PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

England & Wales · Charity number 1173106

Details

Other names	PCC OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2017-05-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	52 Woodborough Road Winscombe BS25 1BA
Phone	01934844650

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Activities: * Regular Public worship open to all* Private space for prayer and contemplation* Pastoral Work - visiting the sick and bereaved* Providing activities with a Christian Ethos for families and their children* Assemblies lead in local schools* Promoting christianity by providing activities for all age groups* Support for other Charities in the UK and oversees

Classification

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

Geography

- North Somerset

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Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£92,011	£94,290	-	-
2024-12-31	£101,153	£102,223	-	-
2023-12-31	£98,287	£110,269	-	-
2022-12-31	£99,113	£87,618	-	-
2021-12-31	£139,932	£90,090	-	-
2020-12-31	£97,468	£90,443	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Campbell Haynes		2022-04-15
Derrick Claridge		2020-10-11
Diana Joan Williams		2021-05-24
Elizabeth Joyce Cutmore		2024-07-02
Janet Alice Welling		2018-10-01
Joanna Carol Claridge		2018-04-29
Martin Hagen		2024-04-21
Sarah Gunn		2020-10-11

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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

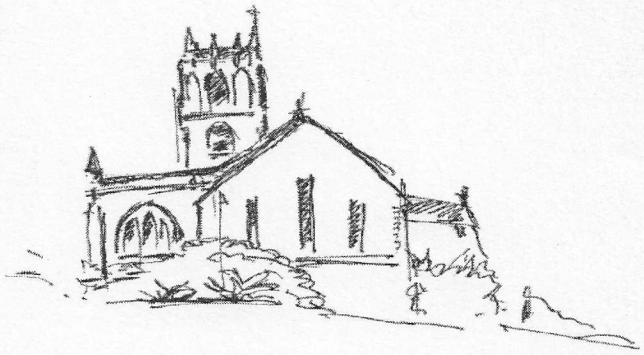
England & Wales - Charity number 1173106

Accounts

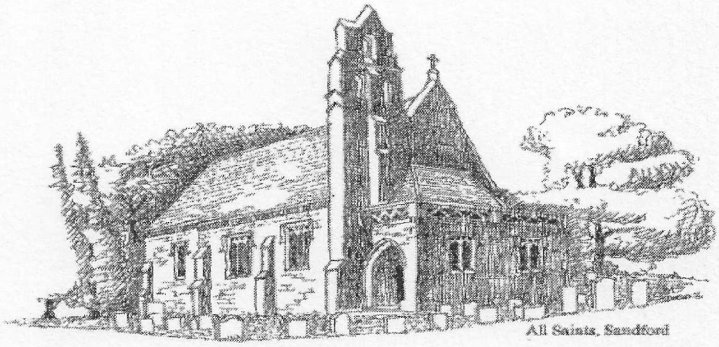
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford



St James the Great, Winscombe



All Saints, Sandford

19th April 2026

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

St James the Great and All Saints
Accounts for
Year Ended 31st December 2025

Parish of Winscombe and Sandford
(Charity No. 1173106)
Explanatory Note to the Annual Accounts for 2025

1. Introduction

The Annual Accounts are presented in the form issued by the Diocese of Bath & Wells to all their parishes, as introduced in 2020.

2. Financial governance

Through the year, the Treasurer completes the Diocesan Cashbook and compares the outturn against budget. The PCC regularly receives finance reports that enable it to monitor income and expenditure against the budget. After the Financial Year has ended on 31st December, the Annual Accounts are extracted from the Diocesan Cashbook. The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025 were approved by the PCC at their Meeting on 3rd March 2026

3 Brief overview Parish/Benefice Share – the largest expenditure item for both Churches

For both St James's and All Saints the Parish/Benefice Share requested by the Diocese is by far the biggest outgoing. According to the Diocese, there are three elements to the Benefice Share request:

- The cost of deploying stipendiary clergy in the Benefice
- A proportion of Diocesan costs
- A mutuality and generosity contribution for those parishes within the Diocese identified as needing particular additional support, including areas of multiple deprivation or significant rural sparsity.

The Diocese calculate figures for each church by including the Statistics for Mission data. In 2025 the amounts requested of our Parish were:

- All Saints £ 7461
- St James's £65300

The PCC took the decision that the churches could not afford this and voted to pay 85% of these requests. In 2025 All Saints paid £6341 (85%) but in June the PCC decided that St James's would reduce their payment for 2025 to £51753 (79%).

As a Registered Charitable Trust, we upload summary figures to the Charity Commission website and comply with Commission regulations.

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner Date: 09 April 2026

Winscombe & Sandford - St James the Great Winscombe's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 £	2024 £	Accounts List code
Receipts							
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		39,953	-	-	39,953	41,937	1
Collections, donations & other giving		7,636	-	-	7,636	765	2
Income tax recovered		10,210	-	-	10,210	10,600	3
Legacies		500	-	-	500	10,502	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		13,169	-	-	13,169	13,697	5
Income from other Properties		3,818	-	-	3,818	3,625	6
Annual Fete/events		4,708	-	-	4,708	4,765	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		3,379	-	-	3,379	3,996	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		3,799	-	-	3,799	5,319	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		-	-	-	-	-	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-	11
Loans received		-	-	-	-	-	12
Other		4,839	-	-	4,839	5,947	13
Total Receipts		92,011	-	-	92,011	101,153	
Payments							
Charitable activities:							
Donations/Grants to charities		-	-	-	-	-	14
Mission & Evangelism		(59)	-	-	(59)	(274)	15
Parish Share		(51,753)	-	-	(51,753)	(60,505)	16
Clergy expenses		(159)	-	-	(159)	(407)	17
Church running expenses		(11,414)	-	-	(11,414)	(6,687)	18
Churchyard maintenance		-	-	-	-	-	19
Cost of raising funds		(9,428)	-	-	(9,428)	(10,758)	20
Support costs		(1,336)	-	-	(1,336)	(111)	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)		(13,617)	-	(47)	(13,664)	(14,352)	22
Governance Costs		-	-	-	-	-	24
Other		(6,524)	-	-	(6,524)	(7,927)	23
Major expenditure							
Repairs to church buildings		-	-	-	-	(1,202)	25
Repairs to other property		-	-	-	-	-	26
Capital purchases/additions		-	-	-	-	-	27
Loan repayments		-	-	-	-	-	28
Total payments		(94,290)	-	(47)	(94,337)	(102,223)	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments		(2,279)	-	(47)	(2,326)	(1,070)	
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	
		(2,279)	-	(47)	(2,326)	(1,070)	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		73,258	-	43,569	116,827	117,896	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec		70,979	-	43,522	114,501	116,826	

St James The Great Winscombe 2025 Annual Accounts
Notes on Receipts and Payments Page
(numbers correspond with column Accounts List Code)

1. Planned Giving is down slightly on last year. This total includes the 'Sum-up' Box in St James's which raised £414 from visitors attending services or just passing.
2. The figure for Collections, donations & other giving includes £6325 given by Friends of St James to pay for the church Outside Lighting project. It also includes VAT of £602 which was granted back to us by Listed Places of Worship. (Only 4 lights were deemed eligible, the other 3 were not attached to the church.)
4. Legacy received from Elizabeth Wilcox.
5. Church Centre Lettings are almost identical to last year although going forward this is likely to be affected by the new Community Centre building.
6. The Churchyard Room continues to be let and money was spent to ensure the heating is adequate.
7. Fundraising has done well once again raising £4700 and grateful thanks are due to the Events Team.
13. This includes the monthly contributions to the Benefice Administrator costs by All Saints and St John's and to Insurance costs by All Saints.
16. 79% of 2025 Parish Share request from the Diocese.
18. Church Running Expenses includes minor repairs, routine maintenance, heating, flowers, music and 'provision of services'.
20. Includes the costs of running Birch Cottage as well as those of running the Church Centre. Birch Cottage, although empty, has to be kept dry and there are still Insurance costs.
23. Insurance costs.

At 31st December 2025 St James's Assets consisted of the following:

	2025	**2024**
Nat West General Bank Account	£23028	£17397
Nat West Church Centre Renovation Account*	£43522	£43569
COIF Deposit Account	£47951	£55795
SOLDO Card	£ 0	£ 66
Investments	£29282	£30516
Buildings and Land	£363,000	£363,000

*The restricted funds held in the Church Centre Renovation Account are currently intended for use on Church Centre renovations.

03.03.2026

Parish Finance Return

The form below is produced by the Archbishops' Council's Statistics division, and should be submitted using their webportal at:
http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/

Return of Parish Finance	6 digit Parish Code	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:	Deanery:	Locking
January to December 2025	Parish name:	James the Great Wins	St James the Great, Winscombe	Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 36,165	£ -
2	Other planned giving	£ 3,788	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ 225	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ 484	£ -
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 10,210	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ 500	£ -
8	Grants [Include recurring and one-off)	£ 6,927	£ -
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 58,299**	**£ -**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 4,708	£ -
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 7,197	£ -
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 3,799	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	£ 14,681	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ 3,327	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 92,011	
B	Restricted	£ -	
C	TOTAL	£ 92,011	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		

This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ -	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ -	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 51,753	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ 2,565	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 1,495	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ 59	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 26,743	£ 47
24	Church utility bills	£ 2,247	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ 9,428	£ -
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ -	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ -	£ -
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ -
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 94,290**	**£ 47**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ 1,233	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 95,523	
E	Restricted	£ 47	
F	TOTAL	£ 95,570	
	Cash and Investment Balances	**UNRESTRICTED**	**RESTRICTED**
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2025	£ 70,979	£ 43,522
32	Investments as at 31 Dec 2025	£ 392,282	£ -
	Account basis: on which basis are your accounts prepared (indicate ONE)		
30	**Receipts and payments [X]**	Accruals [ ]	

**produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5*

Please refer to the notes on the following pages to help clarify what is included in each section. The item numbers refer to RPF notes, consistent with the guidance provided in PCC Accountability, **2013**.

Date	03.03. 2026
Name	Sarah Gunn
Position	Treasurer
Telephone or email	Sarahgunn2000@hotmail.com

Winscombe & Sandford - All Saints Sandford's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 £	2024 £	Accounts List code
Receipts							
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		7,714	-	-	7,714	6,586	1
Collections, donations & other giving		-	-	25,894	25,894	335	2
Income tax recovered		2,541	-	-	2,541	2,449	3
Legacies		500	-	-	500	-	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		-	-	-	-	-	5
Income from other Properties		-	-	-	-	-	6
Annual Fete/events		258	-	1,269	1,527	3,748	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		182	-	207	389	554	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		864	-	-	864	267	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		-	-	-	-	-	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-	11
Loans received		-	-	-	-	-	12
Other		198	-	-	198	-	13
Total Receipts		12,257	-	27,370	39,627	13,939	
Payments							
Charitable activities:							
Donations/Grants to charities		-	-	-	-	-	14
Mission & Evangelism		-	-	-	-	-	15
Parish Share		(7,469)	-	-	(7,469)	(5,814)	16
Clergy expenses		(480)	-	-	(480)	(480)	17
Church running expenses		(2,480)	-	-	(2,480)	(1,927)	18
Churchyard maintenance		-	-	-	-	-	19
Cost of raising funds		-	-	-	-	-	20
Support costs		(158)	-	-	(158)	-	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)		(2,048)	-	-	(2,048)	(1,847)	22
Governance Costs		-	-	-	-	-	24
Other		(1,605)	-	-	(1,605)	(1,246)	23
Major expenditure							
Repairs to church buildings		-	-	-	-	-	25
Repairs to other property		(3,751)	-	(32,914)	(36,665)	-	26
Capital purchases/additions		-	-	-	-	-	27
Loan repayments		-	-	-	-	-	28
Total payments		(17,991)	-	(32,914)	(50,905)	(11,314)	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments		(5,734)	-	(5,544)	(11,278)	2,625	
Transfers between funds		1,807	-	(1,807)	-	-	
		(3,927)	-	(7,351)	(11,278)	2,625	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		12,179	-	14,879	27,058	24,433	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec		8,252	-	7,528	15,780	27,058	

All Saints, Sandford 2025 Annual Accounts

Notes on Receipts and Payments Page
(numbers correspond with column Accounts List code)

1. Planned giving is up 17% on 2024 mainly due to Community Café raising funds for the Building Project which is considered as part of Planned Giving.
2. Donations and other Giving includes a donation of £15000 from Thatchers
7. Fund Raising events lower than 2024 due to point 1.
16. Parish Share includes late payment of December 2024 and the top-up for 2024.

All Saints' Assets

	2025	**2024**
Nat West General Bank Account	£8253	£12179
Nat West Building Fund Account	£7528	£14879

03.03.2026

Parish Finance Return

The form below is produced by the Archbishops' Council's Statistics division, and should be submitted using their webportal at:
http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/

Return of Parish Finance	Parish code: (6 digits)	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:	Deanery:	Locking
January to December 2025	Parish name:	ll Saints Sandford, St J		Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 5,639	£ -
2	Other planned giving	£ 2,076	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ -	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ 20,604
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 2,541	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ 500	£ -
8	Grants (Include recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ 5,290
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 10,756**	**£ 25,894**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 258	£ 1,269
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 182	£ 207
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 864	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	£ -	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ 198	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 12,258	
B	Restricted	£ 27,370	
C	TOTAL	£ 39,628	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		

This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ -	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ -	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 7,469	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ -	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 638	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ -	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 4,793	£ -
24	Church utility bills	£ 1,340	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ -	£ -
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ -	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ 3,751	£ 32,914
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ -
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 17,991**	**£ 32,914**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 17,991	
E	Restricted	£ 32,914	
F	TOTAL	£ 50,905	
	Cash and Investment Balances	**UNRESTRICTED**	**RESTRICTED**
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2025	£ 8,253	£ 7,528
32	Investments as at 31 Dec 2025	£ -	£ -
	Account basis: on which basis are your accounts prepared (indicate ONE)		
30	**Receipts and payments [X]**	Accruals [ ]	

**produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5*

Please refer to the notes on the following pages to help clarify what is included in each section. The item numbers refer to RPF notes, consistent with the guidance provided in PCC Accountability, **2013**.

Date	03.03.2026
Name	Sarah Gunn
Position	Treasurer
Telephone or email	Sarahgunn2000@hotmail.com

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173106

Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

St James the Great,Winscombe

All Saints, Sandford

4th May 2025

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2025 Agenda, Minutes of 2024APCM & Reports for St James the Great and All Saints for the year ended 31st December 2024

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parishioners Meeting 2025

Election of Churchwardens

To be held at the Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on

Sunday 4th May at 11.30am

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 2024 Annual Parishioners Meeting
4. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at St James's
5. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at All Saints

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parishioners' Meeting
Sunday 21st April 2024 at 11.30am
The Church Centre, Winscombe
Minutes

Item		Action
1. Welcome and Opening Prayer by the Chair	The Revd. Andrew Hiscox welcomed everyone to the meeting with a prayer	
Attended by:	25 members attended the meeting	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies from 7 members were received before the meeting:	
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parishioners Meeting held on 30th April 2023	The approval of the minutes was : Proposed by: Hugh Gunn Seconded by: John Hayter and this was endorsed by all those present. Accordingly, the Chair signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising	There were no matters arising.	
5. Election of Churchwardens	<u>Nomination for St James's</u> There were no nominations for Churchwarden for St James. <u>Nomination for All Saints</u> 1. Diana Williams Proposed by: Angela Morris Seconded by: Douglas Ogram The meeting endorsed this nomination unanimously. The Chair expressed his sincere thanks to Ian Hine, Diana Williams and Douglas Ogram who had carried out their churchwarden duties so well over the past year. Also as Ian Hine was retiring as Churchwarden for St James and Douglas Ogram for All Saints the Chair, Rev. Andrew, on behalf of the meeting, expressed his thanks to Ian and Douglas for all their dedication over the years. In addition Bill Wallace was retiring as PCC Secretary and Rev. Andrew also thanked him for all that he had done. Finally Rev. Andrew expressed his personal thanks and gratitude to Ian, Douglas and Bill and then presented each with a gift.	Results of Election Form to be displayed **(WDC)**
Closing remarks		
	The Meeting closed at 11.55am	

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025

To be held at The Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on
Sunday 4th May at 11.30am

AGENDA

1. **Welcome**

2. **Apologies for Absence**

3. **Minutes of the APCM 2024 (with respect to 2023)**

4. **Reports**
   5.1 Report on the Fabric of St James and All Saints
   5.2 Financial Statements for year ending 31st December 2024
   5.3 Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod 2024
   5.4 Safeguarding Report
   5.5 Fresh Foundations/Church Centre Development

5. **Electoral Roll – The revised Electoral Rolls for St James's Church and All Saints Church**

6. **Elections and Appointments**
   7.1 Elections for PCC
   7.2 Appointment of Stewards to St James and All Saints
   7.3 Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC

7. **Closing Remarks and Prayers**

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Monday 21st April 2024 at 11.30am
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Minutes

Item		
1. Welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a prayer.	
Attended by :	25 members attended the meeting	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies had been received from 7 members before the meeting.	
3. Minutes of the APCM held on 30th April 2023	The approval of the minutes of the 2023 APCM was Proposed by: Angela Morris Seconded by: Celia Hine and this was endorsed unanimously. Accordingly, the Chair signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising	No Matters were raised	
5. Annual Reports	5.1. Fabric St James and All Saints The Chair, Rev. Andrew drew the attention of the meeting to these reports which had been previously circulated and invited any questions. No points were raised. 5.2. Financial Accounts 31st December 2023 Sarah Gunn (SG) presented the Accounts and apologised for their late publication. The copy circulated was unsigned but the Examiner, Dick Beath, had now approved these accounts. St James's SG reported that there was a deficit of c£12K for the year, mainly due to the full Parish Share being paid in 2023 and higher repair costs. Planned Giving was also falling, the figures in the current year were distorted by the inclusion of the allowance received towards the costs of housing the Ukranian family, and SG invited ideas on how to increase giving. John Hayter (JH) noted that the Diocese was looking at alternative ways of calculating the Parish Share, and this cost was already taking an increasing share of the total expenditure which was not sustainable. SG agreed and reported that there were some reserves in place and at present it looked as if we would need to use these reserves to keep going. Rev. Andrew (AH) said that cost pressures were increasing nationally with the cost of living crisis and inflation being relatively high. This is also reflected in Diocesan costs. He noted that some Benefices in vacancy were having to accept additional churches, such as Crook Peak and Axbridge, or Kingston Seymour. AH explained that he had written to the Bishop and Diocesan Secretary last year, following the Parish Share letters received from them, and was endeavouring to ensure that our larger Benefice, which now includes St Johns in Churchill, would be reflected in the new calculation basis. Dorothy Baldwin (DB) said that there would still be a "charge" of £10 per week for regular attenders and the meeting noted that direct debits were being talked about as a method of donating.	

	There followed a discussion about how to achieve an increase in donations from those passer-bys who visited the church , perhaps offering refreshments, devotional cards and maybe resiting the card machine. AH agreed that there had to be a more imaginative approach to raising enough funds to maintain a listed building, and invited suggestions from Church members concerning how they could help with this. <u>All Saints</u> SG reported a small deficit of c£1.5K and noted that All Saints were very good at raising money locally with community events which covered a lot of their expenditure. <u>Other Financial Matters</u> Hugh Gunn (HG) raised the issue of the Discretionary Fund which had been set up for the Vicar to help those in need and asked whether it had been needed during the past year. AH replied that he occasionally receives request from the schools for the Church to support disadvantaged pupils with school trips but he thought the overall limit of the fund could perhaps be reduced. But he went on that it is helpful to have this discretionary fund, even if it doesn't always get fully spent in any given year. On the issue of the Vicar signing the annual accounts SG advised that now the Diocese did not require the Vicar to sign, approval from the APCM was all that was required. It was proposed by Alex Jones and seconded by Ian Hine that the accounts be approved and this was passed by the meeting. Finally HG asked for clarification on any future integration of St John's . AH responded that at present they would keep their separate identify in some areas. AH went on that we are one Benefice but three churches who partner in mission, and that this was a good basis for us going forward for now. The Chair expressed his thanks to Sarah and Hugh Gunn for all their work in looking after the Churches' finances. <u>5.3. Deanery Synod 2023</u> DB reported that their report had been circulated, she also reminded the meeting that there was an event being run this week on the subject of giving. She also reported she had raised the issue of maintaining a Grade 1 listed building with the Diocese who had been unsympathetic The Chair thanked Dorothy Baldwin and Angela Morris for their valuable work in representing the Benefice on the Deanery Synod and appreciated their agreement to continue this work for the following year. <u>5.4. Safeguarding Report</u> In the absence of Jo Claridge, Safeguarding Officer, the Chair praised her for the quality of her work in this area. It was noted that there had been no serious incidents that required a report to the Charity Commission in 2023. Chris Hayter (CH) proposed that the meeting express its thanks to Jo for her dedication in this area, this was seconded by SG and passed by the meeting. <u>5.5 Fresh Foundations</u>/<u>Church Centre Development</u> Alison Haynes (AHa) reported on this project and advised that Phase 1 of this project had been achieved with the granting of Outline	

	Planning Permission. The Fresh Foundations team now consisted of both church and non-church members. Of the £40K donated towards this project c£32K still remained unspent. The next phase involved the costing of the five options now being looked at , a community consultation was planned as to which option was preferred and then a final decision would be made by the PCC in the summer. Of the other reports that had been submitted Pauline Nixon summarised and praised the Pastoral work carried out by her team and invited referrals for her team who could only visit if invited. Bill Wallace noted in his PCC Secretary report the high level of activity in this Benefice and what had been achieved in the year. Rev. Andrew (AH) also highlighted the other items covered in the Annual Report that recorded the wonderful work done by many volunteers including in the areas of : • Signpost - the Parish Magazine • Events • Music and Choir • Coffee Mornings and Cafés • Church Cleaning • Flower arranging • Bell Ringing AH went to acknowledge and express his thanks to the Friends of St James who continued to offer financial support towards the upkeep of our Grade 1 listed church. SG proposed and HG seconded that the Annual Report be accepted and this was passed unanimously.	
6. Electoral Roll	Sarah Gunn reported that there were now 122 people on the Electoral Roll – 89 at St James's and 33 at All Saints.	
7. Elections & Appointments	7.1. Elections for the PCC Those leaving the PCC were Hilary Bebb and Pauline Nixon and AH thanked them for their efforts and time devoted to the work of the PCC. Elections St James **Martin Hagen** Proposed by Helen MacPherson Seconded by Angela Lacy **Jo Claridge** Proposed by Derrick Claridge Seconded by Douglas Ogram All Saints **Simon Crew** Proposed by Bill Wallace Seconded by Diana Williams **Douglas Ogram** Proposed by Diana Williams Seconded by Angela Morris It was proposed by Hugh Gunn and seconded by John Hayter that these nominations be accepted and this was approved unanimously	

	by the meeting. 7.2. Appointment of Stewards The meeting agreed unanimously the appointment of the Stewards as listed on page 20 of the Annual Report. 7.3. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC The appointment of Dick Beath as the Independent Examiner was endorsed by the meeting, and Hugh Gunn will seek confirmation of this.	
8. Address by the Vicar	The Vicar gave an address drawing on his Annual Report reminding the meeting of the Benefice mission of putting the love of Christ in the heart of the community and to consider how we are led to use our gifts to achieve that aim. He noted that the mission included visits to 5 schools and to 5 Care Homes, none of the schools were Church of England but we were still welcomed to take services. In addition there were coffee mornings, 6 Home groups, Messy Church and regular events run by the Events team. There were good links with other denominations and charitable giving was £4,300 in 2023. AH noted that this Benefice is also a charity but has to pay for a Grade 1 listed building and also pay the Diocesan Parish Share. Part of the Parish share does of course have a charitable element which helps to support underprivileged Parishes in the Diocese who would not normally be able to afford a priest. Rev. Andrew exhorted church members to resist the British tendency to dwell on what we lack, and be joyful and thankful in the many ways in which God has blessed us and been faithful to us. He believed that the Lord will lead us forward to good things , when we trust in Him.	
9. Closing Prayer	The meeting closed with a prayer at 12.45pm	

REPORTS FOR ST JAMES THE GREAT, WINSCOMBE
AND
ALL SAINTS, SANDFORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1. CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORTS FOR 2024

St James's Churchwardens' Report

Reverend Andrew Hiscox announced that he was leaving the Benefice in May 2024. At this time St James's had no churchwardens. An extraordinary general meeting was held on Sunday 7th July 2024 at which Derrick Claridge and Beth Cutmore were elected as Churchwardens.
A special service was held to say goodbye to Andrew, Corinna, Owyn and Carys at St James followed by a Benefice lunch at the Church Centre. Gifts were presented to the family including a Photobook of memories of their time in Winscombe.
Since then, we have been working in collaboration with our wonderful ministry team who have worked tirelessly to successfully fill services across the Benefice.
In November we commenced the process of finding a new vicar with a Pre Section 11 meeting which was attended by Bishop Michael, Archdeacon Charlie, the Area Dean and our two patrons.
We would like to thank everyone who contributes to the life of our parish and look forward in faith and hope to the future as we continue to pray for a new vicar to lead our Benefice forward.

