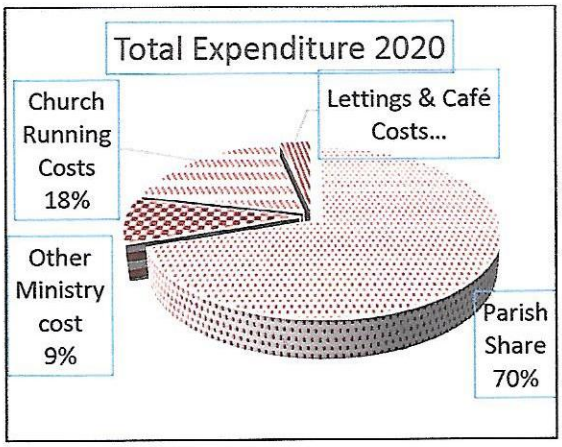
Wedding and funeral services have also been severely curtailed. We have conducted 50 fewer funeral services in church prior to burial or cremation than in 2019 but, surprisingly, officiated at only 5 more cremations in 2020. There were 9 graveside burial services across the three open churchyards compared with only 1 in 2019. Many weddings have been postponed to 2021, 2022 and some even further ahead than that. We conducted only 16 weddings - most of these in August to October when restrictions were eased: in 2019 there were a total of 36 weddings and at the time of writing we have the same number already booked for 2021 and 11 for 2022 although couples continue to postpone dates due to uncertainties surrounding the return to normality.

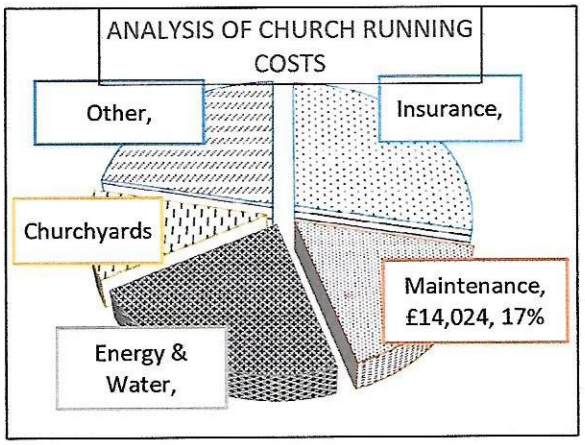
4.4 Expenditure

Parish Share remains by far the greatest proportion of annual expenditure at 71% and total ministry cost accounts for almost 80% of all costs. Insurance is the highest single element of Church running costs although had energy costs been at their normal levels we would have expected around £27,000.

Unrestricted maintenance has been closely monitored and only the most essential work or that which is a legal requirement carried out.

Churchyard costs at Gt Chart and Kingsnorth are largely covered by local parish council grants. Kennington has no such grant.





4.5 Restricted Funds & Fabric

Restricted Funds have continued to grow as the various major projects move slowly forward. At St Mary's Gt Chart a roof alarm and external security lighting have been installed to protect significant amounts of external metal at a net cost of £2,500 after grants and VAT relief. This also attracted a reduction in insurance premium. The temporary toilet installation costing £11,000 was carried out although not yet put to use. Further investigative works on the path to the main south entrance have continued. The fund stands at £10,606 at the end of the year: As this is a long-term project, just over £9,000 has been invested in CCLA Investment Units.

Christchurch Hall extension project has moved gently forward with continuing discussion with the DAC and local authority planning application lodged. Fees amounting to £15,500 have been incurred during the year for architectural and structural engineering services as the project unfolds and the net fund value stands at just under £92,000 at the year end £86,000 of which is vested in CCLA Investment Fund Units.

At St Mary's Sevington the first £40,000 tranche of Section 106 monies has been received and after offsetting the 2019 spend on architectural services, £34,500 has been invested in CCLA Investment Fund Units.

The St Mary's Willesborough the church spire refurbishment project has met with some obstacles and is now not likely to go ahead until 2022. Grant funding is being actively sought and £30,000 has been received during the year which includes £5,000 of reclaimed VAT, bringing the fund total to £25,500 after fees, most of which is now invested in CCLA Investment Fund Units.

St Mary's Ashford has expended considerable sums on remedial works to the underfloor heating system but the costs have been covered by grants from Ashford Parochial Charities. A roof alarm has also been installed here to protect against theft of external metal and this cost has also been covered by grant from APC. The total amount received from this source in 2020 totalled almost £24,500 against Restricted costs and a further £14,500 Unrestricted. St Mary's restricted funds are complex and some rationalisation of earlier years mis-analysed spending has been rectified so that two funds created by donation and legacy for very specific purposes remain intact. The net total value of the restricted funds amounts to £51,867 in Will Trusts and £29,458 in restricted donation funds: of this sum, just over £73,000 is invested in CCLA Investment Fund units and the remainder on deposit.

Kinsgnorth's Myrtle Fund was utilized to cover the cost of improvements to the church interior lighting installation at a cost of some £5,300 net of VAT reclaim. The fund value at the year end was a little over £89,000 of which £44,000 is invested in the CCLA property fund and the remainder in CCLA Investment Units.

St Francis has a small restricted fund for work with children & young people in the Little Squeakers club which was formed during 2019 for pre-school age children and their parents or carers. A grant of £1,500 and a donation of £150 were received during 2020 and the fund stands at £1,233. The Make Lunch and Kitchen refurbishment projects have continued to benefit from donations and grants as well as many gifts in kind including food and other items from suppliers such as Fair Share and Tesco. At the year end the combined fund amounted to £30,800 with further grants of £12,500 in the pipeline: it is deemed appropriate to retain £1,000 for Make Lunch and allocate the balance of £42,300 to extension and refurbishment of the kitchen which is set to go ahead in the early part of 2021 in readiness for the time when Make Lunch can once again function in St Francis' Hall post lockdown.

Both the St Francis and Christchurch Ignite projects have continued to receive funding throughout 2020 but with little opportunity during the year for meetings to take place. The funds stand at £1,635 and £2,202 respectively.

4.6 Investment Performance.

Restricted and Endowment funds are vested in the capable hands of the CCLA which manages investments for charities, religious organisations and the public sector. The company aims to deliver strong long-term returns and has unmatched experience in providing ethical and responsible investment policies. They offer long-term growth in capital and efficient access to a wide range of investments. They aim to achieve an overall return on investment of between 5% and 10%. Our own investment rationale subscribes to these objectives and invests those funds which are unlikely to be utilised within 12 months. Despite some early falls in value, investment performance gradually recovered as confidence grew in the potential vaccine solutions which were emerging and by the year end our Restricted Funds share portfolio had increased in value by £22,213 and Endowment Funds by £896. The CCLA Property fund fared less well than the investment fund. Difficulties in market conditions resulting from the effects of the pandemic on commercial property resulted in material uncertainty and for a while dealings were suspended: although the holding closed £2,300 down on the year, the return on investment over 4 years remains above 10%. £96,000 of funds from the Myrtle Legacy were invested on behalf of Kingsnorth in March 2017 and in spreading the risk, the monies were split between the Investment Fund and the Property Fund. Performance can be seen in the following table:

Fund	Investment Fund 2020 Performance	Property Fund 2020 Performance	Property Fund 2017 - 2020 4-year Performance
Initial Investment			46,148
Valuation at 31/12/2019	£325,450	£46,250	
Dividend Income	£9,744	£1,555	£7,139
Percentage return	3.0%	3.7%	15.5%
Revaluation gains	£22,213	(£2,299)	(£2,179)
Percentage return	6.8%	(4.97%)	(4.7%)
Total return	£31,957	(£744)	£4,942
Overall percentage	**9.8%**	**(0.02%)**	**10.7%**
Comparable Deposit Interest Rate	0.15%		

5 Reserves policy

Our stated Reserves Policy is to hold sufficient free reserves to cover three months' unrestricted expenditure which equates to £119,600 at the end of 2020 assuming that the first 3 months of 2021 continue at the 2020 levels. Actual free reserves have fallen well below that level. Although there are some misgivings about the sustainability of the parish as a going concern, adjusting parish share payments will mean that outgoings can be pegged so that reserves do not further diminish during the continuation of lockdown or similar restrictions to the normal life of the parish.

Given the extreme circumstances in which we and almost every other Church of England parish and diocese was operating, we controlled our outgoings according to the amount of unrestricted cash available and adjusted payment of Parish Share accordingly, holding in reserve sufficient cash to cover normal outgoings plus a reduced parish share payment for one month. At the end of 2020 our unpaid parish share amounted to £14,500: the Diocese is officially not a creditor and so the unpaid amount is declared by way of Note 8b on page 19. In the early months of 2021 we will have no alternative but to continue to restrict the level of parish share payments in order to maintain a minimum cash balance.

At 31st December 2020 our cash position is as follows:

Cash and Bank Current Account	£34,343
Cash on deposit	£4,307
Less Designated cash holdings:	
Flower funds	(£1,527)
Cash Floats	(£800)
Less Barclaycard payment	(£2,287)
Diocesan Fees due 02/01/21	(£1,036)
2020 Expenses claims due	(£962)
Available Cash	£32,038

6 Total Funds: as at 31st December 2020

Funds	Amount	Held in
Free Reserves	£45,398	Cash and bank, bank deposit, debtors and liabilities
Restricted Reserves	£458,693	Deposits.and Investments
Endowment Reserves	£14,310	Investments

7 Custodial Funds

By early January the Kennington Fayre Committee had reformed and appointed its own treasurer and the Custodial Funds we had held on their behalf for some eighteen months were released back into their own bank account.