St James's

Fabric Report 2024.

The fabric of the Church this year has been sound with very little work carried out.
Portable equipment testing, Heating equipment servicing, fire extinguishing equipment servicing and Burglar alarm servicing have been carried out during the year as required and all is well.
There is a problem with the lamp post light outside Church main door failing which was found to be a breakdown of the main cable between the Church and the post. This light remains out of commission.
The lighting fittings to the Tower stairs were replaced owing to poor lighting quality and fitting failures.
The PCC agreed to accept the Friends of St James kind offer to replace all of the post tops to the three lamp posts in the Churchyard and the external wall lanterns. Some minor preparation work has been carried out to this scheme; however, a start date is currently unknown.

A new control unit was fitted to the Church sound system due to mice chewing their way through the electrical cables. The new control unit is electronic and operated via a tablet computer, now kept in the vestry, and can be used in any location in the Church.
For most of the year the clock chiming equipment has been out of commission.
Despite several efforts of the Bell Ringers, who look after this equipment, and our maintenance contractor the problem has not been resolved. This clock is old and consequently there are no off the shelf spares, so any new parts have to be specially manufactured. Ther Church Wardens are in touch with the Bell Ringers on this and monitoring the situation.
No further work has been carried out on the Quinquennial inspection report this year.
Beth Cutmore, Derrick Claridge
Churchwardens of St James the Great Church Winscombe.

All Saints Church Wardens' and Fabric Report 2024

We have had another encouraging year at All Saints Sandford.
We have had services at All Saints on 3 Sundays each month, usually alternating between Parish Praise and Holy Communion. However, towards the end of the year we reduced this to 2 Sundays a month. We also have a weekly Holy Communion on Tuesday morning which is well attended.
We were sad to see our Vicar Andrew depart in September to a new Benefice, but since then we are grateful that our Curate Jacqui and the Ministry team have covered all our services.
Every first Saturday of the month we have our popular Community café in the church run by Llyn Callow and her hard-working team. Serving tea, coffee, homemade soups and delicious cakes. We raise between £350 and £400 monthly through voluntary donations which go towards church funds.
On February 24th we had our popular Quiz and raffle. This took place in the village hall and the funds raised went towards the building fund.
On the weekend of June 12th and 13th we had an Art exhibition featuring works of art produced by a talented local artist. Paintings were exhibited round the church and teas and coffee were provided to visitors. Funds raised went towards the building fund.
On October 12th we had our delicious Autumn Ploughman's supper. This was accompanied by cans of cider kindly donated by Thatchers. The funds raised went towards the church building fund.
On 16th December we had our local community Carol singing outside Sandford Premier stores who kindly donated mulled wine, sausage rolls and mince pies. We were all in good voice despite the rainy weather.
On Christmas Eve at 8pm we had our annual Carol Service. A large congregation filled our beautifully decorated church and Mulled wine and Christmas biscuits were served afterwards.
At the end of the year we were very pleased to receive a substantial donation from Thatchers who had also kindly given us a large donation towards the repair and renovation of the church tower several years ago.
This donation, together with a sizeable donation from a member of our congregation and the building funds we have been collecting over the last couple of years have been enough to carry out the badly needed renovation of the church room and the conversion of the toilet to allow disabled access. The new kitchen will be vital to improve catering for church and community events.
The end of December was spent clearing out the church room making it ready for the building work to begin in January.
Diana Williams
Churchwarden, All Saints Church Sandford

3. FRESH FOUNDATIONS (CHURCH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT TEAM) REPORT

The Church Centre Development Team was initiated by Winscombe and Sandford Parish Church Council in February 2022. There were a number of issues with the current Church Centre and the Benefice now consists of 3 Churches, thus creating the need for a larger building to accommodate the new congregation. Also there's been an increase in population due to new large housing estates so the demand for good quality community space is increasing.
A sum of £40,000 was left as a legacy for the improvement of the Church Centre, this enabled the team to fund the necessary reports and professional services to meet the success criteria. A larger sum has been pledged by a person who wishes to be anonymous for the purpose of improving the centre and leaving a legacy.
Outline planning permission to demolish Centre and Birch Cottage and build a new larger centre was obtained in October 2023.
Project team - Project Manager Alison Haynes, Treasurer Derrick Claridge, Dorothy Baldwin, Rev Andrew Hiscox (left August 2024), Tony Callow. We welcomed Nigel Carson (retired Architect) and near neighbour of the Centre to the team.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

1. Fresh Foundations project team met on 4 occasions during 2024.
2. 2 Newsletters were published
3. Church Centre management team set up Feb 2024 – to optimise rental income, minimise out goings, maintain building.
4. Benefice PCC's workshop held, and priority goals established
5. Consultation event with 3 Congregations with options appraisal took place (see report below)
6. 9 reports to PCC made with appropriate decisions being obtained. (see report below)
7. Good progress made with research and costings
8. Structural Surveyor instructed and full report obtained (see report below)
9. Quantity surveyor instructed and feasibility cost plan report obtained
10. Proposals and options made to both PCC's for a way forward presented and decisions made.
11. Detailed specification to enable Architects tenders – 3 quotes obtained range £26,500 to £115,500
12. Asbestos reports commissioned on Centre

BIRCH COTTAGE – MAIN OUTPUTS

1. PCC decision to investigate demolishing Birch Cottage – (see report below)
2. Research into costs of disconnecting services (approx. £600) and 'De-Banding' for council tax purposes currently being pursued (potential saving of £2,000 per year)
3. Detailed specification to enable quotes for Demolition (Birch Cottage) – 3 quotes obtained-range £14,500 to £34,500
4. Planning permission status regarding demolition. Established, permitted with current planning permission.
5. Asbestos reports commissioned for Birch Cottage
6. Potential to create a temporary 'Garden of Peace' on site of demolished cottage – work ongoing (see report below)

PROJECT OUTPUT 5.

List of the 10 options presented at consultation event with detailed drawings and costs

OPTION 0A: Remedial work to Church Centre and demolition of Birch Cottage

OPTION 0B: Remedial work to Church Centre and updating of Birch Cottage

OPTION 1: Remedial work & improvements to Church Centre; extension to front of Church Centre; update Birch Cottage (As For Option 0B)

OPTION 2A: Remedial work and improvements to Church Centre & extension to front and side; relocation of offices & toilets. Update Birch Cottage and add link.

OPTION 2B: As for 2A with larger, more imposing extension.

OPTION 2C: As for 2A with larger more imposing extension; provision of extra small hall & additional meeting room; demolish Birch Cottage

OPTION 3: New Church Centre on footprint of existing centre and Birch Cottage (Outline Planning Permission granted)

OPTION 4: New Church Centre on footprint of existing centre and Birch Cottage, larger than OPTION 3

OPTION 5: Sell existing site and relocate or rent.

DEMOLISH BIRCH COTTAGE (Not linked to any other option)

These were the votes from attendees and postal/email replies

OPTION	**0A**	**0B**	**1**	**2A**	**2B**	**2C**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**DEM. BC**
						Y			N	
	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y
						Y	Y	Y		Y
							Y			Y
						Y		Y	N	
						Y	Y		N	
							Y			Y
									Y	
						Y	Y	N	N	Y
						Y				Y
	Y					Y				Y
						Y				
	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y
	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N		N	Y
	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
TOTAL IN FAVOUR	**5**		**1**	**1**	**1**	**11**	**6**	**3**	**1**	**10**

This feedback and that received verbally showed that majority who commented were in favour of Option 2C:

- Demolishing Birch Cottage
- Pursuing significant upgrading of the current building and extending to create new flexible spaces for hospitality and second hall.

It also showed the majority were not in favour of:

- Repairing without improving the building
- Refurbishing Birch Cottage for either community use or residential
- Extending without moving toilets/office
- Refurbishing but not adding a second hall
- Demolishing the whole site and building new
- Selling the whole site and relocating – to WinSpace or any site

Several people who supported Option 2C felt a phased approach could be considered.

PROJECT OUTPUT 6

PCC DECISION FOLLOWING OPTION APPRAISIAL CONSULTATION RESULTS

Having considered that the Fresh Foundations team have taken professional advice from an Architect, Planning Consultant, North Somerset Planning Dept, a Structural Engineer, construction experts and a Quantity Surveyor. Ecological and topographical reports were received and considered. Having regard for the "Project Vision", our priority goals and the consultation feedback our recommendation is as follows:

To pursue OPTION 2C as the preferred way forward.

Next Steps

Following the PCC meeting (July 2024) the priorities were re-set:

1. To investigate the implications and costs of demolishing Birch Cottage.
2. To further develop the design and provide accurate costings for a range of possibilities for Option 2C.
3. To investigate the possibility and practicalities of implementing a phased approach.
4. To create a Business Plan for the purposes of grant and other funding route applications.
5. To agree to explore the implications of working with a Funding Consultant.
6. For the Fresh Foundations team to meet with representatives from WinSpace and update our current position i.e. the results of our consultation have shown that the option to sell our current site and relocate is not desired by the majority of our church membership.

PROJECT OUTPUT 8

Splinter Structure Engineers report received in Feb 2024, confirmed the most likely cause of the cracks and that the damage and remedial work to put this right are not a serious as initially thought and the building can be repaired. Advised what work required to restore the centre to a satisfactory state of repair.

-Report sent to solicitors managing claim against neighbours tree – possible cause of subsidence

BIRCH COTTAGE PROJECT OUTPUT 6

- Potential to turn the demolished area into a 'temporary' garden of peace to be used in a way we have been visualising.
- positive action towards a project the whole congregation could get behind
- Where possible items such as raised flower beds, containers, benches could be mobile to allow relocation to a new garden of peace where necessary.

Budget and Spend (Balance at end of 2023 £32,728)

Splinter structures	£ 650.00
Whole project total Spend at end of 2024	£ 8,112.00
Balance at end of 2024	£31,888.00

SUMMING UP

With the Church being in vacancy from September 2024 – fund raising through grant funding has faltered whilst the Business Case has had to be developed more slowly. The Business Case can only be finalised when the vicar's support for an agreed option is determined. Fund raising through donations from the congregation for both Demolition of Birch Cottage and for Option 2C project has stalled for the same reason. When a new incumbent is installed the position of the project will be revisited and recommenced.

Alison Haynes

3. OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

a. Pastoral Team 2024

The Pastoral Care Team have continued their work of visiting, and making phone calls, to those who are lonely, sick or bereaved, throughout the year. Cards were also sent to those bereaved in the last year.

The annual All Soul's Service, which is organised and run by the team, took place at St James Church at the beginning of November.

All members of the team have now completed the training, and safeguarding required, to be licensed by the Diocese as Lay Pastoral Assistants, and we are hoping the licenses will be issued very soon. We also hope that a commissioning service can then be arranged in the benefice.

Rev'd Ann Ogram has now moved on to concentrate on her new pastoral care duties with the Diocese and we would like to acknowledge our thanks for all she has done over many years with us.

I would also like to thank the members of the team for all they do, for their commitment, encouragement and care for all those they see.

If anyone knows of someone who might like a visit, please contact me.

Rev'd Pauline Nixon

b. Collective Worship in Winscombe Primary school

Over the last year, the school has continued to welcome the team drawn from parishioners in the benefice and the Lynch Chapel. On our weekly visits on Tuesdays after the school lunch break, we have presented dramatized Bible stories from the Lion Storyteller Bible, using material from the Bible Society known as 'Open the Book'. We have always been encouraged by the six or more enthusiastic volunteers from year six who assist us in presenting the stories. The presentations are well received by the children and the supervising teachers. The attention and reaction of the 200 or so children present are a further encouragement as also is the feedback that we have received from the staff. We have continued to cover 30 stories a year to include a mix of events from both the Old

and the New Testaments so that in a two year cycle, we have presented most of the stories available from the series.

c. Signpost (Parish Magazine)

The Signpost magazine continues to be edited and printed by the Benefice Administrator each month. Just over 300 people receive a colour copy via email and 135 black and white copies are printed and distributed across all three communities of Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill.
Over recent months, there have been a few more enquiries for paid advertisements from local businesses, so the cost of paper and printing is more than covered. Nigel Carson continues to oversee the paid advertising and invoicing element of the magazine.
Sue Smyth

d. Events Team – St James's

Background

An action from the May 2023 PCC away day was to set up an events team with focus on non religious activities. The team has the following remit:-

- Focus on fun
- Grow our connections with people in village
- Raise money for St James Church
- Team open to anyone to join
- Events accessible and open to all
- Aim to hold an event every 2 months

Chair Alison Haynes, Team members - Beth Cutmore, Jo Claridge, Helen Mc Pherson, Jayne Smith, Sue Smyth, Martin and Hilary Hagen. No secretary or Treasurer as there is no specific account/budget and reports directly to PCC - 4 members are also on PCC.

Events

Monthly film club x 12 – continued for all of 2024 with numbers averaging 15 and donations averaging £20. Children's films shown in summer holidays well attended. Numbers began to dwindle and day swapped to 3rd Wednesday to dovetail with luncheon club in Community Centre. Future of club to be reviewed early 2025.
Quiz night 10/2/24 – 50 tickets sold profits £395
Bingo and Bangers 27/4/24 – 56 tickets sold profits £510
D Day 80 coffee 4/6/24 morning - free event
D day 80 Documentary 6/6/24 free event – approx. 30 attendees
D Day80 Celebrations 8/6/24 - 76 tickets sold – partnership with Winscombe Folk Club – profits £646
Winscombe Village Market (WVM) relocation/summer festival 20/7/24, with 3 children's stalls. Profit £42
WVM catering – sausage bap – 17/8/24 – profit £80
HARVEST LUNCH Sunday 10th Sept, free ticket – donations £168
Fab Twins live music 18/10/24 – plough mans supper and bar - 53 tickets sold profit £601
Late night shopping promotions/childrens stall engaged with approx. 400– 3/12/25 – profits £69
Badger set 7/12/24 120 tickets sold – festive nibbles & free drink - £680 (50% of £1,360 split with All Saints)
Wreath making 10th and 11th December – table top and wreaths – 32 tickets sold – profits £616
Carols by lantern light – 14/12/24 approx 250 attendees - £370 profit.

Summing up – The team has moved from strength to strength with all of us gaining good working practices. On reading last years report we planned to hold 6 events during 2024 – we actually held 25 – phew. We have fulfilled our remit, engaged and entertained over 1,500 people, had fun and laughter along the way and raised well over £4000.

e. Music and Choir – St James's

2024 was a very positive year for the Choir. Derek Jones continued to lead us as our Organist and increase the repertoire of the Choir and improve our singing technique as well as playing the Organ. The Choir has gained confidence over the year as we continue to sing the Communion Service on 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings and increasing our repertoire of Anthems. We are also robing once again on important Sundays and Festivals. Unfortunately, Derek will have to step back for a few months immediately after Christmas for health reasons but he fully expects to return to lead us in the late spring of 2025. Until then the Choir will continue to lead the congregation in the singing of hymns. The Music Group continues to provide music at the 1st and 3rd Sunday Services in the Church Centre and their more modern hymns and songs enable the congregation to enhance their worship through a wide selection of music. Very many thanks to all who lead and support our music at St James's and the Church Centre.

f. Church Cleaning – St James's

The Church continues to be cleaned on a regular basis by six teams of two people. Each team is responsible for two weeks at a time and can choose when and how often it should be cleaned during the two weeks. The Church always looks welcoming and we are extremely lucky to have such commitment to keeping the building looking cared for and clean. It would be wonderful if more people were interested in joining us – the more teams we have the less each individual has to do! Contact the Church Office (844650) if you would like to offer a couple of hours every six months.

g. Flower Arranging – St James's (verbal report at the APCM)

h. Bellringers – St James's (verbal report at the APCM)

5. THE PCC 2024

Report from the Secretary

At the first PCC meeting after the 2024 APCM, the following were appointed to the Committee
Revd. Andrew Hiscox - Chairman
Revd.Jacqui Keir-Bucknall - Curate
Derrick Claridge - Churchwarden, St James's
Beth Cutmore - Churchwarden, St James's
Diana Williams - Churchwarden, All Saints
Dorothy Baldwin – Deanery Synod Representative
Angela Morris – Deanery Synod Representative
Jo Claridge – Parish Safeguarding Officer
Sarah Gunn – Treasurer
Alison Haynes (SJ), Simon Crew(AS), Douglas Ogram(AS), Jan Welling(AS).
Later in the year Revd.Pauline Nixon, Martin Hagen and Bridget Andrews (Secretary) were co-opted to the Committee.

Many thanks to William Wallace who was the PCC secretary until July 2024.
The major event of the year was the departure of Andrew Hiscox in early September to take up an appointment in a Cotswold Benefice. We held a “Goodbye” Lunch at the Church Centre after the service on 1st September, which was very well attended. Presentations were made to all members of Andrew’s family and we wished him well for the future. His leaving meant that the Churchwardens had a huge commitment to carry on the work of the church in the Interregnum. We are all very grateful to them and the profile team for all their hard work.
The profile team were guided by Sandra O’Shea, the Diocesan profile leader. The members were Jo Claridge (St James’s) Emma Stocks (St Johns), Douglas Ogram (All Saints) and Sue Smyth (Benefice Administrator). They produced an excellent profile which was praised by Sandra as the best she had seen.
We are also grateful to Revd. Jacqui, our Curate, and all the retired clergy who have stepped in to cover services. We are now praying as a whole church for the appointment of our new priest. The interview panel will consist of Diana Williams, Tricia Avery and Jo Claridge, one member from each church in the Benefice.
A welcome outcome from the interregnum was the training and commissioning of new Lay worship leaders from both churches.

There was a candlelight service at St James for Advent and our annual Carols by Candlelight at St James Church Centre, both enjoyed by all.

The PCC met every month of last year on the first Tuesday of the month. At each meeting there are reports from Safeguarding, Pastoral Care, Finance, and Fresh Foundations. Items on the agenda are discussed and voted upon. Our meetings start and end in prayer, acknowledging our dependence on God to help us in our decisions.

6. DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2024

Although many topics were discussed and debated, the emphasis for 2024 was the precarious position of the Diocesan and Parish finances. The Church of England has produced a report on a planned giving scheme entitled "Generous Giving". It launched at the Deanery Synod on 20th March 2024 by Hayden Taylor, Lay Chairman. A workshop took place on 25th April to which all Parish Treasurers, clergy and Deanery Synod members were invited. It was vibrantly led by two Diocesan representatives. It became clear that Parishes have a responsibility to pay their Parish Share. As we have not achieved 100% in the last two years, it is something we have to take seriously in Winscombe and Sandford. The PCC here is in discussion concerning how we address our shortfall.
At the October Synod, Hayden Taylor, Lay Chair, reported on a meeting at the Diocese on the new Benefice Share Scheme. This was received without enthusiasm across the Deaneries, but our Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group felt it was uncomfortable although realistic. Parishes are being asked how they are planning to further Christ's Mission in our communities.
We also had an enthusiastic presentation by Revd Caroline Deakin on setting up Youth Hubs. This was particularly interesting to our Benefice as St John's, Churchill are investigating the use of the Old Stables as a Youth Hub for Sixth formers at Churchill Academy.
At the July Synod, held in Langford, there was a lively presentation from the Revd. Tim Erridge and the Revd Craig Philbrick on the "Magnificat Estates". These are Parishes considered by the Diocese as being socially and economically deprived. We have four such Parishes in our

Deanery and have the full support of the whole Deanery. A Forest Church Baptism was one successful example of engaging with people outside Church buildings.
The Revd. Andrew Hemming stood down as Rural Dean at Christmas, having served four years Assistant Area Dean and three years as Area Dean. The Revd. Caroline Deakin was appointed in his place with the Revd. Tim Erridge as Assistant. He was thanked for his service to the Deanery.
The annual Service of Light took place in January 2024.
Angela Morris, Dorothy Baldwin

7. CHURCH SUPPORT FOR CHARITIES in 2024

There was no separate Charitable Giving by St James's in 2024 but there were two Charity Cafe Churches during the year which were supported by all three churches in the Benefice, at which the following was raised:
Christian Aid – February 2024 £320.00
Christians Against Poverty – money was donated directly after the event

8. SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2024

1. Introduction

Safeguarding is a standing item at P.C.C. Meetings. A Safeguarding Report is presented and discussed at every meeting.
The Benefice works in line with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
The Benefice uses the Safeguarding Dashboard, a piece of software that makes administration and governance of safeguarding simpler.