In March, following the resignation of the Kingsnorth Tower Captain we were asked to become custodians of the Bell Ringers Funds. £2812.11 was transferred to the PCC bank account: the funds are intended for minor repair and refurbishment of the bells and ringing chamber at Kingsnorth Church along with other minor expenditure associated with the practice of bell ringing.

In September, following the postponement of a proposed trip to South Africa by a group of young people under the banner of the Urban Saints organisation, the money they had raised to fund the trip was disbursed with a small balance of £2200 from local Fund Raising activities by the group leaders retained in readiness for the time when the trip can be safely undertaken. The funds were lodged with the PCC for safe keeping.

8 Future Plans

At its final meeting of the year, the PCC supported the taking forward of five priorities for 2021 identified by the new Team Rector, the Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen, who joined the parish in October. They were:

8.1 Reflect together on the shape of the 'missional calling' of the Parish for the next five years, through a carefully planned process that engages the whole Parish
8.2 Address responsibly the effects on our 'missional context' of the Coronavirus pandemic, including both what that means while serious restrictions remain necessary and how we prepare for the time when they may be eased or lifted
8.3 Take forward the particular 'missional opportunities' for the Parish that we know will need attention in the coming year, such as the new development associated with the South of Ashford Garden Community and sustaining Ignite
8.4 Strengthen our internal communications and begin to look at ways of improving our external communications
8.5 Develop one or more initiatives that help us to pray with and for one another.

9 Risk Management

9.1 Principle Risk:

9.1.1 Closure of all church buildings and halls which jeopardizes fee income, service collections, hall rentals, community café takings and many fund raising activities.
9.1.2 Insufficient or inadequate levels of regular giving to sustain payment of essential basic running costs
9.1.3 Although now only a small element of our incoming funds and widely spread across a team of volunteers, cash security always poses some risk albeit minor.

9.2 Damage Limitation

Certain steps to mitigate the losses were taken early in the first lockdown as soon as it became clear that resumption of normality was not going to happen in the short term. Heating systems in our churches were shut down and in our church halls even the fridges were emptied, cleaned and left switched off so that for many months energy costs amounted to standing charges only.

Furloughing administrative staff was considered but initially rejected as government rules precluded furloughed staff from carrying out any of the duties of their employment on a voluntary basis while on furlough. This was deemed to include pastoral care and although it was later decided that such activities were carried out by the officers involved as part of their own membership of their respective local churches, the government furlough scheme by then had been closed to new applicants. In any event, some official duties were still required in connection with communications, preparation for online services etc and each administrator was able either to work from home or to maintain distancing regulations if working from their office.

At parish level almost the only sanction available to protect cash flow is reduction in payment of Parish Share. As a PCC we have been committed to full payment since the Ashford Town Parish was formed but as 2020 progressed and cash resources dwindled at an alarming rate, as a last resort it was agreed that reduced payments would be made from August onwards. This decision to limit payment of Share was taken with much regret, realising that the knock-on effect would be detrimental to the Diocese in meeting its own financial commitments.

Opportunities to increase income were minimal but at the first opportunity we opened a digital platform for personal giving which runs alongside our existing card payment facility. The Give A Little campaign was advertised through our Zoom services as an opportunity to contribute to a virtual collection plate, with or without Gift Aid. The take up has been relatively small.

The treasurer wrote a personal letter to all regular contributors inviting them to review (and hopefully increase) their giving. This produced additional potential giving of around £8000 per annum in a full year. At the same time a Crisis Relief Fund was introduced and one-off donations were invited: including Gift Aid a similar sum was achieved. Those whose regular contributions were made in cash through the weekly envelope scheme were invited to switch to electronic giving or to send cheques periodically direct to the treasurer. A small number of parishioners took up one or other of these options thus minimising the loss of income arising from the cessation of regular Sunday worship. The result of the 20% response rate was encouraging but left us with the realisation that 4 out of 5 members did not respond.

In early autumn Risk Assessments were carried out for all our churches and church halls so that public worship could be restored and lettings and café activities recommence. Unfortunately circumstances overtook the reopening of halls as further restrictions were imposed. However, looking to the future we plan to reassess all regular hires in readiness for reopening as soon as that becomes possible.

9.3 Future Management

Going forward, Risk Assessments for all our buildings will need to be regularly reviewed and updated. As part of the Mission Action Plan, numerical growth in membership and new income streams will be investigated and we will continue to try to convert cash giving to electronic or other forms which can be easily sustained through any future pandemic. Good stewardship and the promotion of generosity will be at the forefront of our financial planning. Ultimately, in extreme cases such as this pandemic where circumstances entirely beyond our control push us to the very brink of bankruptcy, we might hope for support in some form from the Church Commissioners.