2. Formal Obligation

The PCC has continued to comply with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
This means that we are committed to:
• Promoting a safer environment and culture
• Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
• Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
• Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
• Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
• Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

3. Safeguarding Roles

The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) for Winscombe and Sandford is Jo Claridge.
The Parish Safeguarding Officer for St John's is Pauline Hurst.
Details of how to contact the PSOs are displayed on the notice boards at each church and on the church website. The two PSOs work closely together and the two PCCs within the Benefice have adopted the same policies, guidance and procedures in respect to safeguarding, to ensure a consistent approach.

4. DBS Checks

All volunteers who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults have to undergo a DBS Check.
The DBS Recruiter and Verifier is Jo Claridge.
DBS Certificates are renewed every 3 years.
The Diocese works with the Christian safeguarding charity thirtyone:eight for DBS checks.
43 people currently hold up to date DBS certificates (including 6 clergy) and are actively volunteering with adult or children's activities.

5. Safeguarding Policy, Guidance and Documentation

The Benefice has a number of Safeguarding Policies and Guidelines which all those who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults are expected to follow and comply with. Copies of these can be found on the Church Website

· Parish Safeguarding Policy; a copy of this is also on display in each Church and at the Church Centre
· Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying and Harassment
· Safer Working Practices
· Policy for the Use of Social Media
· Domestic Abuse Statement
· Safeguarding Agreement for the Hiring of Premises
· Safer Recruitment and People Management
· Recruitment of Ex Offenders
· Responding to Safeguarding Allegations or Concerns

All policies and guidelines are reviewed annually.
The Benefice works in line with the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook which is supported by use of the Safeguarding Dashboard (see 1. above)

6. Safeguarding Learning and Development

All volunteers / staff who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults undertake mandatory Safeguarding Training provided by the Church of England online or face to face.
The core pathways are Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership
· The majority complete Basic Awareness and Foundation Training.
· In addition, leaders of some activities / groups are expected to complete Leadership Training.
· The PSO and Churchwardens also complete Leadership Training.
· Clergy, Lay Worship Leaders and Assistants and Readers also complete leadership Training
These trainings are renewed at the highest level every three years.
In our Benefice we provide face to face training at Foundation Level every three years.
Face to face training was organised in October 2022. It is our intention to offer the Foundation training again in Autumn 2025.
The Churchwardens and PSO also complete Safer Recruitment Training every three years.
Training Completed 2024 -25

Course	Number	Role
Basic Awareness	0	Volunteers / PCC
Foundation	3	Volunteers / PCC
Leadership	0	Activity Leaders
Safer Recruitment	2	PSO & CW
Awareness of Domestic Abuse	1	PCC

7. Safer Recruitment and People Management

The churches are compliant with C of E guidance regarding Safer Recruitment and People Management.
When appointing paid staff at least one member of the interviewing panel will have completed Safer Recruitment Training.
All relevant guidance has been followed in recruiting to paid and voluntary roles.
All activity leaders are aware of their responsibilities when recruiting new volunteers.
New volunteers are expected to complete an application form and provide referees as well as undergoing a DBS check.

8. Safeguarding Concerns

One safeguarding concern was raised within the Parishes. Advice was sought from the Diocese and followed. A record of the incident and actions was made and filed.

9. Safeguarding Sunday

Family Holy Communion on Sunday 17th November at the Church Centre was a special service for Safeguarding Sunday prepared by Pauline Nixon and Jo Claridge. The Makin Report and the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury had been in the news the previous week, so it was timely. A video message from Bishop Michael addressing the issue was shown at the start of the service as well as a specially produced video from thirty one-eight which was used as a reflection.
Jo Claridge, Safeguarding Officer.

9. ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT 2024

The Electoral Roll was reviewed in April 2024. There were 88 on the St James's Roll (an increase of 1 on 2023) and 34 on the All Saints Roll (an increase of 1 on 2023) making a total of 122. A copy of the Electoral Roll was displayed on the notice boards of both churches after the 2024 APCM. The six year complete revision of the Electoral Roll will take place in April 2025.
Sarah Gunn, Electoral Roll Officer

10. CHURCH LOG BOOKS, INVENTORIES AND TERRIERS

St James's Church

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date. The documents are filed in the Church Office and are available for inspection if required.

All Saints

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date, and they are kept in the safe in the Church Room.

11. FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH

During 2024 the Committee of Friends of St James's has successfully organised its normal schedule of events and contributed modest amounts to the reserves, which remain healthy. We remain committed to the churchyard lighting refurbishment which it is hope will be executed in early 2025.
Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to Janet White (Chair) and Jason Schofield (Treasurer) who successfully and enthusiastically steered the Friends for several years. Thank you both for your sterling service. We have been most fortunate to have added Alison Haynes to the Committee. Thank you Alison.

Our greatest challenge is recruiting new members/Committee members but we remain optimistic that a new generation will come forward to lead the Friends as the current members inevitably retire.

12. SERIOUS INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS

Our Charity Number is 1173106

All charities with an income over £25,000 have to report Serious Incidents to the Commission. A Serious Incident is:

An adverse event, actual or alleged which results in or risks significant:

- Loss to the charity's money or assets
- Damage to the charity's property
- Harm to the charity's work, beneficiaries or reputation.

There were no Serious Incidents to report in 2023.

13. STEWARDS in 2024

St James's

Senior Stewards

Derrick CLARIDGE
Beth CUTMORE
Hugh GUNN
Sarah GUNN
Martin HAGEN
John HAYTER

Stewards

Dorothy BALDWIN
Jo CLARIDGE
Barbara COOK
Hilary HAGEN
Chris HAYTER
Ian HINE
Margaret LISTER

All Saints Stewards

Tony CALLOW
Douglas OGRAM
Angela MORRIS
Jan WELLING

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

St James the Great, Winscombe

All Saints, Sandford

4th May 2025

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

St James the Great and All Saints
Accounts for
Year Ended 31st December 2024

Parish of Winscombe and Sandford
Explanatory Note to the Annual Accounts for 2024

1. **Introduction**
The Annual Accounts are presented in the form issued by the Diocese of Bath & Wells to all their parishes, as introduced in 2020.

2. **Financial governance**
Through the year, the Treasurer completes the Diocesan Cashbook and compares the outturn against budget. The PCC regularly receives finance reports that enable it to monitor income and expenditure against the budget. After the Financial Year has ended on 31st December, the Annual Accounts are extracted from the Diocesan Cashbook. The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 were approved by the PCC at their Meeting on 4th March 2025

3. **Brief overview Parish/Benefice Share - the largest expenditure item for both Churches**
For both churches the Parish/Benefice Share requested by the Diocese is by far the biggest outgoing. According to the Diocese, there are three elements to the Benefice Share request:

- The cost of deploying stipendiary clergy in a benefice
- A proportion of diocesan costs
- A mutuality and generosity contribution for those identified as needing particular additional support, including areas of multiple deprivation or significant rural sparsity.

The Diocese calculate figures for each church by including the Statistics for Mission data and the attendance data returned by each parish every year.
In 2024 the amounts requested of our Parish were:

- All Saints £7,461
- St James's £65,300

The PCC took the decision that the churches could not afford this and voted to pay 85% of these requests; however at the end of the Financial Year both churches were able to pay a 'top-up' which meant 93% of the amount requested was paid.

As a Charitable Trust, we send a copy of our Accounts to the Charity Commission as required.

Independent Examiner's

Report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner Date: 26 March 2025

:

Winscombe & Sandford - St James the Great Winscombe's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Receipts	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	**2024 £**	*2023 £*	Accounts List code
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		41,937	-	-	**41,937**	*51,740*	1
Collections, donations & other giving		765	-	-	**765**	*3,107*	2
Income tax recovered		10,600	-	-	**10,600**	*11,203*	3
Legacies		8,002	-	2,500	**10,502**	*-*	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		13,697	-	-	**13,697**	*11,232*	5
Income from other Properties		3,625	-	-	**3,625**	*3,570*	6
Annual Fete/events		4,765	-	-	**4,765**	*3,150*	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		3,996	-	-	**3,996**	*3,457*	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		5,319	-	-	**5,319**	*4,915*	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		-	-	-	**-**	*364*	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	11
Loans received		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	12
Other		5,947	-	-	**5,947**	*5,549*	13
Total Receipts		**98,653**	**-**	**2,500**	**101,153**	*98,287*	
Payments							
Charitable activities:							
Donations/Grants to charities		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	14
Mission & Evangelism		(274)	-	-	**(274)**	*(428)*	15
Parish Share		(60,505)	-	-	**(60,505)**	*(59,366)*	16
Clergy expenses		(407)	-	-	**(407)**	*(719)*	17
Church running expenses		(6,687)	-	-	**(6,687)**	*(12,568)*	18
Churchyard maintenance		-	-	-	**-**	*(1,717)*	19
Cost of raising funds		(10,758)	-	-	**(10,758)**	*(10,609)*	20
Support costs		(111)	-	-	**(111)**	*(56)*	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)		(14,305)	-	(47)	**(14,352)**	*(10,943)*	22
Governance Costs		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	24
Other		(7,927)	-	-	**(7,927)**	*(5,708)*	23
Major expenditure							
Repairs to church buildings		-	-	(1,202)	**(1,202)**	*(6,656)*	25
Repairs to other property		-	-	-	**-**	*(1,500)*	26
Capital purchases/additions		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	27
Loan repayments		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	28
Total payments		**(100,974)**	**-**	**(1,249)**	**(102,223)**	*(110,270)*	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments		**(2,322)**	**-**	**1,251**	**(1,071)**	*(11,983)*	
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	**-**	*-*	
		(2,322)	-	1,251	**(1,071)**	*(11,983)*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		75,578	-	42,318	**117,896**	*129,878*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec		73,257	-	43,569	**116,826**	*117,895*	

St James The Great Winscombe 2024 Annual Accounts
Notes on Receipts and Payments Page
(numbers correspond with column Accounts List Code)

1. Planned Giving is down by £8K which is mainly due to money coming in from the Ukrainian Government Scheme in 2023. The 'Sum-up' Box in St James's raised £356 from visitors attending services or just passing.
4. We were very lucky to receive 3 Legacies in 2024 totally over £10K. This enabled the PCC to decide to pay 93% of the Parish Share.
5. Church Hall bookings are continuing to grow.
6. The Churchyard Room continues to be let.
7. Fundraising has done well in 2024, once again achieving over Budget aims.
13. This includes the monthly contributions to the Benefice Administrator costs by All Saints and St John's and to Insurance costs by All Saints.
16. 93% of 2024 Parish Share request from the Diocese. One third of our worshipping community gives less than the Diocesan norm, although we are very blessed to have some generous contributors.
18. Church Running Expenses include minor repairs, routine maintenance, heating, flowers, music and 'provision of services'.
20. Includes the costs of running Birch Cottage and the Church Centre. Birch Cottage, although empty, has to be kept dry and there are still Insurance and Council Tax costs.
23. Insurance costs.

As at 31st December 2024 St James's Assets consisted of the following:

	2024	**2023**
Nat West General Bank Account	£17,397	£22,290
Nat West Church Centre Renovation Account	£43,569	£42,318
COIF Deposit Account	£55,795	£53,076
SOLDO Card (CC used for paying for goods online)	£ 66	£ 213
Investments	£30,516	£29,830
Buildings and Land	363,000	£363,000

Charitable Giving by St James's in 2023

There was no separate Charitable Giving by St James's in 2024 but there were two Charity Cafe Churches during the year which were supported by all three churches in the Benefice, at which the following was raised:

- Christian Aid – February 2024 £320.00
- Christians Against Poverty – money was donated directly after the event

Gift Aid was raised on the following and paid November 2024

DEC 2023 Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal - £432.45
Elizabeth-Ann 2023 Appeal – £369.25
2022 Ukrainian Appeal - £ 1809.20

As the church is being used as an Agent the money does not appear in our Accounts because the figures are posted in Code 730 which is not reflected in the R & P page.

Return of Parish Finance	6 digit Parish Code	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:	Deanery:	Locking
January to December 2024	Parish name:	James the Great Wir	St James the Great, Winscombe	Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 38,772	£ -
2	Other planned giving	£ 3,164	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ 72	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ 693	£ -
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 10,600	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ 8,002	£ 2,500
8	Grants (Include recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 61,303**	**£ 2,500**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 4,765	£ -
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 7,621	£ -
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 5,319	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	£ 14,398	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ 5,245	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 98,651	
B	Restricted	£ 2,500	
C	TOTAL	£ 101,151	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		
	This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook		

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ 961	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ -	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 60,505	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ 2,940	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 518	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ 274	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 21,892	£ 47
24	Church utility bills	£ 3,046	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ 9,797	£ -
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ -	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ -	£ -
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ 1,202
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 98,972**	**£ 1,249**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ 359	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 100,292	
E	Restricted	£ 1,249	
F	TOTAL	£ 101,541	

	Cash and Investment Balances	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2024	£ 73,257	£ 43,569
32	Investments as at 31 Dec 2024	£ 393,516	£ -

	Account basis: on which basis are your accounts prepared (indicate ONE)	
30	Receipts and payments [X]	Accruals [ ]

Winscombe & Sandford - All Saints Sandford's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 £	2023 £	Accounts List code
Receipts							
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		6,576	-	10	**6,586**	*7,202*	1
Collections, donations & other giving		157	-	178	**335**	*900*	2
Income tax recovered		2,449	-	-	**2,449**	*2,148*	3
Legacies		-	-	-	**-**	-	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		-	-	-	**-**	-	5
Income from other Properties		-	-	-	**-**	-	6
Annual Fete/events		2,053	-	1,695	**3,748**	*4,516*	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		407	-	146	**553**	*357*	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		267	-	-	**267**	*103*	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		-	-	-	**-**	-	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-	-	**-**	-	11
Loans received		-	-	-	**-**	-	12
Other		-	-	-	**-**	-	13
Total Receipts		**11,909**	**-**	**2,029**	**13,938**	*15,226*	
Payments							
Charitable activities:							
Donations/Grants to charities		-	-	-	**-**	-	14
Mission & Evangelism		-	-	-	**-**	*(115)*	15
Parish Share		(5,814)	-	-	**(5,814)**	*(6,600)*	16
Clergy expenses		(480)	-	-	**(480)**	*(511)*	17
Church running expenses		(1,927)	-	-	**(1,927)**	*(6,445)*	18
Churchyard maintenance		-	-	-	**-**	*(55)*	19
Cost of raising funds		-	-	-	**-**	-	20
Support costs		-	-	-	**-**	*(86)*	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)		(1,847)	-	-	**(1,847)**	*(2,017)*	22
Governance Costs		-	-	-	**-**	-	24
Other		(1,246)	-	-	**(1,246)**	*(1,064)*	23
Major expenditure							
Repairs to church buildings		-	-	-	**-**	-	25
Repairs to other property		-	-	-	**-**	-	26
Capital purchases/additions		-	-	-	**-**	-	27
Loan repayments		-	-	-	**-**	-	28
Total payments		**(11,314)**	**-**	**-**	**(11,314)**	*(16,893)*	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments		**595**	**-**	**2,029**	**2,624**	*(1,667)*	
Transfers between funds		(10,000)	-	10,000	**-**	-	
		(9,405)	-	12,029	**2,624**	*(1,667)*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		21,584	-	2,849	**24,433**	*26,099*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec		12,179	-	14,878	**27,057**	*24,432*	

All Saints, Sandford 2024 Annual Accounts
Notes on Receipts and Payments Page
(numbers correspond with column Accounts List code)

1. Planned giving is 9% down on 2023

7. Fund Raising events which include Community Cafe and other fund raising events.

16. Parish Share is 93% of the Diocesan Request. It is covered by Regular Giving and supplemented by regular Community Cafe Donations.

Parochial Fees – the low sum is due to money for 3 funerals being paid into St James's account and only transferred to All Saints in early 2025. There are the usual timing and reconciliation differences between All Saints and St James's because all the Parochial Fees are paid into St James's.

In June 2024 the PCC agreed that £10,000 should be moved from the General Account to the Building Fund in order to finance the refurbishing of the Church Room.

All Saints' Assets

	2024	**2023**
Nat West General Bank Account	£12,179	£21,584
Nat West Building Fund Account	£14,879	£ 2,849

Return of Parish Finance	Parish code: (6 digits)	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:	Deanery:	Locking
January to December 2024	Parish name:	Saints Sandford, St J		Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 5,284	£ 10
2	Other planned giving	£ 1,292	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ -	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ 157	£ 178
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 2,449	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ -	£ -
8	Grants [Include recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 9,182**	**£ 188**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 2,053	£ 1,695
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 407	£ 146
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 267	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	£ -	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 11,909	
B	Restricted	£ 2,029	
C	TOTAL	£ 13,938	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		
	This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook		

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ -	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ -	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 5,814	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ 80	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 480	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ -	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 3,509	£ -
24	Church utility bills	£ 1,432	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ -	£ -
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ -	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ -	£ -
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ -
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 11,315**	**£ -**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 11,315	
E	Restricted	£ -	
F	TOTAL	£ 11,315	

	Cash and Investment Balances	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2024	£ 12,179	£ 14,879
32	Investments as at 31 Dec 2024	£ -	£ -
	Account basis: on which basis are your accounts prepared (indicate ONE)		
30	**Receipts and payments [X]**	Accruals [ ]	

*produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner
The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner Date: 26 March 2025

:

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173106

Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

St James the Great,Winscombe

21st APRIL 2024

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2024 Agenda, Minutes of 2023APCM
& Reports for
St James the Great and All Saints
for the year ended
31st December 2023

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parishioners Meeting 2024

Election of Churchwardens

To be held at the Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on

Sunday 21st April at 11.30am

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer (Revd Andrew Hiscox)
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 2023 Annual Parishioners Meeting
4. Matters arising from the 2023 Annual Parishioners Meeting
5. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at St James's
6. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at All Saints
7. Close of Meeting

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parishioners' Meeting
Sunday 30th April 2023 at 15.00 hrs
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Minutes

Item		Action
1. Welcome and Opening Prayer by the Chairman	The Revd. Andrew Hiscox welcomed everyone to the meeting with a prayer	
Attended by:	23 members attended the meeting	
2. Apologies for Absence	The following had given their apologies before the meeting: Alison Butcher, Diana Williams, John Jenkins, Sue Reed, Steve Reed, Hilary Hagen, Martin Hagen, Dorothy Baldwin, Jan Welling.	
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parishioners Meeting held on 15th May 2022	The approval of the minutes was : Proposed by: Hugh Gunn Seconded by: Ian Hine and this was endorsed by all those present. Accordingly, the Chairman signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising	There were no matters arising.	
5. Election of Churchwardens	<u>Nomination for St James's</u> 1. Ian Hine Proposed by: Bill Wallace Seconded by: John Hayter <u>Nomination for All Saints</u> 1. Diana Williams Proposed by: Tony Callow Seconded by: Jan Welling 2. Douglas Ogram Proposed by: Jan Welling Seconded by: Tony Callow The meeting endorsed these nominations unanimously. The Chairman expressed his sincere thanks to Derrick Claridge, Ian Hine, Diana Williams and Douglas Ogram who had carried out their duties so well over the past year. As Derrick Claridge was retiring as Churchwarden for St James the Chairman expressed his thanks to Derrick for all his hard work and presented him with a gift from the church community.	Results of Election Form to be displayed **(WDC)**
Closing remarks		
	The Meeting closed at 15.15 hrs	

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

To be held at The Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on
Sunday 21st April at 11.30am

AGENDA

1. **Welcome (Andrew Hiscox)**

2. **Apologies for Absence**

3. **Minutes of the APCM 2023 (with respect to 2022)**

4. **Matters Arising from the 2023 Minutes not covered by the Agenda**

5. **Reports**
   5.1 Report on the Fabric of St James and All Saints
   5.2 Financial Statements for year ending 31st December 2023
   5.3 Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod 2023
   5.4 Safeguarding Report
   5.5 Fresh Foundations/Church Centre Development

6. **Electoral Roll - Changes**

7. **Elections and Appointments**
   7.1 Elections for PCC
   7.2 Appointment of Stewards to St James and All Saints
   7.3 Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC

8. **Vicar's Address**

9. **Closing Remarks and Prayers**

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Monday 30th April 2023 at 3.00 pm
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Minutes

Item		
1. Welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a prayer.	
Attended by :	23 members attended the meeting	
2. Apologies for Absence	The following had given their apologies before the meeting: Alison Butcher, Diana Williams, John Jenkins, Sue Reed, Steve Reed, Hilary Hagen, Martin Hagen, Dorothy Baldwin, Jan Welling.	
3. Minutes of the APCM held on 15th May 2022	The approval of the minutes of the 2022 APCM was Proposed by: Beth Cutmore Seconded by: Sarah Gunn and this was endorsed unanimously. Accordingly, the Chair signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes and not covered elsewhere on the Agenda	No Matters were raised	
5. Annual Reports	5.1. Fabric The Chair, Andrew Hiscox, reported that the Fabric reports for both churches had both been circulated before the meeting and were also available in hard copy at the meeting to give everyone the opportunity to study them. There were no questions on these reports. Andrew Hiscox thanked all the Wardens for their constant endeavours over the past year. 5.2. Finance Hugh Gunn presented the reports noting that: St James's The surplus for the year of £13K had been corrected by the Examiner to £15K. The surplus was due to a number of factors, tight cost control , the income held up and includes a legacy of nearly £8K. The Parish Share paid was £54K, slightly less than the amount due. However for 2023 the full amount of the Parish Share will be paid which is just under £60K.	

	All Saints There was a deficit of £14K in the year primarily due to £22K being paid for planned repairs. The Parish Share of £6K was paid in full. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Hugh and Sarah Gunn for all their work in looking after the Churches' finances. 5.3. Deanery Synod A report was not available this year but full details of the meetings of the Deanery Synod were available for inspection if required. The Chairman thanked Dorothy Baldwin and Angela Morris for their excellent work in representing the Benefice on the Deanery Synod. 5.4. Safeguarding Report The Chairman praised the Safeguarding Team for their clear and effective work in this most important area and in particular thanked Jo Claridge for her excellent work as our Safeguarding Officer. It was noted that there had been no serious incidents that required a report to the Charity Commission in 2022. The Chairman highlighted the other items covered in the Report that recorded the wonderful work done by many volunteers including: • The Pastoral Team • Signpost - the Parish Magazine • Music and Choir • Coffee Mornings and Cafés • Church Cleaning • Flower arranging • Bell Ringing • Support for Charities He wanted to thank all those who contribute so much to the life of the Church, and the Secretary was also thanked for his contribution. After this discussion, the Chairman asked the meeting to approve the Report and this was agreed unanimously. 5.5 Church Centre Development A presentation was made by Derrick Claridge and Alison Haynes, members of the Development Group, who provided more details of this project. The Church Centre was showing signs of age with a roof that needed	

	replacing and foundations which had been damaged by a neighbouring hedge. The existing Centre is not suited to the Vision for the Church in the Parish to be at the heart of the Community. Alison reported that the Urban Design Group had been contracted to apply for Outline Planning Permission for the proposed development. The Development Group was now looking at different sources of funding while there was also the possibility of having to sell part of the land at the rear of the site to part fund the project. Once Outline Planning is received then the project would be brought back to the PCC for approval of the next stage of the development. A public meeting is planned for 11th June.	
6. Electoral Roll	Sarah Gunn reported that there were now 125 people on the Electoral Roll - 92 at St James's and 33 at All Saints.	
7. Elections and Appointments	7.1. Elections for the PCC All Saints It is hoped that a regular worshipper at All Saints, Simon Crew, would be co-opted to the PCC at the next meeting in addition to Jan Welling. St James's There were two nominations for re-election to the PCC: Derrick Claridge Proposed by: Beth Cutmore Seconded by: Jo Claridge Sarah Gunn Proposed by: Bill Wallace Seconded by: John Hayter These nominations were passed by the meeting. 7.2. Appointment of Stewards The meeting agreed unanimously the appointment of the Stewards as listed on page 19 of the Annual Report. 7.3. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC The appointment of Dick Beath as the Independent Examiner was endorsed, and Hugh Gunn will seek confirmation of this.	
8. Address by the Vicar	The Vicar gave an address drawing on his Annual Report focusing on the shared vision for the Parish of putting the love of Christ at the heart of the Community. He highlighted the presence of 5 schools in the Benefice with Churchill where the schools team were able to bring the bible stories to students who often had little or no knowledge of the Christian bible. He also highlighted the presence of 5 care homes in the Benefice with Churchill visited by the team on a regular basis and the presence of 5 Home Groups.	

	Finally the Vicar emphasised that the way forward was to take the church to the people which would be assisted greatly by an improved Church Centre in the village.	
9. Closing Prayer	The meeting closed with a prayer at 4.30 pm.	

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
REPORTS FOR ST JAMES THE GREAT, WINSCOMBE
AND
ALL SAINTS, SANDFORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1. OUR SHARED VISION

Quite simply, we want to put the love of Christ in the heart of the Community. That is what we believe the Lord is saying to us at this time, as three churches that have the potential to become one community of faith, three buildings, one church centre, one body of Christ. It is a time for us to begin **reaching** out more to our community to understand and engage them, and to be bold and courageous as we do so. We have two major new housing estates that we'd like to reach out to and give them a warm welcome to our church community and our wider community. We have strong ecumenical links, working with the Quakers, the Lynch Chapel, the Catholics and most recently the Methodists in Churchill. There are opportunities to benefit from the gifts God has given our brothers and sisters in these denominations to work together for the glory of God. We want to take **welcoming** further, recognising that we have 5 schools in our benefice and to that end we want to make sure our buildings look inviting to young families and we also want to have people who are willing to help minister in our schools, helping the young hear about the good news of Jesus.

We want to be **caring**, thinking especially of our 5 care homes, with whom we share Communion in the Community on a monthly basis. We want to care for all folk in our community, **serving** them in practical ways like meeting their needs through coffee mornings, home communions, community cafes, Café Church, Messy Church and Family Communions - our caring actions speaking of Christ's love. We remember Christ's command to make disciples, by giving Bible based **teaching** through our regular services and study courses and home groups.

But we need people to help make this vision a reality. That's where you come in. Consider what we are and who God is calling us to minister to. We are three churches - to each of you God has given you gifts for use in his service, whether that's an upfront or behind the scenes role. Now is the time to get involved. So, '***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland'. (v3, v9)***

2. CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORTS FOR 2023

St James's

A year of steady advance now that the pandemic is fading into the background.

The attendance at our young people orientated activities are encouraging both 'in house' and in our schools, with many parents remarking on how much the children enjoy learning the Christian message. Thanks must be given to everyone in the team for making these activities so enjoyable.

Tuesday Coffee Mornings are well attended with everyone enjoying a 'natter and a cuppa' with an especially enjoyable Remembrance Morning when Year 6 from Winscombe School attended and we were all fortunate to hear from two ex-members of the Armed Forces who explained to the children about the medals they were wearing. The adults seemed absorbed too!

We are very fortunate to have the services of a loyal team to open and close the Church daily. Glancing through the visitors book it is amazing to note how well regarded our Church is both locally and with visitors alike. It is not always the building (beautiful though it is) but often the sense of Peace (capital letter deliberate) than emanates that is remarked upon. Thank you, team.

May saw the Coronation of his Majesty King Charles 111 and Queen Camilla the church family celebrated along with the village at this event which many of us will only experience once in our lives. The bells proclaimed the happy news far and wide.

Another well received item is Signpost Magazine which is growing from strength to strength, with many village activities as well as Church based events being included. The availability of this in an electronic as well as a paper version has opened up the possibility of many more people receiving it. We are fortunate to have had the services of a dedicated and hard working team to collate and produce this throughout the year. Thank you.

Refreshment – the breakfast for the menfolk has relocated to the Woodborough Hotel where we feel quite at home. The monthly meetings are well supported and enjoyed by all, with the occasional guest speaker, when the meetings are usually open to the Ladies to come along. Again, thanks must go to those behind the scenes who arrange this for us.

We have been delighted to be able to extend the length of time that Birch Cottage has provided a safe peaceful haven for our Ukrainian Family. We have enjoyed having them as part of our community , but waved goodbye to them at the end of the year as they headed for pastures new nearby. Dorothy Baldwin and Alison Haynes were our 'Link' with the family and we also owe them thanks for uniting the whole community to enable this to happen.

Towards the years end the second 'Carols by Lantern Light was put on at the Church Centre. As with last year this was extremely well received by the community. Santa arriving to dwell in his grotto, seasonal refreshments, music, singing and more - even the weather played ball. This looks like an annual event however it can only take place if people are willing to give time to volunteer to help. The team do a fantastic job, but please do consider if you can help.

Throughout the year, various tasks have been taking place.

The gate post in the Church carpark seems to attract the wrong kind of attention - the magnetic kind! Once again it was dislodged, probably by a heavy goods vehicle. It was temporarily propped in place until it was fixed permanently in position.

There was an area of dead and dying wood noticed in the yew tree. Tree surgeons visited and removed the dead wood, this left a better view of the heart of the tree which thankfully was in better condition than feared. It now looks quite healthy and happy. The stone seat surrounding the base of the tree had been pushed apart as the tree had grown. After taking advise from an arboreal expert it was decide to remove the stonework to allow the tree to grow and to reduce the chance of infection entering the lower portion of the trunk. This was done in the summer and the trunk was found to not be damaged as feared it might be. The intention is to replace the seating with wooden benches when the weather improves. Staying in the Churchyard, an oil monitoring device was fitted to the oil tank to enable us to remotely take oil level readings (no more fiddling with a dipstick!) so we should not run the risk of running out of oil in the future.

During the year the emergency lighting system in the tower was upgraded. The spiral staircase was quite 'murky' in places, so it is good to lessen the risk of an accident, and perhaps go some way to encouraging more people to take up bellringing, We are woefully short of ringers and often share ringing with other towers to make up the numbers. This means the bells are no longer rung for every service. Thank you, Ringers for the joyous sound you make when we have a team.
Conversations have been ongoing with the Friends of St. Jame's to look at the possibility of up grading the Churchyard Lighting which is coming to the end of its useful life. An attempt to temporarily provide relief with solar lighting was not as successful as hoped despite pre-installation tests. Watch this space!
My thanks go to Derrick Claridge for his support with all of the above even though he is no longer a Churchwarden.
Finally I know that many people have been missed in this report but my thanks go to you all. You know all the time and effort you have put in over the year, whether cleaning the building, polishing the brass or making the tea; THANK YOU
Ian. Churchwarden.
April 2024

All Saints Church Wardens' and Fabric Report 2023

We have had an encouraging year at All Saints church Sandford.
With thanks to our Vicar Andrew, our Curate Jacqui and the ministry team celebrating and officiating at our church. We have had services at All Saints on three Sundays each month which have been either Holy Communion or Parish praise. A weekday Holy Communion service is held on Tuesday mornings.
The popular community café has taken place on the 1st Saturday morning of each month which is held in the church. This social event is always well attended with delicious soups, cakes, coffee and tea provided. It is run by Llyn Callow and her hard-working team. In this way, between £350 and £400 are raised through voluntary donations each month which go towards All Saints, Sandford church funds.
On the 3rd of March we held our popular yearly quiz and raffle with over ten good humoured and very competitive teams vying with each other to obtain the top score. It took place in the village hall and the funds raised went towards the building fund.
On May 8th we had a special service for the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. The decorations in the church were amazing. In the afternoon we had a coronation tea for the older (and younger) members of the village which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.
On 23rd September we had our delicious Autumn Ploughmans supper. This was produced by our fine team of helpers and the food was washed down by cider generously donated by Thatchers. The funds raised went towards the church building fund.
On the 7th of December we were delighted to welcome 77 members of the Womens Institute from local branches to All Saints church for their Annual Christmas Carol service. The Sandford Handbell ringers enthusiastically opened the service and members of the WI read the traditional and more contemporary seasonal readings.
On the 14th December our local community Carol Singing took place outside 'Sandford Premier Stores' who kindly provided mulled wine, hot sausage rolls and mince pies.
On Christmas Eve at 8pm a large congregation filled our beautifully decorated church for our annual Carol Service. Seasonal fare was generously provided following the service accompanied by the joyous tones of the handbell ringers.

All Saints Fabric Report

The external doors leading to the church room and toilets were replaced on May 9th . The original doors were rotten at the bottom, only single glazed and they opened inwards. The new doors are double glazed for better insulation, they let more light in and allow wheelchairs to enter
The Scouts painted the gate at the entrance of the porch with black rust proof paint. This has made a difference as the gate was beginning to look very rusty.
A technician from Bristol Sound systems visited All saints on July 30th, 2023 to fix problems with the loudspeakers and sound system.

The fire extinguishers were checked on December 3rd and a new fire blanket supplied.
We applied to Thatchers for a grant to help with the renovation of the church room and toilet. Bill Witter helped us with the application. The church room has damp due to a wrongly positioned damp course being included when the church room was built. We intend to remove the old existing cupboards and sink unit and replace it with a better sink unit, overhead and under the work top cupboards, an oven and new work tops. The small sink alcove will become part of the toilet. The door of the toilet will be enlarged for wheelchair access and the toilet and sink fittings will be suitable for disabled users. These improvements will enable the church room to be better used to provide catering for both church and community events. This year the church room has been a venue for our local Alpha course.
Diana Williams Douglas Ogram
Church wardens

3. FRESH FOUNDATIONS (CHURCH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT TEAM) REPORT 2023

BACKGROUND

Church Centre Development Team was initiated by Winscombe and Sandford Parochial Church Council in February 2022. There were a number of issues with the current Church Centre and plans for a third Church, St John's of Churchill to join the Benefice were underway, thus creating the need for a larger building to accommodate the new congregation. Also increase in population due to large housing estates and the demand for good quality community space was increasing.
A sum of £40,000 was left as a legacy for the improvement of the Church Centre, this enabled the team to fund the necessary reports and professional services to meet the success criteria.
A larger sum has been pledged (by a person who wishes to be anonymous) for the purpose of improving the centre and leaving a legacy.

Why was the project necessary.

I. Old building/structural/maintenance issues. Costly, Not energy efficient.
II. Too small to accommodate expanding congregation with increased use for worship/3 Churches
III. Lack of flexibility for use of building
IV. Unattractive externally, lack of bio diversity and garden design
V. Unattractive internally, not fulfilling full potential, lack of socializing area
VI. Does not support Church Parish Vision

How the Project was rooted/part of in an overall organization strategy.

I. Part of the Parish Vision – providing fully accessible Place of Worship in Winscombe
II. Increase mission through community hospitality
III. Potential business case for Wedding Receptions/increase lettings

What were the goals

I. Be a modern centre for all 3 Churches
II. Physically more welcoming
III. Increase Church Youth Activities
IV. To have obtained planning permission that is fit for purpose and affordable to build

The success of the project was measured by obtaining Planning permission. This was granted by North Somerset council in October 2023.

Budget and budget break down – Aim to obtain success criteria as economically and efficiently as possible.
Total spend of this project £7,272.00
David Gough legacy 1.9.21 +£40,000.00 +£40,000
Robinson Clarke -£ 1,800.00
Fenswood Ecology -£ 380.00
Planning Application -£ 526.00
Topographic survey -£ 1,856.00
UDP fees -£ 1,500.00
Robinson Clarke -£ 180.00
UDP fees -£ 828.00 Bal +£32,728.00

Scope What is not included in this project – Not to obtain Building Regulation Permission. Not to include any form of construction. At the conclusion of this project a new project was initiated by the PCC in January 2024.
Consultation with stake holders and the community (PCC/St Johns, Stakeholders/neighbours/other community providers in villages, congregation, parish council, NSC planning dept, diocese)
· Open events took place in June and July 2023, with reasons, outcomes and potential building design. Enable dialogue and request involvement in the project.
· Consultation with relevant groups via letter, email, open meeting and social media
· Feed back from these groups used to inform the options appraisal final paper for PCC decision also used in planning application
PROJECT STRUCTURE
SPONSOR – PCC members during 2022 and 2023
PROJECT TEAM – Chair Alison Haynes, Treasurer Derrick Claridge (no independent budget is held by this group). Team members (not all in post for the whole project period) Rev Andrew Hiscox, Dorothy Baldwin, Iain Hine, Douglas Ogram, Nigel Carson, Tony Callow, Emma Stocks.
SUB-GROUP FUND RAISING - Alison Haynes, Rosie Thurling, Jo Claridge
CONCLUSION – HAS THE PROJECT BEEN SUCESSFUL-
To have obtained planning permission that is fit for purpose and affordable to build
· The development of an enthusiastic, thorough and robust project team with professional skills and mix of secular and Church Members.
· Outline planning permission obtained for drawings option 3.
· Is the design affordable to build? This has not been answered fully. It is feasible using donations from the congregation, external corporate donors and grant applications but this has not been proven in this project. This will be established as part of Project 2 and will form part of the key aims.
· Is the design of the building fit for purpose? The project team found that further work on the internal designs and scale of increasing the building/removing and new build options need to be carried out. This will form an essential part of Building Regulations specification. As the scope of this project does not include obtaining Building Regulations Permission this work will be carried out in Project 2
· The Ecology Report, Topographical Report and outline planning permission will be utilised in any redevelopment of the site. We now have the knowledge that the site is permissible to be developed.
· The consultations with neighbours, stakeholder and church members has given valuable insight.
· A project name, Fresh Foundations - logo and brand has been developed.
NEXT STAGES
Fresh Foundations Project 2, launched in Jan 2024 - key deliverables:
· Structural Engineers report of extent of subsidence and roof repairs with recommendations for repairs including robustness of structure for future extensions/improvements
· Establish range of redevelopment options
· Quantity surveyor report to cost and create specification for each option
· Consultation on each option
· PCC to decide which option is way forward
· Where necessary architect plans of option and obtain planning permission
Fundraise and obtain Grants

4. OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

a. Pastoral Team (verbal report at the APCM

b. Signpost (Parish Magazine)

'Signpost 'was launched in September 2021 as a monthly online parish magazine covering Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill. Now in its third year, a monthly edition has been produced since then.

A team of five volunteers, Beth and Denys Cutmore, Ann and Douglas Ogram and Jo Claridge have formed the Editorial team since then. They have ensured that a monthly magazine has been produced. The magazine has been edited, compiled, proofread and emailed out. About 150 copies are also printed monthly and distributed via the churches and local shops. Several copies are hand delivered to those not able to access the internet. The team have also managed the commercial advertising.
Sue Smyth has been helping with some of these tasks over the last few months.

Future of the magazine

At the end of October, the members of the Editorial Team informed the PCC that they would be stepping down from producing the magazine from Easter 2024, their last edition being April 2024.

Distribution

The magazine is received by email, in full colour, to 281 addresses (an increase of 5 from 2023)
It is also available to download or read, in full colour, on the Church Website.
Approximately 150 printed black and white copies are distributed by hand as follows:

Churches:18
Church Centre:10+
Local Shops:52
Delivered by hand:46
Sheltered/Care Homes:15
Welcome packs 4+

Content

Our aim is to produce a magazine with varied content including church news, news from the villages and articles of interest to those living in the local area.
We have nearly 40 regular contributors.
The magazine is usually 48+ pages including advertising.

Advertising

The magazine currently carries 13 paid adverts.
The rates for 12 issues are as follows:
1/6 page: £42
1/3 page: £84
1/2 page: £126
Full page: £252
Advertisements provide an annual income of £1134, an increase of £420 since last year.
This income helps to offset the cost of printing in black and white which is approximately £50 per month.

c. Events Team – St James's

Background

An action from the May 2023 PCC away day was to set up an events team with focus on non religious activities. A scoping meeting was held on 7/7/23 which developed the following remit:-

· Focus on fun
· Grow our connections with people in village
· Raise money for St James Church
· Team open to anyone to join
· Events accessible and open to all
· Aim to hold an event every 2 months

Team members are Alison Haynes, Beth Cutmore, Jo Claridge, Helen Mc phearson, Jayne Smith, Sue Smyth, Martin and Hilary Hagen.

Events

HARVEST LUNCH Sunday 10th Sept, free ticket,
Monthly FILM CLUB
1st 'Mrs Harris goes to Paris' 40 people/new memberships £67 donations
2nd 'Fishermans Friends' 26 people inc 4 new members £47 donations

3rd The Duke,
4th 1/12/23 Nativity
FAB AUTUMN SUPPER – Bar raised £107 Raffle £185, overall profit £793.00
Promotion LATE NIGHT SHOPPING 5/12/23 – popular lucky dip took £122.50
BADGERSET Saturday 9/12/ 23 – very successful sold out approx 115 and rebooked for 7/12/24 Church Centre, 50% proceeds for St James £1,355 in total raised
WREATH MAKING –13th Dec Ticketed £25 inc mulled wine. £553.00 raised All felt it was very successful
CAROLS BY LANTERN LIGHT – Saturday 16th Dec – Well attended but children down to less than 50, date an issue too late in month and 2 other santa visit events in the village that day. Profit £395.21 but purchased 3 mobile flood lights and 2 tarpaulins and xmas lights from money.

Conclusion

Approx £3,000 raised with essential equipment for future events purchase. Great team who work well together and enjoy and have fun. Lots of creative ideas for future events. Many many occasions of engaging and getting to know more people in our community.
Over 6 events planned for 2024.

d. Music and Choir – St James's

2023 was a very positive year for the Choir. We were extremely glad to welcome Derek Jones as our new Organist in the spring and – while Clare Blythe continues her Maternity Leave – he is both leading and instructing the Choir as well as playing the Organ. The Choir is gaining confidence and we are once again singing the Communion Service on 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings and we are also extending our repertoire of Anthems. We are also robing once again on important Sundays and Festivals. The Music Group continues to provide music at the 3rd Sunday Family Holy Communion in the Church Centre and we also have a visiting Music Group who lead our singing at Café Church. Very many thanks to all who lead and support our music at St James's and the Church Centre

e. Church Cleaning – St James's

The Church continues to be cleaned on a regular basis by six teams of two people. Each team is responsible for two weeks at a time and can choose when and how often it should be cleaned during the two weeks. The Church always looks welcoming and we are extremely lucky to have such commitment to keeping the building looking cared for and clean. It would be wonderful if more people were interested in joining us – the more teams we have the less each individual has to do! Contact the Church Office (844650) if you would like to offer a couple of hours every six months.

f. Flower Arranging – St James's

During 2023 the five teams of Flower Arrangers at St James's continued to ensure that at all times (except during Advent and Lent) there are flowers in the church. Each team creates arrangements on a fortnightly basis that enhance the beauty of our Grade 1 listed building and we are deeply grateful to them for their talents. At important festivals all the teams gather together to make sure the church is bursting with flowers in the appropriate colours for the Liturgical season. During 2023 we welcomed newcomers to our teams and we would love it if more wanted to join. It is a very fulfilling and joyous contribution to be able to make to our church life and experience is not necessary!