Living through the pandemic restrictions has opened the way for alternative means of giving besides cash. We will continue to explore and develop facilities for digital giving at public services especially at weddings and funerals and at Zoom services for as long as these continue. These methods are much dependent on good internet or mobile phone connections and our church buildings are not always blessed in this way. However, technology is always moving forward and we will constantly monitor developments.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and operates in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. It is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1171191.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation rules. PCC members are ex officio, co-opted, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting to serve for a period of three years, retiring by rotation. A maximum of fifteen elected members is permitted: Lay members of both the Deanery and Diocesan Synods are ex officio members of the PCC.

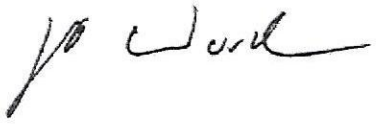
Membership
Team Rector and Chair of PCC: Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen (from October 2020)
Clergy: Rev'd Caroline Mansley; Rev'd Eve Lanchantin-Piggott; Rev'd Richard Bellamy; Rev'd Dawn Stamper; Rev'd Cathie Aldis-Saunders; Rev'd Andrew Brown; Rev'd Bruce Watson.
Deputy Chair of PCC: Mrs Sally Lees
Lay Staff: Mr Phil Sibbald
Church Wardens: Mr Jerry Fox; Mr Derek Goodwin
Lay Readers: Mr Martin Lees; Mr Derek Goodwin, Mrs Alison Gunther; Dr James Beck.
Deanery Synod Representatives: (until Oct 2023) Mrs Wendy Pryor, Mrs Helen West, Miss June Wenborn
Diocesan Synod Representatives: (until May 2021) Mrs Shirley Leslie; Mr Robert Sharp; Mrs Jill Humphreys
Elected members:
To serve until May 2021: Mrs Lesley Wraxall; Mrs Lynn Suddards; Ms Karen Hardie; Mrs Morag Sharp; Mr Paul Needham.
To serve until April 2022: Mrs Libby Varley; Mrs Lorraine Andrews; Miss June Wenborn; Mr Ken Blanshard; Mr Gavin Williams.
To serve until April 2023: Dr Arthur Waters; Mrs Sally Lees: Mrs Sarah Ansell: Mrs Susan Mullan (co-opted December 2020).

Mr Phil Sibbald continued to serve as Hon Secretary and Electoral Roll officer.
Mrs Shirley Leslie continued to serve as Hon Treasurer, assisted by Mr J Small (Gift Aid Claims) Mrs C Waters, Mr R & Mrs T Fincher, (Local Gift Aid administrators), Mrs A Sorrell, Mrs J Wenborn (Local Gift Aid and banking administrators) and Mrs L Varley, Mr J Donovan, Mrs H West, Mr Chris Grove and Mrs K Small (Local Banking administrators).

Mrs A Sorrell resigned in October 2020 as Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Lis Webb was appointed in December 2020

The PCC meets six times a year: during 2020 most of these meetings were held virtually over the Zoom platform.

Each local church has a Local Leadership or local Management Team: these act as sub-committees of the PCC to deal with purely local matters of ministry and fabric.



Approved by the PCC on 22nd April 2021 and signed by
Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen – Team Rector

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ashford Town Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 12 to 22.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent Examination is 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 Charity Commissioners in Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
* state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act: and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to reach a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stuart Whorlow FCA
Cassidys Chartered Accountants,

Date 11 / May /2021

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2020	TOTAL FUNDS 2019
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	2a	254,221	43,568		297,789	336,495
Activities for Generating Funds	2b	7,746	1,925		9,671	33,138
Investment Income	2c	5,947	6,157	392	12,496	12,780
Church Activities	2d	36,496	-		36,496	126,514
Other Incoming Resources	2e	60,233	128,532		188,765	105,733
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		364,643	180,182	392	545,217	614,660
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church Activities	3a	462,024	115,765	-	577,789	628,228
Raising Funds	3b	1,903	-	-	1,903	4,676
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		463,927	115,765	-	579,692	632,904
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		(99,284)	64,417	392	(34,475)	(18,244)
Transfers between Funds		392		(392)	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		(98,892)	64,417	0	(34,475)	(18,244)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:						
Realised	4b	-	-	-	-	-
Unrealised	4b	-	19,914	896	20,810	52,091
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND		(98,892)	84,331	897	(13,665)	33,847
Balance b/forward @ 31st December 2019		144,290	374,362	13,414	532,066	498,219
Closing Balance @ 31 December 2020		**45,398**	**458,693**	**14,310**	**518,401**	**532,066**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
PV Panels	4a	5,411		5,990	
Investments	4b	431,246		384,735	
			436,657		390,725
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors & Prepayments	5	37,025		31,897	
Deposits	6	39,927		114,594	
Cash at bank and in hand	7	34,343		21,814	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		111,295		168,305	
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	8a	(27,148)		(25,925)	
Credit Card account		(2,403)		(1,039)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			81,744		141,341
Creditors - amounts falling due in more than one year	8b	-		-	
			-		-
TOTAL NET ASSETS			518,401		532,066
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted			45,398		144,290
Restricted	9		458,693		374,362
Endowment	10		14,310		13,414
			518,401		532,066