Bellringers – St James's
(verbal report at the APCM)

5. THE PCC 2023

Report from the Secretary

At the first PCC Meeting after the 2023 APCM held on 2nd May 2023 the Standing Committee for the year were appointed :
Revd. Andrew Hiscox - Chairman
Diana Williams - Churchwarden, All Saints
Douglas Ogram - Churchwarden, All Saints
Ian Hine - Churchwarden, St James's
Sarah Gunn - Acting Treasurer
In addition the following were elected :
Electoral Roll Officer – Sarah Gunn
PCC Secretary – Bill Wallace
Independent Examiner – Dick Beath
In addition Jan Welling and Simon Crew were both co-opted onto the PCC.
In May 2023 it was decided by the Diocese to include the Parish of Churchill into the Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford and this proposal was publicised in the villages. In the same month discussions were held about the work needed on the Yew tree in St James churchyard.
In June there was a community meeting about the proposed development of the Church Centre with a presentation of the outline project. The application for Outline Planning permission was made in the same month. June also saw the ordination of our curate, Jackie Keir-Bucknall, at Wells Cathedral.
In July the first Alpha course finished with two more planned.
In the summer the Bishop recommended a return to the Common Cup away from Simultaneous Administration but Rev. Andrew decided to continue with both methods of distribution.
Safeguarding continues to be a priority for this Benefice with existing safeguarding policies being updated regularly and new policies being implemented by the Diocese.
In September it was agreed that Pastoral Care will now come under one umbrella for all three churches and the appropriate Diocesan training was arranged.
The concrete seat around the Yew Tree was removed and there was pruning of diseased branches.
In the autumn proposals were drawn up for the All Saints church room including the renovation of the kitchen, re-doing the damp proof course and renovating the toilet adding disabled access with a sliding door.
In October Outline Planning consent was received for the Church Centre Development, now called Fresh Foundations, with certain conditions with a time limit of 3 years for them to be carried out.
The tower lighting at St James was upgraded providing enhanced lighting.
Churches Together held several meetings during the year and the meeting in November included discussions on the future of this group.
In December the Ukrainian family living in Birch Cottage were offered accommodation by North Somerset Council and moved out during the month.
During the Christmas period 36 services were held including carol services and attendance had included over 1,000 young people from the schools.
The team publicising the Signpost magazine gave notice that they were stepping down, but a new team has been put in place which will enable this publication to continue.
Bill Wallace – PCC Minute Secretary

6. DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2023

There were four meetings this year. The additional meeting was a visit by the Bishop Michael of Bath and Wells on 9th November.
The March Synod was held at St Peter's Milton when the Deanery Deployment Plan was discussed and finalised. The Lay Dean, Haydn Taylor, explained that we had to reduce the number of Stipendiary (paid) Clergy by 16%, taking the number for Locking Deanery to15. In addition to this reduction Locking Deanery Vision and Mission Action Plan is seeking two additional posts, one for a permanent Stipendiary Clergy for Haywood Village Conventional District and a second for a Lay Pioneer to work with the Rector at St Barnabas

and the surrounding Magnificat communities of the Coronation and Oldmixon estates. These are two of the most socially deprived areas in the Diocese of Bath and Wells. I can report that the Revd. Fiona Mayne has been appointed as Associate Priest for Haywood Village and a part time pioneer lay worker for the Coronation and Oldmixon Estates is being sought.
The Summer Synod was held on 11thJuly at St John's Churchill. As it was the start of the new Synod, Andrew Hiscox was the celebrant at a Holy Communion Service which was followed by the election of members of both Clergy and Lay Houses to the Deanery Pastoral and Mission Group and other officers of the Deanery. It was reported that the Deanery Deployment Plan had been approved by the Diocese.
The Autumn Synod was held on 11 October 2032 at Clarence House in Weston super Mare. This is a retirement home owned by Locking Deanery Synod. It was reported that All Saints Weston super Mare is now under the oversight of a priest from Portishead Deanery, and Locking Castle Church has a Baptist minister. Both of whom are entitled to be members of Locking Deanery Synod.
9th November saw Deanery Synod Members meeting Bishop Michael at St Peter's Church, Milton. He was wanting to hear positive reports from around the Deanery and encourage Members. I asked if any account was taken by the Diocese of the burden having to maintain Grade 1 and Grade 11 listed buildings had on dwindling congregations. This is often at the expense of focusing on outreach and mission. He was not interested.
Dorothy Baldwin and Angela Morris

7. CHURCH SUPPORT FOR CHARITIES in 2022

(verbal Report at the APCM)

8. SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2023

1. Introduction

Safeguarding is a standing item at P.C.C. Meetings. A Safeguarding Report is presented and discussed at every meeting.
The Benefice works in line with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. The Benefice uses the Safeguarding Dashboard, a piece of software that makes administration and governance of safeguarding simpler.

2. Formal Obligation

The PCC has continued to comply with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
This means that we are committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

3. Safeguarding Roles

The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) for Winscombe and Sandford is Jo Claridge.
The Parish Safeguarding Officer for St John's is Pauline Hurst.
Details of how to contact the PSOs are displayed on the notice boards at each church and on the church website.
The two PSOs work closely together and the two PCCs within the Benefice have adopted the same policies, guidance and procedures in respect to safeguarding, to ensure a consistent approach.

4. DBS Checks

All volunteers who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults have to undergo a DBS Check.

The DBS Recruiter and Verifier is Jo Claridge.
DBS Certificates are renewed every 3 years.
The Diocese is now working with the Christian safeguarding charity thirtyone:eight for DBS checks.
47 people currently hold up to date DBS certificates (including 7 clergy) and are actively volunteering with adult or children's activities.

5. Safeguarding Policy, Guidance and Documentation

The Benefice has a number of Safeguarding Policies and Guidelines which all those who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults are expected to follow and comply with. Copies of these can be found on the Church Website

· Parish Safeguarding Policy; a copy of this is also on display in each Church and at the Church Centre
· Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying and Harassment
· Safer Working Practices
· Policy for the Use of Social Media
· Domestic Abuse Statement
· Safeguarding Agreement for the Hiring of Premises
· Safer Recruitment and People Management
· Recruitment of Ex Offenders
· Responding to Safeguarding Allegations or Concerns

All policies and guidelines are reviewed annually.
The Benefice works in line with the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook which is supported by use of the Safeguarding Dashboard (see 1. above)

6. Safeguarding Learning and Development

All volunteers / staff who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults undertake mandatory Safeguarding Training provided by the Church of England online or face to face.
The core pathways are Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership

· The majority complete Basic Awareness and Foundation Training.
· In addition, leaders of some activities / groups are expected to complete Leadership Training.
· The PSO and Churchwardens also complete Leadership Training.

These trainings are renewed at the highest level every three years.
In our Benefice we provide face to face training at Foundation Level every three years.
Face to face training was organised in October 2022 and all those who were required to attend did so.
Members of the PCC are also expected to complete the training in 'Awareness of Domestic Abuse' every three years.
The Churchwardens and PSO also complete Safer Recruitment Training every three years.
Training Completed 2023 -24

Course	Number	Role
Basic Awareness	2	Volunteers / PCC
Foundation	2	Volunteers / PCC
Leadership	3	Activity Leaders
Safer Recruitment	1	PSO
Awareness Domestic Abuse	3	PCC

7. Safer Recruitment and People Management

The churches are compliant with C of E guidance regarding Safer Recruitment and People Management.
When appointing paid staff at least one member of the interviewing panel will have completed Safer Recruitment Training.
All relevant guidance has been followed in recruiting to paid and voluntary roles.
All activity leaders are aware of their responsibilities when recruiting new volunteers.
New volunteers are expected to complete an application form and provide referees as well as undergoing a DBS check.

8. Safeguarding Concern

No safeguarding concerns were reported within the Parishes.

9. Safeguarding Sunday

Safeguarding Sunday was the theme for Family Holy Communion on 19th November.
Led by Reverend Jacqui, this included a reflection on Matthew 25, a Q&A session, a poem and special intercessions.
Jo Claridge
Parish Safeguarding Officer
31st March 2024

9. ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT 2023

The Electoral Roll was reviewed in April 2023. There were 87 on the St James's Roll (a decrease of four on 2022) and 33 on the All Saints Roll (an increase of 2 on 2022) making a total of 120. A copy of the Electoral Roll was displayed on the notice boards of both churches after the 2023 APCM.
Sarah Gunn, Electoral Roll Officer

10. CHURCH LOG BOOKS, INVENTORIES AND TERRIERS

St James's Church

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date. The documents are filed in the Church Office and are available for inspection if required.

All Saints

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date, and they are kept in the safe in the Church Room.

11. FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH

A brief overview of our year's events started with our annual Burns Night Supper, featuring the lively tunes of "Get Reel," was a resounding success—arguably our best yet! With vibrant dancing, delectable haggis, neeps, and tatties, fantastic raffle prizes, and a significant amount raised, i extend a massive thank you to all who joined us.
At last year's AGM Dr. James Mansfield delivered a fascinating presentation on Hinckley Point C, detailing its purpose, functionality, and significance. His clear and informative PowerPoint was met with some very interesting questions from the floor, which James adeptly answered.
Our beloved "Jazz in the Paddock" event on July 1st has become a real village tradition, drawing over 100 attendees to the church paddock armed with picnics, chairs, and blankets. The soulful melodies of Richie Paradise's 16-piece Big R Big Band filled the air, and we were blessed with perfect weather—a rain-free evening enjoyed by all.
In the autumn, Gary Hale enlightened us with his talk "Two Legs Followed By Two Wheels and a Well," shedding light on his charity work with "Running Water" to provide freshwater wells in Uganda. Gary's recent feat of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds, followed by a journey on foot and bike to the Indian Ocean, left a lasting impression on all who attended.
Our current endeavour, the church's external lighting project, remains in progress, with ongoing discussions and input from electricians as we strive to improve the illuminations of our historic church grounds.
As autumn approached last year, i felt that it was time for a change within our committee. After serving as chair for six years (which seems to have flown by), i've decided to step down in March 2024. Joining me in this decision is our incredible Teasurer, Jason Schofield, who will also be stepping away from his role. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Jason for his unwavering support and dedicated work as our Treasurer.
I also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the rest of the committee. Without each and every one of them, there would be no "Friends of St. James'." i am immensely proud to have been part of a team that has accomplished so much in enhancing our beautiful church over the years.
Janet White, Chair of Friends of St James's

12. SERIOUS INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS

Our Charity Number is 1173106

All charities with an income over £25,000 have to report Serious Incidents to the Commission. A Serious Incident is:

An adverse event, actual or alleged which results in or risks significant:

- Loss to the charity's money or assets
- Damage to the charity's property
- Harm to the charity's work, beneficiaries or reputation.

There were no Serious Incidents to report in 2023.

13. STEWARDS in 2023

St James's

Senior Stewards

Niel AKED - 8.00am only
Derrick CLARIDGE
Beth CUTMORE
Hugh GUNN
Sarah GUNN
Martin HAGEN
John HAYTER

Stewards

Dorothy BALDWIN
Jo CLARIDGE
Barbara COOK
Hilary HAGEN
Chris HAYTER
Ian HINE
Margaret LISTER

All Saints Stewards

Tony CALLOW
Angela MORRIS
Douglas OGRAM
Jan WELLING

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Parish of Winscombe and Sandford

St James the Great, Winscombe

All Saints, Sandford

21st April 2024

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

St James the Great and All Saints
Accounts for
Year Ended 31st December 2023

Parish of Winscombe and Sandford
Explanatory Note to the Annual Accounts for 2023

1. Introduction

The Annual Accounts are presented in the form issued by the Diocese of Bath & Wells to all their parishes, as introduced in 2020.

2. Financial governance

Through the year, the Acting Treasurer completes the Diocesan Cashbook and compares the outturn against budget. The PCC regularly receives finance reports that enable it to monitor income and expenditure against the budget. After the Financial Year has ended on 31st December, the Annual Accounts are extracted from the Diocesan Cashbook. The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 were approved by the Standing Committee of the PCC at their meeting on 16th April 2024.

As a Charitable Trust, we send a copy of our Accounts to the Charity Commission as required.

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jim Beath

Signed Independent Examiner

Date: 16th April 2024

Winscombe & Sandford - St James the Great Winscombe's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 £	2022 £	Accounts List code
Receipts							
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		51,740	-	-	**51,740**	*47,557*	1
Collections, donations & other giving		3,107	-	-	**3,107**	*3,524*	2
Income tax recovered		11,203	-	-	**11,203**	*12,281*	3
Legacies		-	-	-	**-**	*7,960*	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		11,232	-	-	**11,232**	*10,582*	5
Income from other Properties		3,570	-	-	**3,570**	*5,854*	6
Annual Fete/events		3,150	-	-	**3,150**	*962*	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		3,457	-	-	**3,457**	*1,473*	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		4,915	-	-	**4,915**	*5,042*	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		364	-	-	**364**	-	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-	-	**-**	-	11
Loans received		-	-	-	**-**	-	12
Other		5,549	-	-	**5,549**	*3,880*	13
Total Receipts		**98,287**	**-**	**-**	**98,287**	*99,115*	

Payments

Charitable activities:						
Donations/Grants to charities	-	-	-	-	*(375)*	14
Mission & Evangelism	(428)	-	-	**(428)**	*(262)*	15
Parish Share	(59,366)	-	-	**(59,366)**	*(54,000)*	16
Clergy expenses	(719)	-	-	**(719)**	*(912)*	17
Church running expenses	(12,568)	-	-	**(12,568)**	*(7,922)*	18
Churchyard maintenance	(1,717)	-	-	**(1,717)**	*(132)*	19
Cost of raising funds	(10,609)	-	-	**(10,609)**	*(5,665)*	20
Support costs	(56)	-	-	**(56)**	*(119)*	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)	(10,895)	-	(47)	**(10,942)**	*(7,584)*	22
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	24
Other	(5,708)	-	-	**(5,708)**	*(4,400)*	23
Major expenditure						
Repairs to church buildings	(3,950)	-	(2,706)	**(6,656)**	*(1,800)*	25
Repairs to other property	(1,500)	-	-	**(1,500)**	*(810)*	26
Capital purchases/additions	-	-	-	-	-	27
Loan repayments	-	-	-	-	-	28
Total payments	**(107,516)**	-	**(2,753)**	**(110,269)**	*(83,981)*	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments	**(9,229)**	-	**(2,753)**	**(11,982)**	*15,134*	
Transfers between funds	3,950	-	(3,950)	-	-	
	(5,279)	-	(6,703)	**(11,982)**	*15,134*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan	80,857	-	49,021	**129,878**	*114,745*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec	75,578	-	42,318	**117,896**	*129,879*	

**produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5*

St James The Great Winscombe 2023 Annual Accounts
Notes on Receipts and Payments Page
(numbers correspond with column Accounts List Code)

The PCC took the decision in early April 2023 to pay the full parish share. This was the main reason we ended the year with a Deficit of £12K. (At the end of last year the PCC decided to pay 85% of the PS in 2024 for both All Saints & St James's and this will be topped up at the end of the year if we have the funds to do so.)

1. Planned Giving is not as buoyant as it seems. During 2023 we received a monthly sum from the Government for housing the Ukrainian family in Birch Cottage which came to us through a parishioner and was thus added to regular giving. When that total is removed the amount in Planned Giving is £43990, £4k less than in 2022.
2. This includes donations to St James's from the Ukrainian family throughout the year (£2K).
5. Church Hall bookings have held up to pre-Covid levels during 2023.
6. The Churchyard Room continues to be let.
7. Fundraising has done well in 2023 achieving over Budget aims.
13. This includes the monthly contributions to the Benefice Administrator costs by All Saints and St John's and to Insurance costs by All Saints.
16. In 2023 the PCC decided to pay the full sum for Parish Share as computed by the Diocese.
18. Church Running Expenses includes minor repairs, routine maintenance, heating, flowers, music and 'provision of services'. This is higher than 2022 due to electrical work and the renewed sound system in the church.
20. Includes the costs of running Birch Cottage as well as those of running the Church Centre
23. Insurance costs.
25. Repairs to St James's roof and Architect's fees and Planning Permissions for the Fresh Foundations.
26. Monitoring of the crack in the back wall of the Church Centre.

As at 31st December 2023 St James's Assets consisted of the following:

Nat West General Bank Account	£22,290
Nat West Church Centre Renovation Account	£42,318
COIF Deposit Account	£53,076
SOLDO Card	£ 213
Investments	£29,830 (increase of £2,562 on 2022)
Buildings and Land	£363,000

Charitable Giving by St James's in 2023

There was no separate Charitable Giving by St James's in 2023 but there were three Charity Cafe Churches during the year which were supported by all three churches in the Benefice, at which the following was raised:

DEC Earthquake Appeal – March £2252
Elizabeth-Ann Appeal – October £620
Gift Aid has yet to be claimed on these amounts which will then be sent to the charities
Motor Neuron Disease Appeal – June £570

As the church is being used as an Agent the money does not appear in our Accounts because the figures are posted in Code 730 which is not reflected in the R & P page.

Parish Finance Return

The form below is produced by the Archbishops' Council's Statistics division, and should be submitted using their webportal at:
http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/

Return of Parish Finance	6 digit Parish Code	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:	Deanery:	Locking
January to December 2023	Parish name:	James the Great Win	St James the Great, Winscombe	Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 47,655	£ -
2	Other planned giving	£ 4,086	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ 417	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ 2,690	£ -
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 11,203	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ -	£ -
8	Grants [Include recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 66,051**	**£ -**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 3,150	£ -
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 7,027	£ -
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 4,584	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall), NOT fundraising.	£ 12,589	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ 4,556	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 97,957	
B	Restricted	£ -	
C	TOTAL	£ 97,957	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		

This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ 365	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ -	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 59,366	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ 1,910	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 1,624	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ 428	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 25,367	£ 47
24	Church utility bills	£ 2,807	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ 10,244	£ -
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ 3,950	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ 1,500	£ -
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ 2,706
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 107,196**	**£ 2,753**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ 1,758	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 105,803	
E	Restricted	£ 2,753	
F	TOTAL	£ 108,556	

	Cash and Investment Balances	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2023	£ 75,578	£ 42,318
32	Fixed Investment Properties	£ 392,833	£ -
	Account basis on which funds are generally presented (indicate one)		
30	Receipts and payments [X]	Accruals [ ]	

**produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5*

Please refer to the notes on the following pages to help clarify what is included in each section. The item numbers refer to RPF notes, consistent with the guidance provided in PCC Accountability, **2013**.

Date	5th April 2024
Name	Sarah Gunn
Position	Treasurer
Telephone or email	Sarahgunn2000@hotmail.com

Sarah Gunn

Winscombe & Sandford - All Saints Sandford's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 £	2022 £	Accounts List code
Receipts							
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		7,202	-	-	7,202	9,414	1
Collections, donations & other giving		600	-	300	900	5,188	2
Income tax recovered		2,148	-	-	2,148	3,972	3
Legacies		-	-	-	-	-	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		-	-	-	-	-	5
Income from other Properties		-	-	-	-	-	6
Annual Fete/events		3,540	-	976	4,516	1,994	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		300	-	58	358	87	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		103	-	-	103	1,309	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		-	-	-	-	-	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-	11
Loans received		-	-	-	-	-	12
Other		-	-	-	-	-	13
Total Receipts		13,893	-	1,334	15,227	21,964	

Payments

Charitable activities:						
Donations/Grants to charities	-	-	-	-	(200)	14
Mission & Evangelism	(115)	-	-	(115)	-	15
Parish Share	(6,600)	-	-	(6,600)	(6,504)	16
Clergy expenses	(511)	-	-	(511)	(555)	17
Church running expenses	(3,990)	-	(2,455)	(6,445)	(2,855)	18
Churchyard maintenance	(55)	-	-	(55)	(40)	19
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	20
Support costs	(86)	-	-	(86)	(597)	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)	(2,017)	-	-	(2,017)	(1,915)	22
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	24
Other	(1,064)	-	-	(1,064)	(1,034)	23
Major expenditure						
Repairs to church buildings	-	-	-	-	(22,782)	25
Repairs to other property	-	-	-	-	-	26
Capital purchases/additions	-	-	-	-	-	27
Loan repayments	-	-	-	-	-	28
Total payments	**(14,438)**	**-**	**(2,455)**	**(16,893)**	*(36,482)*	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments	**(545)**	**-**	**(1,121)**	**(1,666)**	*(14,518)*	
Transfers between funds	273	-	(273)	-	-	
	(272)	-	(1,394)	(1,666)	*(14,518)*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan	21,855	-	4,244	26,099	*40,616*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec	21,583	-	2,850	24,433	*26,098*	

*produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5

All Saints, Sandford 2023 Annual Accounts

Notes on Receipts and Payments Page
(numbers correspond with column Accounts List code)

1. Planned giving does not include donations from the Community Cafe.

2. Two specific donations.

3. Gift Aid recovered for 2022 only.

7. This is Fund Raising events which this year includes Community Cafe and other fund raising events. In 2022 Community Cafe was included in Note 1.

Parochial Fees – the low sum is due to St James being paid for 3 funerals held at All Saints during 2023 but the money for 2 of the funerals was only transferred to All Saints in early 2024.

18. Church running expenses, which includes maintenance, is higher than 2022 because of replacing the door and electrical repairs.

As at 31st December 2023 All Saints' Assets consisted of the following:

Nat West General Bank Account	£21,584
Nat West Building Fund Account	£ 2,849

14.04.2024

Parish Finance Return

The form below is produced by the Archbishops' Council's Statistics division, and should be submitted using their webportal at:
http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/

Return of Parish Finance

January to December 2023

Parish code: (6 digits)	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:		Deanery:	Locking
Parish name:	Saints Sandford, St	All Saints, Sandford		Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 5,196	£ -
2	Other planned giving	£ 2,006	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ -	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ -	£ 300
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 2,148	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ -	£ -
8	Grants [Include recurring and one-off)	£ 600	£ -
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 9,950**	**£ 300**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 3,949	£ 567
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 300	£ 58
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 103	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall), NOT fundraising.	£ -	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 14,302	
B	Restricted	£ 925	
C	TOTAL	£ 15,227	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		

This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ -	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ -	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 6,600	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ 100	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 597	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ 115	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 5,687	£ 2,455
24	Church utility bills	£ 1,339	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ -	£ -
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ -	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ -	£ -
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ -
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 14,438**	**£ 2,455**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ -	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 14,438	
E	Restricted	£ 2,455	
F	TOTAL	£ 16,893	

	Cash and Investment Balances	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2023	£ 21,992	£ 2,441
32	Investments as at 31 Dec 2023	£ -	£ -
	Account basis on which figures in your accounts prepared (indicate ONE)		
30	**Receipts and payments [X]**	Accruals	

**produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5*

Please refer to the notes on the following pages to help clarify what is included in each section. The item numbers refer to RPF notes, consistent with the guidance provided in PCC Accountability, **2013**.

Date	5th April 2024
Name	Sarah Gunn
Position	Treasurer
Telephone or email	sarahgunn2000@hotmail.com

Looking back across 2020, were there any exceptional circumstances or significant changes that may have led to unusual figures? ***Please provide details in the box***

Sarah Gunn

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner

Date: 16th April 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173106

Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

St James the Great,Winscombe

30th April 2023

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2023 Agenda, Minutes of 2022APCM
& Reports for
St James the Great and All Saints
for the year ended
31st December 2022

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parishioners Meeting 2023

Election of Churchwardens

To be held at the Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on
Sunday 30th April at 3.00 pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer (Revd Andrew Hiscox)
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 2022 Annual Parishioners Meeting
4. Matters arising from the 2022 Annual Parishioners Meeting
5. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at St James's
6. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at All Saints
7. Close of Meeting

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parishioners' Meeting
Sunday 15th May 2022 at 15.00 hrs
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Minutes

Item		Action
1. Welcome and Opening Prayer by the Chairman	The Revd. Andrew Hiscox welcomed everyone to the meeting with a prayer	
2. Attended by:	Please see list at Annex 1.	
2.a. Apologies for Absence	The following had given their apologies before the meeting: Jane Fancott, Hilary and Martin Hagen, Jo and Derrick Claridge, Meryl and Robin Leach, Alison Butcher, Richard Noy, Edith and Peter Thompson, Mike Bravery, Angela Morris and Warren Williams	
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parishioners Meeting held on 24th May 2021	The approval of the minutes was Proposed by: Beth Cutmore Seconded by: Denys Cutmore and this was endorsed by all those present. Accordingly, the Chairman signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising	There were no matters arising.	
5. Election of Churchwardens	<u>Nomination for St James's</u> 1. Derrick Claridge Proposed by: Douglas Ogram Seconded by: William Du Croz 2. Ian Hine Proposed by: Derrick Claridge Seconded by: Douglas Ogram <u>Nomination for All Saints</u> 1. Diana Williams Proposed by: Jan Welling Seconded by: Angela Morris 2. Douglas Ogram Proposed by: Jan Welling Seconded by: Tony Callow The meeting endorsed these nominations unanimously. The Chairman expressed his sincere thanks to Diana Williams and Derrick Claridge who had carried out their duties so well over the past year.	Results of Election Form to be displayed **(WDC)**
Closing remarks		
	The Meeting closed at 15.15 hrs	

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2023

To be held at The Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on
Sunday 30th April at 3.00 pm

AGENDA

1. **Welcome (Andrew Hiscox)**

2. **Apologies for Absence**

3. **Minutes of the APCM 2022 (with respect to 2021)**

4. **Matters Arising from the 2022 Minutes not covered by the agenda**

5. **Reports**
   5.1 Report on the Fabric of St James and All Saints
   5.2 Financial Statements for year ending 31st December 2022
   5.3 Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod 2022
   5.4 Safeguarding Report
   5.5 Church Centre Development

6. **Electoral Roll - Changes**

7. **Elections and Appointments**
   7.1 Elections for PCC
   7.2 Appointment of Stewards to St James and All Saints
   7.3 Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC

8. **Vicar's Address**

9. **Closing Remarks and Prayers**

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Monday 15th May 2022 at 3.00 pm
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Minutes

Item		Action
1. Welcome	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a prayer.	
2. Attendees	Please see the list at Annex 1.	
2a. Apologies for Absence	The following had given their apologies before the meeting: Jane Fancott, Hilary and Martin Hagen, Jo and Derrick Claridge, Meryl and Robin Leach, Alison Butcher, Richard Noy, Edith and Peter Thompson, Mike Bravery, Angela Morris and Warren Williams.	
3. Minutes of the APCM held on 24th May 2021	The approval of the minutes of the 2021 APCM was Proposed by: Shaun Darley Seconded by: Ian Hine and these were endorsed unanimously. Accordingly, the Chairman signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising	No Matters were raised	
5. Annual Reports	6.1. Fabric Diana Williams introduced the Fabric Reports from the Churchwardens. She advised the meeting that the renovation works to the Vestry at All Saints are due to start in June and that the North Somerset Tree Officer is due to inspect the Beech Trees in the Churchyard following the severe storms earlier this year. The highlights for St James's Church and the Church Centre are shown at Annex 2. The Chairman thanked all those who supported the Wardens in their work in caring for the fabric of our buildings 6.2. Finance Hugh Gunn spoke to his Report noting that: St James's • The Accounts show that giving was up compared to 2021, but this reflected the Appeal for Afghanistan Refugees • A legacy of £40k was received • We are still not paying the full amount requested for the Parish Share, although the PCC has budgeted to increase the amount of the Parish Share in 2022 from £40k in 2021 to £48k in 2022. All Saints • An increase in the sum paid towards the Parish	

	Share has been achieved. • A small surplus was achieved, and this was helped by the excellent fundraising through the Community Café. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Hugh and Sarah Gunn for all their work in looking after the Churches' finances. <u>6.3. Deanery Synod</u> Dorothy Baldwin introduced her Report noting that there are 20 Magnificat Parishes in our Diocese and 7 of these are in our Deanery. These are Parishes in deprived areas who struggle with their finances. The Chairman thanked Dorothy Baldwin for her excellent work representing the Benefice on the Deanery Synod. It was noted that Angela Morris has now rejoined the Deanery Synod. <u>6.4. Safeguarding Report</u> The Chairman thanked Jo Claridge for her excellent work as our Safeguarding Officer. It was noted that there had been no serious incidents that required a report to the Charity Commission in 2021. The Chairman highlighted the other items covered in the Report that recorded the wonderful work done by many volunteers including: • The Pastoral Team • Safeguarding Officer • Signpost - the new Parish Magazine • Refresh-men-t - the Men's Breakfast • Music and Choir • Coffee Mornings and Cafés • Technical Advisory Group • Cleaning • Flower arranging • Bell Ringing • Faith-in-Action • Friends of St James's Church He wanted to thank all those who contribute so much to the life of the Church, and the Secretary was also thanked for his contribution. After this discussion, the Chairman asked the meeting to approve the Report and this was agreed unanimously.	
6. Electoral Roll	Sarah Gunn reported that there were now 123 people on the Electoral Roll - 92 at St James's and 31 at All Saints.	
7. Elections and Appointments	<u>8.1. PCC</u> <u>8.1.1 All Saints</u> There were no new nominations. <u>8.1.2. St James's</u> There was one nomination to join the PCC:	Parish Return to Diocese Update info

	Alison Haynes Proposed by: Douglas Ogram Seconded by: Derrick Claridge It was reported that Sue Reed is stepping down as a member of the PCC. <u>8.1.3. Treasurer</u> There were no nominations for the post of Treasurer. <u>8.2. Appointment of Stewards</u> The meeting agreed unanimously the appointment of the Stewards as listed in Paragraph 12 of the Annual Report. <u>8.3. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC</u> The appointment of Dick Beath as the Independent Examiner was endorsed, and Hugh Gunn will seek confirmation of this.	for Charity Commission
8. Presentation by the Church Centre Development Group	Douglas Ogram gave a presentation on the work undertaken so far by the Group. This is shown at Annex 3. In the subsequent discussion, the following points were made: • The bookings of the Church Centre generate £6k of income for the PCC. • There is a need to maintain this level of income whilst any building work is being undertaken. • One possibility might be to build a new Church Centre in the Rear Car Park before demolishing the existing building. • There is good local experience in Cheddar where the Catholics have built a new Church Centre. • The Group will need to take account of the impact of an enlarged Community Centre in Winscombe if that Project gets funding. • Getting the right professional advice is important - cheapest tender might not be the best. • At Birch Cottage, £7k was recently spent to bring it up to a reasonable standard before reletting. This money was taken from the Reserves. Unfortunately, a further £635 needs to be spent on the electrics before it can be occupied again.	
9. Address by the Vicar	The Vicar gave an inspiring address highlighting all that has been achieved and looking optimistically to the future. A copy of his address can be found at Annex 4. The Vicar was warmly thanked by everyone present for his excellent leadership as he has taken the Parish through the challenges of the pandemic.	
10. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations	William Du Croz gave a short presentation that illustrated how we are putting the Church at the Heart of the Community through the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.	
	The meeting closed with a prayer at 4.30 pm.	

List of Attendees

*Andrew Hiscox Chairman
William Du Croz Secretary
Margot Sampson
Chris Sampson
Celia Hine
Ian Hine
Denys Cutmore
Beth Cutmore
*Ann Ogram
Douglas Ogram
Llyn Callow
Tony Callow
Geoff Norton
Ann Norton
Hugh Gunn
Sarah Gunn
*Shaun Darley
Jill Darley
Dorothy Baldwin
Chris Hayter
John Hayter
Alison Haynes
*Pauline Nixon
Diana Williams
Paul Matthews
Chris Andrews
Bridget Andrews

* Not members of the Electoral Roll

St James: Stewards May 2022

Senior Stewards	**Stewards**
Niel Aked	Margaret Aske
Derrick Claridge	Dorothy Baldwin
Beth Cutmore	Jo Claridge
David Lister	Barbara Cook
Hugh Gunn	William Du Croz
Sarah Gunn	Chris Hayter
John Hayter	Margaret Lister
Martin Hagen	
Paul Matthews	

All Saints: Stewards - May 2022

Tony Callow	
Jan Welling	
Angela Morris	
Douglas Ogram	

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
REPORTS FOR ST JAMES THE GREAT, WINSCOMBE
AND
ALL SAINTS, SANDFORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1. OUR SHARED VISION

Quite simply, we want to put the love of Christ in the heart of the Community. That is what we believe the Lord is saying to us at this time, as three churches that have the potential to become one community of faith, three buildings, one church centre, one body of Christ. It is a time for us to begin **reaching** out more to our community to understand and engage them, and to be bold and courageous as we do so. We have two major new housing estates that we'd like to reach out to and offer welcome packs to residents, and give them a warm welcome to our church community and our wider community. We have strong ecumenical links, working with the Quakers, the Lynch Chapel, the Catholics and most recently the Methodists in Churchill. There are opportunities to benefit from the gifts God has given our brothers and sisters in these denominations to work together for the glory of God. We want to take **welcoming** further, recognising that we have 5 schools in our benefice and to that end we want to make sure our buildings look inviting to young families and we also want to have people who are willing to help minister in our schools, helping the young hear about the good news of Jesus.

We want to be **caring**, thinking especially of our 5 care homes, with whom we can start to re-engage as restrictions ease. We want to care for all folk in our community, **serving** them in practical ways like meeting their needs through coffee mornings, home communions, community cafes, Café Church, Messy Church and Family Communions - our caring actions speaking of Christ's love. We remember Christ's command to make disciples, by giving Bible based **teaching** through our regular services and study courses and home groups.

But we need people to help make this vision a reality. That's where you come in. Consider what we are and who God is calling us to minister to. We are three churches - to each of you God has given you gifts for use in his service, whether that's an upfront or behind the scenes role. Now is the time to get involved. So, '***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland'. (v3, v9)***

2. CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORTS FOR 2022

St James's

This has been a very interesting year for our Church as we have gradually moved forward following the last couple of years of stagnation due to the pandemic.

Concentration of our efforts has been to bring young people, children and their parents into our Church with both Scramblers and Messy Church starting again in a revamped form. These have been well received by both parents and children and the numbers have steadily increased. Thank you to every member of the teams who have put so much effort into regularly holding these sessions and making them so successful and such a valuable part of Church life.

The return of our regular, Tuesday Coffee Mornings has been a real success attracting many people who enjoy the opportunity to get together over a steaming brew and biscuits, chew the cud and put the world to rights. Again, a big thank you to all those who have organised and helped with the hard work of running these events.

We have been able, with a little reorganisation of our method and by recruiting new volunteers, to once again, open the Church daily. The reading of the visitors' book is very interesting and does show how much having the Church open is appreciated. Thank you to this team.

The efforts of Tim and Liz in organising the after-service tea and coffee is also much appreciated and it has been good to have the chance for social refreshment as well as spiritual refreshment, an important part of being a church family. Thanks to all who have volunteered.

The Church was very supportive of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

On 6th February a special Service of Thanksgiving took place at St James's to mark 70 years since Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne which included specially chosen music.

The church was beautifully decorated on this and many other occasions throughout the year by our dedicated and talented team of flower arrangers.

This Service was followed by a tree planting ceremony at the Recreation Ground as part of the 'Queen's Green Canopy' initiative.

In early June church members were out in force to participate in the Jubilee Grand Festival. Amongst other things, a team was entered into the 'It's a Knockout' style games. Very entertaining, but we do think that more than a little cheating went on and are sorry to say that we think our team may have started it. The main thing was that a good time was had by all.

In July we welcomed Jacqui Keir Bucknall as our part-time curate. We have enjoyed getting to know her and her ministry has added greatly to the life of our Churches. On Sunday 2nd October Jacqui was ordained as Deacon at Wells Cathedral. The service was attended by several members of our Churches with refreshments afterwards back in Winscombe.

In late August we were all deeply saddened by the death of William Du Croz after a short illness. William was not only our very efficient PCC secretary, with a wealth of knowledge about the role, but a much-loved member of our wider village community. He took a leading role in 'Winscombe and Sandford Remembers' when we commemorated the Centenary of the end of World War 1 and had recently worked tirelessly to make the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations such a resounding success. We are still discovering little jobs that William did for the Church, often essential but not always noticed. We miss him enormously.

And then on 8th September we learned of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Our Church was open for private prayer and a Book of Condolences was available for people to sign, together with a space in the Churchyard for floral tributes. We participated fully in 'Operation London Bridge' and special mention should be made of our bellringers who muffled and un-muffled the bells as required to ring the various peals both mournful for the Queen and celebratory for our new King.

Another 'Signpost' of our successful activities is that our Parish Magazine is getting fatter than ever with more and more people and organisations contributing, and more and more people being added to the distribution list. The magazine includes not only Church news but notices and articles of interest to residents in our three villages. The team are hopeful to start including advertisements again in the new year which will

help the publication to become self-sufficient. Thank you to the 5-person team who work very hard each month to bring this to the readers.

Refresh-men-t (Men's Breakfast) has been running for most of the year. This is much enjoyed by all our attendees. We are, however, experiencing problems on meeting the minimum attendance figure required by The Railway Inn. We did invite the ladies to join us on our November meeting with mixed success. The Management group will meet in the Christmas recess to look at future plans and arrangements.

We are pleased that as a church we have been able to support a Ukrainian Family by providing Birch Cottage as accommodation. The efforts of Dorothy Baldwin and Alison Haynes were crucial to making this happen together with great support from the Church community and beyond.

At Christmas, a new event was held 'Carols by Lantern Light' at the Church Centre. Over 300 people came along on a very cold but thankfully, dry evening, and sang their hearts out to the music of Weston Brass Band. The children enjoyed visiting Santa in his grotto and seasonal refreshments were provided. It was a great success and plans are already afoot to repeat the fun this year.
All these initiatives only work if people are willing to volunteer their talents and time. Guess what all of them all of them could do with more helpers so please try to find a little, or even a lot, of time to volunteer to help.
Both of us would like to take this opportunity to thank the PCC and congregation for their support over the last year.

Derrick and Ian. Churchwardens
April 2023.

Fabric Report for St James's Church 2022

Some necessary work has been carried out in the Church this year.

At the beginning of February, a tower scaffold was hired to enable the Corona to be reached and the side aisle and font area repairs to take place. Repairs were made and the faulty lights replaced.

The cost of the tower, replacement parts and electrician's costs were covered by the compensation money received from the Scaffolding Company.

Annual PAT testing of mobile electrical equipment in the Church, Tower and Churchyard Room took place at the same time as the lighting repairs took place.

The Tower floodlight has not been working for some time so while the electrician was on site this was investigated and found to be a failed lamp in the fitting. A decision has been taken to replace this with a LED fitting. A new LED fitting was fitted and is now functional

During December there was a failure of one of the electrical circuits which was quickly diagnosed and repaired by our electrician. At the same time investigation was carried out re the failure of the main post lights by the Churchyard Room and car park. This was diagnosed as a circuit in the Churchyard Room being switched off. This lighting is now working

This work now means that the Church is well on the way to be as carbon neutral as possible. The aspiration of the Church of England is for all its buildings to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Many thanks to Douglas, Alison, Paul and the cleaning team for all the above work.

We are still experiencing problems with water ingress in the roof. At various times a very interesting pattern of buckets adorn the floor. Some repairs have been carried out, unfortunately as soon as we manage to cure the original it travels to another point. Problem still being investigated.

The Cross, which was knocked off by a tree branch during high winds, has been repaired and returned to the roof and the lightning conductor reconnected. The tree has had the offending bough removed.

The work on the West doors has been completed and repainted.

The ancient yew is showing signs of damage and we await an Arborist report on the condition before taking any corrective action.

Damage caused to carpark gatepost by unknown persons. Ellis and Co called in to make post safe.

Fabric Report Churchyard Rooms 2022

The Churchyard Rooms have not been in full use for some time and at the end of last year it was decided to see if they could be let and provide a much-needed boost to our income.
The rooms have been stripped of all unnecessary equipment and everything of use moved down to the Church Centre.
During this work it was found that the gas water heater was not working, was faulty and no longer safe to be used and one of the wall mounted convector heaters failed.
Both pieces of equipment have been removed.
A new electric wall mounted hot water unit has now been fitted, repairs and redecoration carried out as necessary.
The toilets now have hot water working again.
The two light fittings in this room have been changed for LED units
From the beginning of March 2022 we now have a tenant. This is a pre school playgroup which fits in very well with our Christian ethos.
We can now expect an income of £3900 per annum less agents' fees.
Many thanks to Denys, Beth and Douglas for their work on this endeavour.

Fabric Report Birch Cottage 2022

We carried out a refit which included removal of the non-functioning night storage heaters, refitting of a new kitchen, new electric convector heaters, removal of the redundant emergency lighting and repainting all through. This was a considerable investment but enabled us to re let the cottage after the departure of the previous tenant.

This property was rented out by Farrons Estate Agents until the tenant moved out in May 2022.This coincided with the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the PCC agreed that we would offer the property, fully furnished, to a suitable Ukrainian family. The project of renovating and equipping the cottage was overseen by Dorothy Baldwin and Alison Haynes. Thank you both for your sterling efforts. The building was refreshed inside, and an additional Electric Heater was installed in the hallway. A big thank you all to members of the congregation who lent or donated furniture etc. to make the cottage comfortable and welcoming to our guests who moved in in September 2022.

Many thanks to Chris Andrews for his gardening tidy-ups and repairs carried out during the year.

Fabric Report Church Centre 2022

As you will have seen over the last year gradual progress has been made in trying to make this building more inviting and suitable for our use. Our original plans for the development of the centre had to be modified

and the idea of making use of the alcove area kitchen as a meeting area abandoned. The proposed electric shutters, on further investigation, proved to be unsuitable.
The curtains for the upper windows are nearly finished and it is hoped they will be fitted by the end of March.
The Youth Cupboard has been tidied up and made into a versatile storage space used by the Church and Scramblers as well as the Badminton Club.
The garage has been cleared of much old, stored equipment and is also used as a storage space for Scramblers.

It was decided to reconfigure the back room to make a small meeting room which involved some of the cupboards being removed on the long wall and putting the cupboards along the shorter wall. A good useful space. Completion of this task has been put on hold because cracks in the wall, up till now hidden by cupboards, became apparent. Our insurance company were called in and a damage survey was carried out.

The basic report says: -

The investigation has confirmed that the cause of the movement to the Centre is root induced clay shrinkage subsidence. There is no evidence of any influence from any other source such as leaking drains.
In order to alleviate the issue, the local vegetation to the area of movement should be removed. Once the vegetation is removed the clays should rehydrate and swell, this should close many of the cracks and then stabilise at which point simple cosmetic repairs can be carried out.
The roots retrieved from the trial pits were identified as emanating from Cupressaceae include for example; Hinoki Cypress and Lawson
Cypress (Chamaecyparis spp.), Leyland Cypress (X Cuprocyparis leylandii), Monterey Cypress, Italian Cypress, Mexican Cypress, Smooth Arizona Cypress and Rough-barked Arizona Cypress (Cupressus spp.), Junipers and Pencil Cedar (Juniperus spp.), Western Red Cedar (Thuja spp.), the generic hybrid X Cupressocyparis, Swamp-cypress (Taxodium distichum), Dawn Redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides), Coast Redwood (Sequoia sempervirens), Japanese Red Cedar (Cryptomeria japonica) and Wellingtonia (Sequoiadendron giganteum).
The clays were found to be desiccated (dry).
As you are aware, there is no subsidence cover provided by your Policy and therefore, unfortunately on this occasion your Insurer will be unable to be of assistance with costs relating to this matter on this occasion.

The offending trees are not on our land but in our neighbour's garden. We have taken legal advice and as a result a solicitor's letter has been sent to the owner asking that they take action to remove the offending leylandii hedge.

The lighting in the office, back room, entrance hall, kitchen and alcove has been upgraded to LED. This supports our aspiration to be as carbon neutral as possible.

The gas heater by the kitchen hatch was condemned in the summer as it was incorrectly installed with no external vent. This heater was removed and the gas piping to it safely capped off.

One of the double electric sockets in the alcove was constantly being damaged by the chairs being stacked in front of it and has been moved to a height above the chairs.

A leak was found in the ceiling in the kitchen by the skylight. The flat roof above has been repaired and the leak cured.
Thanks to Denys, Douglas, Tony, Steve and all who have worked on this project so far.

Derrick Claridge. Ian Hine. Churchwardens
April 2023

All Saints Church Wardens' and Fabric Report

We had an eventful and interesting 2022. At the January PCC meeting we agreed to support, from our Community Fund, two children from Sandford Primary School to attend a week's camp. At 11.00 am on 6th February 2022, for the Commemoration of the Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, there was a planting of a tree at Russet Copse.

At the February meeting we were informed that our Parish Share for the year would be £6,637, and we made a commitment to meet that by paying £582 per month. It was also recorded that we had received a quote of £21,918 from Ellis & Co for the refurbishment of the Vestry. This was to be paid for out of our Building Fund.

At the April meeting there was a discussion about forming stronger links with St Monica's Sandford Station, and we are pleased to say that this has come to fruition with a monthly service held there. All are welcome.

At the APCM on 15th May, Douglas Ogram was elected as Churchwarden, joining Diana Williams at All Saints. At the end of May we had the theft of items from the sound system which were replaced just in time for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, at a cost of £840. Along with other festivities in Winscombe and Sandford, we held a Jubilee Tea Party for senior residents of Sandford, on the afternoon of 2nd June. The St Monica's Trust gave us a grant for this event. Entertainment was provided by the Fab Twins, a Beatles Tribute Duo. Along with the other churches in the benefice we held a Thanksgiving Service for the Queen's Jubilee on Sunday 5th June.

Ellis & Co started work on the refurbishment of the Vestry on 13th June. The work was completed in October at an overall cost of £23,000. We were able to reclaim VAT which amounted to £3,800. Unrequested, Ellis & Co carried out an inspection of the electrical installation and identified 13 items which they said required urgent attention. They quoted a sum of £2390 to do the work. We had our own electrician carry out another test, and the necessary remedial works, at a cost of £1,055.

During the year our wonderful team of helpers organised a Quiz Night in February, Soup and Puds in October, a Cheese and Wine Evening in November with entertainment again by the Fab Twins and served the drinks and refreshments for the Badgerset Concert at St James's in December. In addition, they ran nine of our regular Community Cafes throughout the year. The proceeds from all these events meant that at the end of our financial year we met our goal of paying the full amount of the Parish Share and achieving a break even balance sheet. Well done everyone.