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 22nd April 2021 and signed on its behalf by :-

Rev'd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen - PCC Chair

Mrs Shirley Leslie - Hon Treasurer

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Cash Flow Statement
as at 31 December 2020

	2020		*2019*	
Net cash from operating activities		(49,512)		(9,540)
Cash flows from investing activities				
FIT Payments received	579		559	
Dividends & Interest	12,496		12,780	
Proceeds from sale of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Investments	-		-	
Purchase of:				
Tangible Fixed Assets for the use of the PCC				
Fixed Investments	(25,700)		-	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(12,625)		13,339
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(62,137)		3,798
Cash and Cash equivalents at 1 January		136,407		132,609
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December		**74,270**		**136,407**

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents:		
Cash at bank and in hand	34,343	21,814
Short-Term Deposits	39,927	114,594
Cash and Cash equivalents at 31 December	**74,270**	**136,408**

Reconciliation of net cash from operating activities:		
Net Income before investment gains 31 December	*(34,475)*	*(18,244)*
Adjustments for:		
Dividends & Interest	*(12,496)*	*(12,780)*
Decrease / (increase) in Debtors	*(5,128)*	*23,442*
(Decrease) / Increase in Creditors	*2,588*	*(1,958)*
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	*(49,512)*	*(9,540)*

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2020

Note 1 Accounting Policies:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. The accounts have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)). Accounts are prepared on the Accruals Basis.

Parish Share is a voluntary contrubution to the Diocese to cover central costs of Mission and Ministry. It is the policy of this Parish to recognise their responsibility for this contribution and to pay in full within the year to which it relates. However, where external factors beyond the control of the PCC prevent this, the maximum possible payment will be made and any shortfall reported by way of note to the accounts

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

Insofar as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful life other than where insufficient cost information is available or where the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. In all cases, items are included in the relevant Church's inventories.

Tangible Fixed Assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 unless the costs have been fully met from specific grants or donations. They are valued at cost and depreciation is calculated to write off their currently anticipated cost over their estimated useful life as follows: Land - Nil: Fixtures & Fittings - 20 years: Computers - 3 years: Other electronic equipment - 5 years.
No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so the depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments are valued at their market value at 31 December. Gains and losses on the revaluation and disposals of investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund or at the bank.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are not therefore included in its 'free reserves'. The PCC aims to maintain a balance on free reserves amounting to at least 3 months unrestricted payments.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in notes to the accounts at notes 9 and 14. It is our policy to invest the short term investment funds with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend the capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital is restricted. Full details of their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts. The funds are administered by Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodial Trustee and invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2020	TOTAL FUNDS 2019
2	**INCOMING RESOURCES**	£	£	£	£	£
	2a Voluntary Income					
	Planned Giving : Gift Aid	145,002	-	-	**145,002**	157,395
	Tax recoverable	39,539	-	-	**39,539**	39,891
	Other Planned Giving	35,982	-	-	**35,982**	38,181
	Collections: Open Plate	8,948	-	-	**8,948**	37,399
	Tax recoverable	523	-	-	**523**	14,185
	Donations	18,218	22,712		**40,931**	43,560
	Legacies	5,543	20,856		**26,399**	2,799
	Special Appeals & Collections	466	-	-	**466**	3,084
		254,221	**43,568**	-	**297,789**	336,495
	2b Activities for Generating Funds					
	Events	7,088	1,925	-	**9,013**	31,910
	Magazine Adverts	658	-	-	**658**	1,228
		7,746	**1,925**	-	**9,671**	33,138
	2c Investment Income					
	Dividends & Interest	5,947	6,157	392	**12,496**	12,780
		5,947	**6,157**	**392**	**12,496**	12,780
	2d Church Activities					
	Occasional Office fees	15,707	-	-	**15,707**	32,048
	Church Magazine Sales	656	-	-	**656**	883
	Lettings	14,970	-	-	**14,970**	68,610
	Community Café	4,668	-	-	**4,668**	22,231
	Minibus income	494	-	-	**494**	2,077
	Other	-	-	-	**-**	665
		36,495	-	-	**36,495**	126,514
	2e Other Incoming Resources					
	Grants	53,366	128,532	-	**181,898**	68,348
	Insurance Claims	1,330	-	-	**1,330**	23,507
	HMRC Allowance	3,063	-	-	**3,063**	3,489
	Other	2,474	-	-	**2,474**	10,389
		60,233	**128,532**	-	**188,765**	105,733
	Total Incoming Resources	**364,643**	**180,182**	**392**	**545,216**	**614,660**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2020	TOTAL FUNDS 2019
	RESOURCES EXPENDED	£	£	£	**£**	£
3	**3a Church Activities**					
	Charitable Giving					
	Overseas Relief & Development	50	-	-	**50**	-
	Other Charities Supported from special collections	170	-	-	**170**	1,756
	Total Charitable Giving	**220**	-	-	**220**	1,756
	Ministry					
	Mission & Evangelism					
	CAP / Fresh Start	2,800	-	-	**2,800**	7,160
	Ignite	-	595	-	**595**	3,568
	Children & Young People	90	3,652	-	**3,742**	5,585
	Other Mission Work	227	-	-	**227**	2,775
	Total Mission & Evangelism	**3,117**	**4,247**		**7,364**	19,089
	Parish Share	321,272	-	-	**321,272**	329,496
	Salaries & Honoraria	31,039	-	-	**31,039**	38,377
	Clergy & Staff expenses	4,189	-	-	**4,189**	7,485
	Parish Office Costs	4,196	-	-	**4,196**	6,420
	Total Ministry Cost	**363,813**	**4,247**	-	**368,060**	400,866
	Church Running Costs					
	Church running Costs	17,397	754	-	**18,151**	34,215
	Insurance	23,146	-	-	**23,146**	31,327
	Maintenance	14,024	29,434	-	**43,458**	34,166
	Energy & Water	18,572	-	-	**18,572**	26,630
	Churchyard upkeep	8,770	-	-	**8,770**	6,401
	Minibus Costs	714	-	-	**714**	3,683
		82,623	**30,188**	-	**112,811**	136,422
	Cost of Trading					
	Hall Running Costs	13,210	-	-	**13,210**	32,686
	Café Running Costs	2,158	-	-	**2,158**	9,806
		15,368	-	-	**15,368**	42,492
	Major Capital Expenditure					
	Capital projects	-	49,399	-	**49,399**	22,836
	Hall Major projects	-	718	-	**718**	2,595
	Project Professional Fees & Other Costs	-	31,212	-	**31,212**	21,261
		-	**81,330**	-	**81,330**	46,692
	Total Church Activities	**462,024**	**115,765**	-	**577,789**	628,228
	3b Cost of Raising Funds					
	Events	1,903	-	-	**1,903**	4,676
	Total Cost of Raising Funds	**1,903**	-	-	**1,903**	4,676

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended
31 December 2020

Note

4a FIXED ASSETS

		2020	2019
1	13 x Panels purchased at a total cost of	8,329	8329
	FIT payments to 31 December 2019	2,339	1780
	Net Book Value at 1st January 2019	5,990	6549
	Less FIT payments received in the period	579	559
	NET BOOK VALUE at 31 December 2020	**5,411**	5990

4b INVESTMENTS

	Shares held 31/12/2019	Value @ 31/12/2019	Bought	Cost	Share Price 31/12/2020	Value at 31/12/2020	Unrealised Gain (Loss)
CCLA Investment Fund: Restricted	16,978	325,450	1,246	25,700	20.4873	373,364	22,213
CCLA Endowment Fund: Annie Marwick	680	13,035	-	-	20.4873	13,931	896
CCLA Propety Fund	33,962	46,250	-	-	1.2941	43,951	(2,299)
TOTAL INVESTMENTS						**431,246**	**20,810**

5 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

	2020	2019
Debtors		
Repayment Claims Gift Aid / GASDS: November - December	7,073	20,539
Outstanding Hall Rents	128	1,476
Other claims	11,834	467
TOTAL	**19,035**	22,482
Accrued Claims		
Grant Claims	6,137	2,711
Accrued Grant Pightland Trust	10,000	5,000
Accrued Energy overcharges	1,267	0
TOTAL DEBTORS	**36,439**	**30,193**
Prepaid Insurance - Minibus	-	713
Willesborough Social Events	250	795
Other Prepayments	337	196
TOTAL PREPAYMENTS	**587**	**1704**
TOTAL DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS	**37,025**	**31,897**

6 DEPOSITS

	2020	2019
CCLA Endowment Funds	379	379
CCLA Restricted funds	9,079	22,310
Barclays	30,469	91,905
TOTAL DEPOSITS	**39,927**	**114,594**

7 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

					2020	2019
CASH	Grapevine Float - Gt Chart				-	38
	Flower Fund Cash	Ashford		101		
		Kennington		435		
		Gt Chart		760		
		Link Lunch	Willesborough/Christchurch	231	1,527	1,737
	Cash in Hand: unbanked coin				9	242
	Willesborough Social Events		Includes café float		800	958
	Local Churches Clearing account: Kingsnorth Lite Bite				-	342
	TOTAL CASH				**2,336**	**3317**
BANK	BARCLAYS				**32,007**	18,496
TOTAL CASH & BANK					**34,343**	**21,814**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2020