Every blessing

Diana and Douglas, Churchwardens

3. CHURCH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT 2022

The CCDT has Rev Andrew Hiscox, Derrick Claridge, Douglas Ogram, Ian Hine, Dorothy Baldwin and Alison Haynes as its members. The team was formed in early 2022. PCC agreed that from a legacy left by Mr Gough the sum of £40,000 should be used for the purposes of improving and developing the Church Centre.

During the last year the PCC approved a CCDT proposal to obtain planning permission to increase in size and upgrade the Centre. The first document produced and signed off by PCC is a Project Initiation Document.

PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT:

This document is to be used as a consultative document. It is the first scope of the project and sets out the 'Why and the Aims'.

Why are you wanting to extend the Centre and what is the problem you are trying to solve?

I. Old building/serious structural/maintenance issues. Costly, Not energy efficient.
II. Too small to accommodate expanding congregation with increased use for worship/3 Churches
III. Lack of flexibility for use of building
IV. Un attractive externally and internally, not fulfilling full potential, lack of socializing area
V. Current building does not support Church Parish Vision

The main aims.

I. Be a modern centre for all 3 Churches and physically more welcoming
II. Increase Church mission and youth Activities through hospitality
III. Pay its way as well as Potential business case for Wedding Receptions/increase lettings

This PID document was sent to The Parish Council and 18 near neighbours in December 2022 with one response that was positive. It was presented to Winscombe Community Centre Trustees and a written response was received which will form part of the consultation process.

This project will end when full planning permission, that is fit for purpose and affordable to build, has been obtained. A new project will then be launched.

The CCDT has met numerous times in 2022. Meetings, quotes and correspondence with Architect Kelly Clark, from Robinson Clark Ltd and Planning Consultant Ricki Burrows of Urban Design Practice, resulted with PCC authorising a feasibility report at a cost of £1,800. This study produced 5 design options with approximate costs.

An options appraisal exercise comparing the 5 designs and a 'Do nothing' option, was carried out. The findings were presented to the PCC for decision and 'Option 3 Design' was proposed and approved for consultation purposes and to seek quotations to instruct an architect to apply for planning permission.

It is hoped to arrange an open meeting in May 2023 to consult the proposed Option 3 with the Congregations of both Churches and the wider community.

4. OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Care Team meet every other month to support one another and to try to co-ordinate pastoral care in our community. Members of the team have visited several people in the community who are lonely, bereaved or unable to get out and about. This may be one visit or ongoing visits. Cards are also sent to those who have been bereaved. We have also taken Holy Communion to those unable to get to church.
We are involved in services of Holy Communion in Dunster Court and Sewell House every month and are looking forward to being able to provide a service for Winscombe Hall, monthly, after Easter 2023. The team were also involved in the Memorial Service in October.
We were delighted when our friends from St John's in Churchill joined the team and we are hoping to recruit new members to the team in the next year. The diocese has produced a training course for Pastoral Care Teams and we will be running this in 2023 after an appeal for new members.
I would like to express my grateful thanks to all those involved in the Pastoral Care Team for their dedication, for the time they give caring for others and for their support and encouragement for me.
Rev'd Pauline Nixon (Pastoral Care Co-ordinator).

Signpost (Parish Magazine)

Signpost 'was launched in September 2021 as a monthly parish magazine covering Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill. Now in its second year, a monthly edition has been produced since then.
A team of five, Beth and Denys Cutmore, Ann and Douglas Ogram and Jo Claridge form the editorial team. It takes a considerable amount of time to produce the magazine each month in terms of compiling and editing, printing and hand delivering to those not able to access the internet (about 150 homes - see below).
With the content of the magazine increasing in recent months the team would welcome an additional member who is confident in using 'Word 'to help edit and 'tidy up 'some of the regular articles.
Please contact Jo Claridge on 01934 843014 if you think you could help.

Distribution
The magazine is received by email, in full colour, to 276 addresses (an increase of 18 from 2022)
It is also available to download or read, in full colour, on the Church Website.
Approximately 150 printed black and white copies are distributed by hand as follows:
Churches:18
Church Centre:10+
Local Shops:52
Delivered by hand:46
Sheltered/Care Homes:15
Welcome packs 4+

Content
Our aim is to produce a magazine with varied content including church news, news from the villages and articles of interest to those living in the local area.
We have nearly 40 regular contributors.
The magazine is usually 48+ pages including advertising.

Advertising
Denys Cutmore has taken responsibility for promoting advertising in the magazine and issuing invoices.
All previous advertisers were contacted at the end of 2022 to ask whether they would like to advertise in the magazine from January 2023. New advertisers are welcome to contact Denys to discuss matters -
Email: denysandbeth@uwclub.net.
The rates for 12 issues are as follows:
1/6 page: £42
1/3 page: £84
1/2 page: £126
Full page: £252
Our current advertisers generate an annual income of £714.
This income helps to offset the cost of printing in black and white which is approximately £50 per month.

Photocopying versus Commercial Printing
In July 2022 the Editorial Team looked into the cost of having the magazine printed by a commercial printer. The quote for this was £3006 per annum. It would also entail recruiting a hand delivery team.
To produce the magazine on the office copier costs approx £600 per annum.
This formed part of the PCC decision making process for renting a new photocopier for the Church Office.

The new copier is far more reliable which means that it can be set to print the magazine when the office is not in use and we can return later to pick the copies up. The magazine is usually printed during the third Sunday of the month service at the Church Centre. In this way members of the team are usually on hand in case of any problems.

Music and Choir – St James's

The Church has had a mixed year of music. Until the autumn we were very lucky to have Robert Anderson as our Organist. He, with Claire Blythe our Choir leader, challenged and stretched the repertoire of our Choir members as we continued to sing at the twice monthly services in St James's. Sadly, in the autumn Robert decided that he could no longer commit to St James's and we now do not have a permanent Organist. Since then, we have drawn on a supply of local organists for Funerals, Weddings and major Festivals. Due to the shortage of Organists the decision was taken to purchase pre-recorded Organ accompaniments to over 3000 pieces of music (including 800 hymns, anthems, voluntarys etc) to play through our loudspeaker system. The system is in the process of being updated with modern speakers more suitable for music to replace the existing, 30 year old speakers. Although it is recognized that this is not ideal, it does mean we can continue to offer a wide range of hymns at our Services in St James's. We are very grateful that our Organ continues to be maintained regularly by Brian Hooper who does not charge us for his excellent service.
In December Claire gave birth to twins and went on maternity leave but the Choir continued to meet and lead the church singing. Membership of the Choir was stable although the sudden death of William Du Croz in August was a great shock.

Weekly Church Centre Coffee Mornings

In August 2021 the weekly Tuesday Morning Coffee Mornings were re-instated in the Church Centre. Organised by Iris Bridges, and with a team of wonderful volunteers, the Coffee Mornings have been extremely well supported throughout 2022. Over 30 people regularly come for a cup of coffee and chat and the atmosphere buzzes. Many are new residents from the Redrow development and some have now joined the Rota to help every week! Through donations the Coffee Mornings have raised over £1600 in 2022.

Church Cleaning – St James's

In 2022 we were able once again to have a Rota of several pairs of people cleaning St James's on a fortnightly basis. It is not too onerous a task and the congregation are extremely grateful to those who undertake this job. If anyone would like to join the team please contact Sarah Gunn – sarahgunn2000@hotmail.com.

Flower Arranging – St James's

St James's continues to have a loyal teams of flower arrangers. Each team does a two-week period which enables continuity, with everyone taking part in decorating the church for the major festivals. The PCC kindly allocated a budget of £400 in 2022 which allowed for the extra costs of Lilies at Easter etc. More volunteers would be very welcome and if anyone would like to join a team then please contact Margaret Aske.

Bellringers – St James's

This has been another year that the ringers have struggled to raise a band to keep ringing. We started the year having to call off some service rings and quite a few practice nights due to lack of ringers. This was despite having help from St. John's (Churchill) Ringers who are also struggling to raise a band for service ringing. As both St. James and St. John's were at risk of not being able to ring at all, both towers agreed to support each other, whenever possible, to try to maintain ringing at Winscombe and Churchill.
As the year progressed the situation eased with Mike Williams returning to ringing (after a 40 year break!) and some of our own band returning. This, together with visitors from other towers, has meant we have been able to ring for most services and practice nights during the second half of the year.
Our thanks to everyone who has helped to keep the bells ringing.
During the year we have rung for 3 weddings and 2 funerals; To celebrate Queen Elizabeth the Second's Platinum Jubilee we rang at the start of the village's festival held to mark the occasion; Sadly, a few months later, we rang to mourn the death and funeral of Queen Elizabeth the Second (The bells were rung fully muffled. This is only done for the death of the Monarch. Due to the Queen's long reign, it was an experience none of us had had before). Subsequently, after the prescribed period of mourning, we rang with unmuffled

bells to celebrate the accession to the throne of King Charles the Third. We were not able to ring out the 'Old Year' and ring in the 'New' as not enough ringers were available.
The ringers have carried out routine maintenance to the bells and associate equipment. We carried out a 'spring clean', albeit in October, prior to the quinquennial inspection. Both items are ongoing. The ringers continue to wind the clock every week and help with it's maintenance where possible. When possible, the ringers undertake the raising and lowering of the Diocese or Union Flags on the appropriate occasions.
For the future, although our situation is better than this time last year, we desperately need more ringers (new or old). We are keeping our fingers crossed.
Winscombe Ringers April 2023.

5. THE PCC

Report from the Secretary

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 15th May 2022 the changes for the PCC for St James were that Sue Reed stepped down and Alison Haynes joined. There were no changes for All Saints.
Derrick Claridge continued as Churchwarden for St James while Ian Hine was appointed as the second Churchwarden for St James. Douglas Ogram and Diana Williams were elected as Wardens for All Saints. Jo Claridge continued as Safeguarding Officer and Sarah Gunn as Acting Treasurer.
The Standing Committee for the year were appointed :

Revd. Andrew Hiscox - Chairman
Diana Williams - Churchwarden, All Saints
Douglas Ogram - Churchwarden, All Saints
Ian Hine - Churchwarden, St James's
Derrick Claridge - Churchwarden, St James's
Sarah Gunn - Acting Treasurer
William Du Croz - Secretary

William Du Croz continued as PCC Secretary until his sad death in August. Bill Wallace joined the PCC as Minute Secretary in December 2022. During the year Hilary Hagen stepped down from the PCC due to other commitments. Dick Beath continued as Independent Examiner.
The PCC sent a letter of thanks to Richard Noy in recognition of all his excellent work for both All Saints and St James's in recovering from HMRC the Gift Aid that was receivable.
The Church centre suffered from subsidence due to the hedge of the neighbouring property but there was a successful claim against the neighbour's insurers.
The tenant in Birch Cottage left in May and was replaced by an Ukranian family.
A decision was made in principle to increase the size of the Benefice to three churches with the addition of St John's in Churchill, although they will keep their own PCC.
July saw the appointment of a new Curate, Jacqui Keir-Bucknall, as a welcome addition to the Ministry team. Jacqui is non-stipendiary and works for the Benefice 2.5 days a week.
In July the PCC endorsed the proposal to become an "Inclusive Church".
The apportionment of the administration costs between the 3 churches was updated during the year and based on the Worshipping Community was decided at St James 75%, All Saints 12.5% and St John's 12.5%.
The Church Centre Development Group met with Robinson Clark Ltd in September to discuss their feasibility report. 5 design options were presented to the PCC for discussion with the aim of receiving planning permission on the chosen option. At the December meeting it was agreed to put an options paper to the PCC in January 2023.
At All Saints the work by Ellis & Co on the Vestry Refurbishment was completed and the Architect signed the work off without charge.
In December Sue Smyth joined as Benefice Administrator and will also be taking over as Booking Secretary in 2023.
Bill Wallace – PCC Minute Secretary

6. DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

(A verbal Report may be given at the APCM)

7. CHURCH SUPPORT FOR CHARITIES in 2022

Facing the challenge of meeting a budget for 2022, the PCC decided not to allocate 5% of the budget to give to various charities as had been the practice in the previous decade. Instead, it was decided to dedicate one Café Church each calendar quarter to a cause – an opportunity to be informed about the work of the charity and to make a collection in support.

During the year these services were held on three occasions. Ideas for the first service were overtaken by the crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. As a result of an appeal in April, a total of £7515* was raised for relief work in **Ukraine**. Also, the PCC agreed to invite 3 Ukrainians fleeing the trauma in that country to live at Birch Cottage in the Church Centre grounds. Preparing the cottage became a purposeful project involving many church members with the visitors arriving in September to live here through the rest of the year and into 2023.

Another service, in September, focussed on the **Weston Hospice**. Ann and Douglas Ogram had previously opened their garden providing an enjoyable afternoon for the community and raising funds for the Hospice. Donations at the service where Hospice representatives spoke totalled £380*.

In December, the service concentrated on the work of the **Elizabeth- Ann charity** which supports development in the Indian villages of Burlavaripalem and Barrypuram. Through a live link with the UK founder of the charity, we were updated on this work which as a church we have supported for about ten years. In recent months a study hall had been built for the school but children were having to sit on the floor. The appeal raised £762* and we were later encouraged by pictures of children using their books sitting at tables.

On-going charity support was provided during the year for the **Food Bank** at the For All Healthy Living Centre in Weston-super-Mare in the form of frequently delivered food donations and of regular financial contributions by members. **The Children's Society** was active with various fund-raising activities – including Mo and Paul's annual garden event - which totalled £4200 in the year. As part of the **Christian Aid** committee in the village, church members were involved in raising £2438 in the year during Christian Aid Week and organising a quiz.

John Hayter (*Additional sums arising from Gift Aid will be forwarded in 2023.)

8. SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2022

Introduction

Safeguarding is a standing item at P.C.C. Meetings. A Safeguarding Report is presented and discussed at every meeting.

The Benefice works in line with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. The Benefice has recently started to use the Safeguarding Dashboard, a piece of software that makes administration and governance of safeguarding simpler.

2. Formal Obligation

The PCC has continued to comply with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

This means that we are committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons

• Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
• Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

3. Safeguarding Roles
The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) is Jo Claridge
Details of how to contact the PSO are displayed on the notice boards at each church and on the church website.

4. DBS Checks
All volunteers who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults have to undergo a DBS Check.
The DBS Recruiter and Verifier is Jo Claridge.
DBS Certificates are renewed every 3 years.
47 people currently hold up to date DBS certificates (including 7 clergy) and are actively volunteering with adult or children's activities

5. Safeguarding Policy, Guidance and Documentation
The Benefice has a number of Safeguarding Policies and Guidelines which all those who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults are expected to follow and comply with. Copies of these can be found on the Church Website

- Parish Safeguarding Policy; a copy of this is also on display in each Church and at the Church Centre
- Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying and Harassment
- Safer Working Practices
- Policy for the Use of Social Media
- Domestic Abuse Statement
- Safeguarding Agreement for the Hiring of Premises
- Safer recruitment and People management
- Recruitment of Ex Offenders

All policies and guidelines are reviewed annually.
The Benefice works in line with the Church off England Parish Safeguarding Handbook which is supported by use of the Safeguarding Dashboard (see 1. above)

6. Safeguarding Learning and Development
All volunteers / staff who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults undertake mandatory Safeguarding Training provided by the Church of England online or face to face.
The core pathways are Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership

- The majority complete Basic Awareness and Foundation Training.
- In addition leaders of activities / groups are now expected to complete Leadership Training.
- The PSO and Churchwardens also complete Leadership Training.

These trainings are renewed at the highest level every three years.
In our Benefice we provide face to face training at Foundation Level every three years.
Face to face training was organised in October 2022 and all those who were required to attend did so.
Members of the PCC are also expected to complete the training in 'Awareness of Domestic Abuse' every three years.
The Churchwardens and PSO also complete Safer Recruitment Training every three years.

Training Completed 2022 -23

Course	Number	Role
Basic Awareness	34	
Foundation	34	Volunteers

Leadership	4	Church wardens and PSO
Safer Recruitment	1	Churchwarden

All members of the PCC will need to complete the Awareness of Domestic Abuse training in early 2023. We will also be focusing on Leadership Training for Activity leaders in 2023.

7. Safer Recruitment and People Management

The churches are compliant with C of E guidance regarding Safer Recruitment and People Management. When appointing paid staff at least one member of the interviewing panel will have completed Safer Recruitment Training.

All relevant guidance has been followed in recruiting to paid and voluntary roles.

All activity leaders are aware of their responsibilities when recruiting new volunteers.

New volunteers are expected to complete an application form and provide referees as well as undergoing a DBS check.

8. Safeguarding Concerns

One safeguarding concern was reported and monitored during the year within the Parishes.

This was recorded and monitored appropriately.

Jo Claridge

Parish Safeguarding Officer

9. ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT 2022

The Electoral Roll was reviewed in April 2022. There were 91 on the St James's Roll (a decrease of one on 2021) and 31 on the All Saints Roll, making a total of 122. A copy of the Electoral Roll was displayed on the notice boards of both churches after the 2022 APCM.

Sarah Gunn, Electoral Roll Officer

10. CHURCH LOG BOOKS, INVENTORIES AND TERRIERS

St James's Church

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date. The documents are filed in the Church Office and are available for inspection if required.

All Saints

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date, and they are kept in the safe in the Church Room.

11. FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH

In 2022 the programme of events was resumed after Covid restrictions although Burns Night in January had to be cancelled due to a resurgence of Covid. However, Jazz in the Paddock with Rich Richie and his Big R Big Band was very well supported in July with families bringing picnic hampers, rugs and folding chairs to enjoy the music. In November Adrian Cobb brought his hawk, Jessie, to the Church Centre and captivated all present with his enthusiasm and knowledge about training and hunting with a hawk.

A project to improve the external lighting at St James's has been in the pipeline throughout the year, although the PCC asked that this be put on hold until the Quinquennial Inspection in November because there are concerns about the condition of the lead roof. We await their response.

12. SERIOUS INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS

Our Charity Number is 1173106

All charities with an income over £25,000 have to report Serious Incidents to the Commission. A Serious Incident is:

An adverse event, actual or alleged which results in or risks significant:

- Loss to the charity's money or assets
- Damage to the charity's property
- Harm to the charity's work, beneficiaries or reputation.

There were no Serious Incidents to report in 2022.

13. STEWARDS in 2023

St James's

Senior Stewards

Niel AKED - 8.00am only
Derrick CLARIDGE
Beth CUTMORE
Hugh GUNN
Sarah GUNN
Martin HAGEN
John HAYTER

Stewards

Margaret ASKE
Dorothy BALDWIN
Jo CLARIDGE
Barbara COOK
Hilary HAGEN
Chris HAYTER
Ian HINE
Margaret LISTER

All Saints Stewards

Tony CALLOW
Angela MORRIS
Douglas OGRAM
Jan WELLING

Parish Finance Return

The form below is produced by the Archbishops' Council's Statistics division, and should be submitted using their webportal at:
http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/

Return of Parish Finance

January to December 2022

6 digit Parish Code	601345	If the form is NOT completed on behalf of the entire parish, please list below the churches included:	Deanery:	Locking
Parish name:	St James the Great Win	St James the Great, Winscombe	Diocese:	Bath & Wells

	INCOMING RESOURCES	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Voluntary income/ receipts		
1	Tax efficient planned giving	£ 44,817	£ -
2	Other planned giving	£ 2,740	£ -
3	Collections at services	£ 1,058	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£ 1,215	£ -
6	Gift Aid recovered	£ 12,281	£ -
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£ -	£ 7,960
8	Grants [Include recurring and one-off)	£ 1,250	£ -
	TOTAL Voluntary income:	**£ 63,361**	**£ 7,960**
	Activities for generating funds		
9	Gross income from fundraising activities	£ 962	£ -
	Income from investments		
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£ 7,327	£ -
	Church activities		
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	£ 5,042	£ -
12	Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	£ 12,232	£ -
	Other incoming resources		
13	Any other income/ receipts not already listed	£ 2,229	£ -
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
A	Unrestricted	£ 91,153	
B	Restricted	£ 7,960	
C	TOTAL	£ 99,113	
	PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES		
14	Number of tax efficient planned givers		
15	Number of other planned givers		
16	Number of new legacies received		

This section needs to be completed manually as the figures are not recorded within the Cashbook

	RESOURCES EXPENDED	UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
	Costs of generating income		
17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£ 100	£ -
	Church activities		
18	Mission giving and donations	£ 375	£ -
19	Diocesan parish share contribution	£ 54,000	£ -
20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£ 3,245	£ -
21	Clergy and staff expenses	£ 1,031	£ -
	Church expenses		
22	Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	£ 262	£ -
23	Church running expenses	£ 11,872	£ 47
24	Church utility bills	£ 4,874	£ -
25	Cost of trading	£ 5,467	£ 99
	Major capital expenditure		
27	Major repairs to the church building	£ -	£ -
28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£ 810	£ -
29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£ -	£ 1,800
	SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**£ 81,936**	**£ 1,946**
26	Governance costs	£ -	£ -
99	Other outgoing resources/ payments	£ 3,636	£ -
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)		
D	Unrestricted	£ 85,672	
E	Restricted	£ 1,946	
F	TOTAL	£ 87,618	
	Cash and Investment Balances	**UNRESTRICTED**	**RESTRICTED**
31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31 Dec 2022	£ 78,857	£ 51,021
32	Fixed Investment Properties	£ 390,271	£ -
	Account basis: on which basis are your accounts prepared (indicate ONE)		
30	**Receipts and payments [X]**	Accruals [ ]	

**produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5*

Please refer to the notes on the following pages to help clarify what is included in each section. The item numbers refer to RPF notes, consistent with the guidance provided in PCC Accountability, **2013**.