Note		2020		2019	
8a	**CREDITORS**				
	Accruals general				
	Outstanding Invoices		4,038		6,546
	Accrued 100 Club Prizes	290		490	
	Accrued invoices	2,221		4,259	
	Independent Examination	2,160	4,671	2,160	6,909
	Accruals HMRC / Pension Fund				
	HMRC	655		700	
	Pension Fund	354	1,009	325	1,025
	Accruals Designated				
	2020 - 2023 Wedding deposits	9,843		7,000	
	Cemetery upkeep (Kennington)	1,000		1,100	
	Agency Fee - Choir	-		120	
	Deferred Income - Kingsnorth Discretionery fund	375		130	
	Deferred Income - Winter Night Shelter Contrib	-		500	
			11,218		8,850
	Accruals Restricted				
	Deferred donation			1,000	
	Deferred Income (St Francis)	-		150	
	Deferred Lunch Club Grant (Ashford St Mary)	500			
	Deferred Ball Lane Grant (Kennington)	700			
			1,200		1,150
	Creditors falling due in one year		**22,136**		**24,481**
	Custodial Funds				
	Kennington Fayre	-		1,444	
	Postponed Africa Trip	2,200			
	Bell Ringers Fund (Kingsnorth)	2,812			
			5,012		1,444
	TOTAL CREDITORS		**27,148**		**25,925**

8b Unpaid Parish Share

Due to the effect on income streams of the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus pandemic, it has not been possible to achieve full payment of the amount requested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in respect of Parish Share. Taking into account the minimum level of cash holdings deemed necessary, 96% was paid leaving £14,500 unpaid at 31st December 2020.

8c Undisclosed Creditor - Diocesan Board of Finance

Due to historic cash accounting, two loans from Diocesan Board of Finance totalling £128,000 were not recognised in the 2016 Willesborough Balance Sheet. For purposes of clarity and simplicity, repayment of the loans over a period of 5 years will be shown as a charge to the Profit and Loss account as each payment occurs. £25,000 was repaid during 2017 and £70,197 remitted by the Diocese in 2018 £32,803 remains outstanding at 31st December 2020

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2020

Note

9 MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Trust Funds	Local Church	Balance B/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fund	Christchurch	101,110	9,407	18,518	-	91,999
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	48,755	25,519	4,844	-	69,431
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Fund	Kennington	1,907	131	-	-	2,037
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	11,306	1,202	-	-	12,508
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	93,341	5,089	9,448	-	88,982
Mercy Apps	Kingsnorth	2,530	288	-	-	2,818
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	13,867	954	-	-	14,821
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	8,757	29,520	24,462	-	13,815
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	6,342	436	-	-	6,778
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	5,079	349	-	-	5,428
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	9,861	438	-	(5,787)	4,512
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	6,382	490	360	-	6,512
Total Trust Funds		**309,237**	**73,823**	**57,632**	**(5,787)**	**319,641**
Restricted Project Funds						
Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	1,979.8	51		-	2,031
Fabric Nave Altar / Choir stalls	Ashford St Mary	13,326.2	5,235		5,787	24,348
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	1,773.0	-	-	-	1,773
Communications Project	Ashford St Mary	1,157.6	15	701	-	472
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	-	835	-	-	835
Ignite	Christchurch	474.7	2,000	273	-	2,202
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	16,477.7	14,720	20592	-	10,606
Other Funds	Gt Chart	2,140.1	-	-	-	2,140
Fabric Funds (Kitchen)	St Francis	2,750.0	17,385	-	9,700	29,835
Make Lunch project	St Francis	2,235.0	11,043	2,572	(9,700)	1,007
Ignite	St Francis	(42.6)	2,000	322	-	1,635
Children's Mission	St Francis	663.4	1,650	1,080	-	1,233
Captial Project Funds	Willesborough	27,540.5	33,119	34,892	-	25,767
Capital Project Funds	Sevington	(5,351.5)	40,519	-	-	35,167
Total Restricted Project Funds		**65,125**	**128,572**	**60,432**	**5,787**	**139,052**
		-				-
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**374,362**	**202,395**	**118,064**	**-**	**458,693**

The Parochial Church Council of Ashford Town
Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2020

Note

10 MOVEMENT ON ENDOWMENT FUNDS

	Local Church	Balance b/fwd	Income & unrealised gains	Expenses & unrealised losses	Transfer Between Funds	Balance C/fwd
Annie Marwick Deposit A/c	Shadoxhurst	379	-	-	-	379
Annie Marwick Investments	Shadoxhurst	13,035	1,288	-	(393)	13,931
TOTAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS		**13,414**	**1,288**	-	**(393)**	**14,310**

11 Movement on Funds held as Custodial Trustee	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses		Balance C/fwd
Kennington Fayre	1,444	-	1,444	-	-
South Africa Trip	-	9,259	7,059	-	2,200
Bell Ringers Fund - Kinsgnorth	-	2,812	-	-	2,812
Total Custodial Funds	**1,444**	**12,071**	**8,503**	-	**5,012**

12

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Fixed Assets	5,411	-	-	5,411	5,990
Investments	-	417,315	13,931	431,246	384,735
Debtors	20,748	16,277	-	37,025	31,897
Deposits	8,012	31,536	379	39,927	114,594
Cash & Bank	34,343	-	-	34,343	21,814
Liabilities	(20,713)	(6,435)	-	(27,148)	25,925
Barclaycard	(2,403)	-	-	(2,403)	1,039
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**45,398**	**458,693**	**14,310**	**518,401**	532,066

13

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND STAFF COSTS

No Trustee was paid an amount in excess of £60,000

Mrs L Varley was employed as a full time Local Church Administrator
Mr P Sibbald was employed as Team Development Officer and Local Church Administrator
Mr Sibbald and Mrs Varley were enrolled in the Church Lay Workers Pension Fund on 1st November 2017
The PCC contributes 5% of salary to the Penson Fund plus 0.5% for Life Insurance cover
Mr Sibbald and Mrs Varley each contribute 3% of salary to their respective funds
Mr Sibbald makes an additional voluntary contribution
One part-time Administrator has been employed for 12 hours per week.
Four organists were paid honoraria for regular attendance and one organists received payment as locum

Employee Benefits

Mrs Varley receives a mileage allowance for travel between Willesborough and Kingsnorth parish offices.

Note

14 PURPOSE FOR RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Trust Funds

Pat Holley Legacy/Fabric Fun	Christchurch	Maintenance of the fabric of the church and church halls
Burgess / Pope - Fabric fund	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of the Kennington church halls
Chevalier Legacy - Halls Func	Kennington	Maintenance of the fabric of the Kennington church halls
School Fund Deposit a/c	Kennington	Costs of direct benefit to pupils of Kennington Junior Academy
Myrtle Legacy	Kingsnorth	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Mercy Apps Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance
Joy Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Capital & interest restricted for the upkeep of the church earmarked for restoration of tombs
Butcher Legacy	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Jill Wright Legacy	Ashford St Mary	50% of interest for the Sunday School and 50% re-invested
Monuments	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the Smyth Tombs
D W Knott - Organ / Choir	Ashford St Mary	Upkeep of organ £50 & Asst organist £50 balance to choir fund
H E Pain - Fabric Fund	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church

Restricted Project Funds

Choir / Handbells Fund	Ashford St Mary	Purchase of choir and music related costs
Fabric/Friends/Kneelers	Ashford St Mary	Maintenance of the fabric of the church
Cameroon Project	Ashford St Mary	Funds are raised in support of humanitarian projects
Communications Fund	Ashford St Mary	Based on a specific donation for the improvement of communication
St Mary's Players	Ashford St Mary	A donation has bene received to fund future drama productions
Ignite	Christ Church	Mission & Outreach project
Fabric & Project Funds	Gt Chart	Major project to provide hispitality and toilet facilities in the church
Other Funds	Gt Chart	Minor restricted reserves relating to Choir Fund, Bell fund and Grapevine Cafe
Fabric Funds	St Francis	Funding for the refurbushment of the Hall kitchen & other fabric matters
Make Lunch Funds	St Francis	Provision of meals and other goods for families which qualify for free school meals
Ignite	St Francis	Mission & Outreach project
Children's Mission	St Francis	Little Squeakers - Parent & Toddler Group
Capital project	Willesborough	Funds being raised for major repairs to the steeple roof
Capital Project	Sevington	Major refurbishment of the church building (Includes Lady Sharp Trust)

Endowments

Annie Marwick Fund	Shadoxhurst	Fabric and Churchyard maintenance

Funds held as Custodial Trustee

Kennington Summer Fayre	Temporary arrangement pending creation of Kennington Community Council Funds transferred to the organsation's own bank account in January 2020
South Africa Trip	Funds raised for a youth project - aborted due to Coronavirus. Small balance retained for potential future trip.
Bell Ringers Fund	Funds transferred to PCC bank account on resignation of Tower Captain.

Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)
FRS102 Wording - December 2020 Year End

ASHFORD TOWN PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Church Workers Pension Fund has a section known as the Defined Benefits Scheme, a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic and a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

The Pension Builder Scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund is made up of two sections, Pension Builder Classic and Pension Builder 2014, both of which are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension for members for payment from retirement, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Bonuses may also be declared, depending upon the investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum that members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. This account may have bonuses added by the Board before retirement. The bonuses depend on investment experience and other factors. There is no requirement for the Board to grant any bonuses. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable from members' Normal Pension Age.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable **(2020: £4,092, 2019: £3,761).**

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2016. A valuation as at 31 December 2019 was under way as at 31 December 2020.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £14.2m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose not to grant a discretionary bonus, which will have acted to improve the funding position. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £1.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, ASHFORD TOWN PCC could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.