Date	26th April 2023
Name	Andrew Hiscox
Position	Vicar
Telephone or email	rev.andrew.hiscox@hotmail.com

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner

Date: 26th April 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1173106

Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WINSCOMBE AND SANDFORD

Church of England

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

St James the Great,Winscombe

15th May 2022

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2022 Agenda, Minutes of 2021APCM
& Reports for
St James the Great and All Saints
for the year ended
31st December 2021

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parishioners Meeting 2022

Election of Churchwardens

To be held at the Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on
Sunday 15th May at 3.00 pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer (Revd Andrew Hiscox)
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 2021 Annual Parishioners Meeting
4. Matters arising from the2021 Annual Parishioners Meeting
5. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at St James's
6. Election of the Churchwardens to serve at All Saints
7. Close of Meeting

The Church of England Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2022

To be held at The Church Centre, Winscombe, BS25 1BA
on
Sunday 15th May at 3.00 pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome (Andrew Hiscox)

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Minutes of the APCM 2021 (with respect to 2020)

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the APCM 2021 not covered by the Agenda

5. Reports
   5.1 The Churchwardens will present the Annual Report to the meeting which includes

   - Report on the fabric of St James's and All Saints Churches in 2020 (written report from Churchwardens in APCM pack)
   - Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2020 (Presentation by Hugh Gunn)
   - Report on proceedings of the Deanery Synod in 2020 (written report from Deanery Synod Representative, Dorothy Baldwin, in APCM Pack)
   - Safeguarding Report (written report from Safeguarding Officer, Jo Claridge, in APCM pack)

6. Electoral Roll (Sarah Gunn)

7. Elections and Appointments

   - Election of members for the PCC (2 vacancies for St James's and 3 vacancies for All Saints)
   - Election of PCC Treasurer (1 Vacancy)
   - Appointment of Stewards to St James's and to All Saints
   - Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC

8. Presentation by the Church Centre Development Group. (Douglas Ogram)

9. Looking back AND Looking forward (Rev. Andrew Hiscox)

10. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (William Du Croz)

11. Closing Remarks and Prayer (Andrew Hiscox)

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parishioners' Meeting
Monday 24th May 2021 at 19.00 hrs
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Draft Minutes

Item		Action
1. Welcome and Opening Prayer by the Chairman	The Revd. Andrew Hiscox welcomed everyone to the meeting with a prayer	
2. Attended by:	Please see list at Annex 1.	
2.a. Apologies for Absence	The following had given their apologies before the meeting: Margaret Parker, Alison Butcher, Margaret Aske, Jo Claridge, Ben and Hazel Dimond, John and Lesley Matthews, John Jenkins, Steve Reed, Liz Elvins and Joan White	
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parishioners Meeting held on 11th October 2020	The approval of the minutes was Proposed by: Sarah Gunn Seconded by: Hugh Gunn and this was endorsed by all those present. Accordingly, the Chairman signed the minutes.	
4. Matters Arising	There were no matters arising.	
5. Election of Churchwardens	<u>Nomination for St James's</u> 1. Derrick Claridge Proposed by: Sarah Gunn Seconded by: William Du Croz There were no nominations for the second Warden <u>Nomination for All Saints</u> 1. Diana Williams Proposed by: Douglas Ogram Seconded by: William Du Croz The meeting endorsed this nomination unanimously. 2. There were no nominations for the second Warden.	Results of Election Form to be displayed **(WDC)**
6. Thank you to the retiring Churchwardens	The Chairman expressed his sincere thanks to Tony Callow, Beth Cutmore and Douglas Ogram for all that they had done as Churchwardens over the last three years. Derrick Claridge then spoke on behalf of the wider Church community and thanked them for the brilliant work that they had done. They were each presented with a rose and garden gift tokens as an appreciation of all that they had done.	
	The Meeting closed at 19.15 hrs	

Benefice of Winscombe and Sandford
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Monday 24th May 2021 at 19.00 hrs
The Church Centre, Winscombe

Draft Minutes

Item		Action
1. Welcome	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a prayer.	
2. Attendees	Please see the list at Annex 1.	
3. Apologies for Absence	The following had given their apologies before the meeting: Margaret Parker, Alison Butcher, Margaret Aske, Jo Claridge, Ben and Hazel Dimond, John and Lesley Matthews, John Jenkins, Steve Reed, Liz Elvins and Joan White	
4. Minutes of the APCM held on 11th October 2020	The approval of the minutes of the 2020 APCM was Proposed by: Derrick Claridge Seconded by: Beth Cutmore and these were endorsed unanimously. Accordingly, the Chairman signed the minutes.	
5. Matters Arising from the Minutes and not covered elsewhere on the Agenda	No Matters were raised	
6. Reports	6.1. <u>Annual Report</u> The comprehensive report by the Churchwardens was noted. The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the Friends of St James's Church who have helped significantly with repairs to the West Doors, and currently are carrying out repairs to the SW Door. *<u>Finance</u>* Hugh Gunn spoke to his Report noting that at the end of 2020 our finances were in a reasonable position thanks to careful stewardship. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Hugh and Sarah Gunn, and David Ashton-Hilton, for all their work in looking after the Churches finances. *<u>Deanery Synod</u>* The Chairman thanked Angela Morris and Dorothy Baldwin for their excellent work representing the Benefice on the Deanery Synod. *<u>Safeguarding Report</u>* The Chairman thanked Jo Claridge for her excellent work	

	as our Safeguarding Officer. It was noted that there had been no serious incidents that required a report to the Charity Commission in 2020. After this discussion, the Chairman asked the meeting to approve the Report and this was agreed unanimously.	
7. Electoral Roll	Sarah Gunn reported that there were now 123 people on the Electoral Roll - 92 at St James's and 31 at All Saints.	
	8.1 Election of Members to the PCC 8.1.1 All Saints There was one new nomination: • Meryl Leach Proposed by: Douglas Ogram Seconded by: Carol Taylor Jan Welling was willing to continue as a co-opted member. 8.1.2 St James's It was noted that Jo Claridge, John Hayter and William Du Croz have completed their 3 year terms. However, Jo Claridge and William Du Croz are willing to continue as PCC Members for a further term, and Douglas Ogram, in stepping down as Churchwarden, is willing to continue as a member of the PCC. In addition, there are 2 new nominations for new members of the PCC. • Jo Claridge Proposed by: Derrick Claridge Seconded by: William Du Croz • Douglas Ogram Proposed by: Beth Cutmore Seconded by: Sarah Gunn • William Du Croz Proposed by: Beth Cutmore Seconded by: Denys Cutmore • Hilary Hagen Proposed by: William Du Croz Seconded by: Sue Reed • Sue Reed Proposed by: William Du Croz Seconded by: Beth Cutmore Sarah Gunn proposed and Geoff Norton seconded that all the above be elected to the PCC. This was approved unanimously. In addition, Hilary Bebb who has recently moved to Winscombe would like to join the PCC. As she has not yet	Parish Return to Diocese **(WDC)** Update info for Charity Commission **(WDC)**

	been on the Electoral roll for 6 months, she will be co-opted at the next meeting of the PCC. 8.2 PCC Treasurer There were no nominations for the post of Treasurer. 8.4. Appointment of Stewards The meeting agreed unanimously the appointment of the Stewards as listed in Annex 2. 8.5. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC The appointment of Dick Beath as the Independent Examiner was endorsed, and Hugh Gunn will seek confirmation of this.	
9. Introducing the new Vision	It was with a sense of joy, excitement and privilege that the Chairman shared the new vision for our Church Community. He explained that the PCC has been praying together, and listening for the Holy Spirit to lead them. He highlighted the opportunity to work in fellowship with St Johns. Quite simply, we want to put the love of Christ in the heart of the community. This is what we believe the Lord is saying to us at this time, as three churches that have the potential to become one community of faith, three buildings, one church centre, one body of Christ. A copy of the Chairman's address is shown at Annex 3.	
10. Presentation by the Church Centre Development Group	Derrick Claridge gave a presentation on how we might improve and develop the Church Centre. This is an excellent example of how the community can witness the delivery of the Vision.	
11. Invitation to Volunteers	At the end of the meeting, Douglas Ogram and Beth Cutmore spoke about the need for people to step forward and volunteer to help the PCC deliver the Vision. All attendees were given a 'volunteer' form and a 'Vision' Badge as they left the meeting.	
	The meeting closed with a prayer at 20.45 hrs.	

Annexe 1 - List of Attendees

* Not members of the Electoral Roll

Andrew Hiscox*
William Du Croz
Beth Cutmore
Douglas Ogram
Ann Ogram*
Denys Cutmore
Tony Callow
Derrick Claridge
Mike Bravery*
Richard Noy
Bridget Andrews
Chris Andrews
Dorothy Baldwin
Sarah Gunn
Hugh Gunn
Angela Morris
Barbara Cook
Paul Matthews
Geoff Norton
Ann Norton
Jane Fancott
Hilary Hagen
Martin Hagen
Chris Hayter
John Hayter
Celia Hine
Ian Hine
Rosemary Mann
Robin Mann
Helen McPherson
Paul Matthews
Pauline Nixon*
Shaun Darley
Sue Reed
David Smith
Edith Thompson
Peter Thompson
Diana Williams
Jan Welling
Tony Callow
Meryl Leach
Robin Leach
Angela Morris
Hilary Bebb*

St James's: Stewards

May 2021

Senior Stewards (List A)	**Stewards (List A)**
Niel Aked Beth Cutmore Hugh Gunn Sarah Gunn Martin Hagen Paul Matthews David Smith **Senior Stewards (List B - unwilling to serve during the pandemic)** Celia Hine David Lister Geoff Norton	Margaret Aske Dorothy Baldwin Derrick Claridge Jo Claridge Barbara Cook William Du Croz Chris Hayter John Hayter Douglas Ogram Edith Thompson Peter Thompson **Stewards (List B - unwilling to serve during the pandemic)** Ross Allen Liz Elvins Ian Hine Margaret Lister

All Saints: Stewards - May 2021

Tony Callow Jan Welling Angela Morris	

APCM Vicar's address and our new Church Vision (24th May 2021)

But now, this is what the Lord says, he who created you, Jacob,
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you: I have summoned you by name: you are mine. [2] When you pass through the waters, I will be with you: and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you: when you walk through the fire you will not be burned. [3] For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43)

We've spent some time this afternoon considering what has happened in the past. Rightly we have given thanks to God and given thanks to his servants for all they have done in his service. I wanted to turn our attention towards the future. The last 12 months have been for us a time of unprecedented change and challenge - with the COVID pandemic, social distancing and a plethora of restrictions which we've had to navigate like Columbus navigating his way to the new world. Loved ones have died, and we have mourned their passing. Our churches have closed and reopened and closed again. At times it has felt like a roller coaster. Now, as we hopefully begin to turn to the corner on the pandemic, we can also turn our thoughts to the future.

The Bible reading is from the book of the prophet Isaiah, who prophesied at a time when Israel was in exile. They were unable to return to the ways of the past and a return to familiar territory wasn't certain. They would have been nervous and tentative about where the Lord was leading them. But the Lord speaks to them clearly: ***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43 v3, v9).*** We recognise even amidst the pandemic there are things to be thankful for. The time lockdowns gave to Richard with Jill before she died. A greater sense of community and looking after one's neighbour. A re-valuing of who are our key workers, who help keep us all going. In our church life, we've become more flexible and creative with our Services, embracing technology in new ways and this has helped us reach those isolating or vulnerable, allowing them to continue to worship with us and remain part of us even though they might be physically separated. A new church has been added to our number and looking back we've felt truly blessed by the addition of St John's. There's been a real sense of supporting each other, looking after each other, recognising we're all in it together. And it is this sense of togetherness that will be key to our future, for I truly believe united we will stand, or divided we will fall.

As that passage from Isaiah reminds us, God has walked with us when we passed through the fire, and He continues to draw us forward, now calling each of us individually and corporately together to play our part in his plan. Many times, over the past year, I've called us all to prayer, together we've asked for the Holy Spirit's leading for our future. As a PCC we've been praying together too, and listening out for the Holy Spirit's leading. And so, your PCC and I feel a sense of joy, excitement and privilege as we share today our new vision for our Church Community. It is a vision that turns our attention outwards towards our community. It is a vision that turns our attention towards the future where we believe the Lord is leading us:

Our Vision for the next 5 years:

Quite simply, we want to put the love of Christ in the heart of the Community. That is what we believe the Lord is saying to us at this time, as three churches that have the potential to become one community of faith, three buildings, one church centre, one body of Christ. It is a time for us to begin **reaching** out more to our community to understand and engage them, and to be bold and courageous as we do so. We have two major new housing estates that we'd like to reach out to and offer welcome packs to residents, and give them a warm welcome to our church community and our wider community. We have strong ecumenical links, working with the Quakers, the Lynch Chapel, the Catholics and most recently the Methodists in Churchill. There are opportunities to benefit from the gifts God has given our brothers and sisters in these denominations to work together for the glory of God. We want to take **welcoming** further, recognising that we have 5 schools in our benefice and to that end we want to make sure our buildings look inviting to young families and we also want to have people who are willing to help minister in our schools, helping the young hear about the good news of Jesus.

We want to be **caring**, thinking especially of our 5 care homes, with whom we can start to re-engage as restrictions ease. We want to care for all folk in our community, **serving** them in practical ways like meeting their needs through coffee mornings, home communions, community cafes, Café Church, Messy Church and Family Communions - our caring actions speaking of Christ's love. We remember Christ's command to make disciples, by giving Bible based **teaching** through our regular services and study courses and home groups.

But we need people to help make this vision a reality. That's where you come in. Consider what we are and who God is calling us to minister to. We are three churches - to each of you God has given you gifts for use in his service, whether that's an upfront or behind the scenes role. Now is the time to get involved. So, '***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland'. (v3, v9)***

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
REPORTS FOR ST JAMES THE GREAT, WINSCOMBE
AND
ALL SAINTS, SANDFORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

1. OUR SHARED VISION

2 CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORTS FOR 2021

St James's Church

Some necessary work has been carried out in the Church this year.
7 out of 10 led lights in the main body of the Church had failed over a period and whilst new light fittings had been purchased, they had never been fitted.
2 of the 4 light fittings in the Choir stalls also failed as well as 3 light fittings in the side aisles and font area.
Andrew's licensing was an excellent reason to undertake the work in the main Church and Chancel. This took place in October once scaffolding had been installed.
While the scaffolding was erected, a brilliant cleaning team went in and cleaned our beloved angels and other difficult to reach high areas.
The fittings in the side aisles and font area were not able to be replaced at this time because they were outside the area covered by the scaffolding.
3 working fittings in the main church were saved to replace failed units in the side aisles.
Whilst the scaffolding was being installed a scaffold pole hit the Corona in the chancel. The fitting was made safe to use whilst compensation from the Scaffold Company was sought.
Once the compensation was paid, we were able to obtain the replacement pieces to repair the Corona.
At the beginning of February, a tower scaffold was hired to enable the Corona to be reached and the side aisle and font area repairs to take place. Repairs were made and the faulty lights replaced.
The cost of the tower, replacement parts and electrician's costs were covered by the compensation money received from the Scaffolding Company.
Annual PAT testing of mobile electrical equipment in the Church, Tower and Churchyard Room took place at the same time as the lighting repairs took place.
The Tower floodlight has not been working for some time so while the electrician was on site this was investigated and found to be a failed lamp in the fitting. A decision has been taken to replace this with a LED fitting which will happen by the end of March.

During December there was a failure of one of the electrical circuits which was quickly diagnosed and repaired by our electrician. At the same time investigation was carried out re the failure of the

main post lights by the Churchyard Room and car park. This was diagnosed as a circuit in the Churchyard Room being switched off. This lighting is now working.
The Tower light fitting failed during the year. A new LED fitting was fitted and is now functional.
This work now means that the Church is well on the way to be as carbon neutral as possible. The aspiration of the church of England is for all its buildings to be carbon neutral by 2030.
Many thanks to Douglas, Alison, Paul and the cleaning team for all the above work.
We are still experiencing problems with water ingress in the roof. At various times a very interesting pattern of buckets adorn the floor. Some repairs have been carried out, unfortunately as soon as we manage to cure the original it travels to another point. Problem still being investigated.
The Cross, which was knocked off by a tree branch during high winds, has been repaired and returned to the roof and the lightning conductor reconnected. The tree has had the offending bough removed.
The work on the West doors has been completed and repainted.
The ancient yew is showing signs of damage and we await an Arborist report on the condition before taking any corrective action.

All Saints
The fire extinguishers and the lightning conductor were checked.The church yard is the responsibility of North Somerset council. Concerns about dead wood in the large beech trees and the need for pruning have been raised with them, as it could be a health and safety issue
The NSC tree officer has said that the trees will be surveyed and if necessary pruned in the near future.
The pathway to the church room door and all round the west end of the church to the porch has been retarmacked by local firm CJL, free of charge. This has raised the level of the pathway to the floor of the porch. This has greatly improved access for wheelchair users and mobility scooters.
The Quinquennial report of January 2021 mentions works which have to be done urgently, within 12 months and within 5 years.
They include repairs and renovations of the vestry, church room and porch.
We are starting with the vestry as heavy items such as the safes and some furniture which are normally stored in the vestry have been moved to the church room. This is because of the poor state of the vestry floor. The church room therefore can not be refurbished until after the vestry.
The church architect recommended Ellis and Co to do the vestry repairs as their quote was more reasonable. The vestry floor, window, external door and celling will be repaired and the walls replastered and decorated. The external wall will be repointed. The original list of repairs had to be reduced so that the money we had in the building fund (£21,000) would cover it.
Work should begin in June. After this it is hoped that renovation of the church room can begin.

The church room kitchen needs refurbishing and updating. It is used significantly in the monthly community cafes and for refreshments after services. The church room also needs redecorating and the damp proofing renewed.
Diana Williams,Churchwarden

Churchyard Rooms
The Churchyard Rooms have not been in full use for some time and at the end of last year it was decided to see if they could be let and provide a much-needed boost to our income.
The rooms have been stripped of all unnecessary equipment and everything of use moved down to the Church Centre.
During this work it was found that the gas water heater was not working, was faulty and no longer safe to be used and one of the wall mounted convector heaters failed.
Both pieces of equipment have been removed.

A new electric wall mounted hot water unit has now been fitted, repairs and redecoration carried out as necessary.
The toilets now have hot water working again.
The two light fittings in this room have been changed for LED units
From the beginning of March 2022 we now have a tenant. This is a pre school playgroup which fits in very well with our Christian ethos.
We can now expect an income of £3900 per annum less agents' fees.
Many thanks to Denys, Beth and Douglas for their work on this endeavour.

Church Centre

As you will have seen over the last year gradual progress has been made in trying to make this building more inviting and suitable for our use. Our original plans for the development of the centre had to be modified and the idea of making use of the alcove area as a meeting area abandoned. The proposed electric shutters, on further investigation, proved to be unsuitable.
The curtains for the upper windows are nearly finished and it is hoped they will be fitted by the end of March.
The Youth Cupboard has been tidied up and made into a versatile storage space used by the Church and Scramblers as well as the Badminton Club.
The garage has been cleared of much old, stored equipment and is also used as a storage space for Scramblers.
It was decided to reconfigure the back room to make a small meeting room which involved some of the cupboards being removed on the long wall and putting the cupboards along the shorter wall. A good useful space.
Completion of this task has been put on hold because cracks in the wall, up till now hidden by cupboards, became apparent. Our insurance company were called in and a damage survey was carried out.

The basic report says: -
The investigation has confirmed that the cause of the movement to the Centre is root induced clay shrinkage subsidence. There is no evidence of any influence from any other source such as leaking drains.
In order to alleviate the issue, the local vegetation to the area of movement should be removed. Once the vegetation is removed the clays should rehydrate and swell, this should close many of the cracks and then stabilise at which point simple cosmetic repairs can be carried out.
The roots retrieved from the trial pits were identified as emanating from Cupressaceae include for example; Hinoki Cypress and Lawson Cypress (Chamaecyparis spp.), Leyland Cypress (X Cuprocyparis leylandii), Monterey Cypress, Italian Cypress, Mexican Cypress, Smooth Arizona Cypress and Rough-barked Arizona Cypress (Cupressus spp.), Junipers and Pencil Cedar (Juniperus spp.), Western Red Cedar (Thuja spp.), the generic hybrid X Cupressocyparis, Swamp-cypress (Taxodium distichum), Dawn Redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides), Coast Redwood (Sequoia sempervirens), Japanese Red Cedar (Cryptomeria japonica) and Wellingtonia (Sequoiadendron giganteum).
The clays were found to be desiccated (dry).
As you are aware, there is no subsidence cover provided by your Policy and therefore, unfortunately on this occasion your Insurer will be unable to be of assistance with costs relating to this matter on this occasion.

The offending trees are not on our land but in our neighbour's garden. We have taken legal advice and as a result a solicitor's letter has been sent to the owner asking that they take action to remove the offending leylandii hedge.

The lighting in the office, back room, entrance hall, kitchen and alcove has been upgraded to LED. This supports our aspiration to be as carbon neutral as possible.
The gas heater by the kitchen hatch was condemned in the summer as it was incorrectly installed with no external vent. This heater was removed and the gas piping to it safely capped off.
One of the double electric sockets in the alcove was constantly being damaged by the chairs being stacked in front of it and has been moved to a height above the chairs.
A leak was found in the ceiling in the kitchen by the skylight. The flat roof above has been repaired and the leak cured
Thanks to Denys, Douglas, Tony, Steve and all who have worked on this project so far.

Birch Cottage

We carried out a refit which included removal of the non-functioning night storage heaters, refitting of a new kitchen, new electric convector heaters, removal of the redundant emergency lighting and repainting all through. This was a considerable investment but enabled us to re let the cottage after the departure of the previous tenant.
The Cottage has now been occupied for a year and the tenant is very comfortable and happy. The cottage is now bringing in an income.
Many thanks to Chris Andrews for his gardening tidy-ups and repairs carried out during the year.
Derrick Claridge. Churchwarden

3 OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

Pastoral Team

Pastoral work was very limited during much of 2021 because of Covid-19 restrictions. However, the team continued to keep in touch with the sick or bereaved by telephone or with cards, whilst Revd. Andrew Hiscox and Revd.Ann Ogram visited when restrictions allowed. Throughout much of the year It was not possible to visit the 5 Care Homes we have in our parish. It is dearly hoped that in 2022 things will return to normal and we are delighted to welcome Pauline Nixon to the team.

Safeguarding Officer

Jo Claridge continued as our Safeguarding Officer throughout the year. She ensured that those that needed DBS checks and the appropriate training, were up to date. See her separate report.

Signpost (Parish Magazine)

'Signpost' was launched in September 2021 as a monthly parish magazine covering Winscombe, Sandford and Churchill.
A team of five, Beth and Denys Cutmore, Ann and Douglas Ogram and Jo Claridge form the editorial team. It takes a considerable amount of time to produce the magazine each month in terms of compiling and editing, printing and distribution but this is manageable within the current team.
The format is similar to the Parish Magazine that was produced until April 2020 but ceased during the pandemic. There is currently no advertising and therefore no revenue from production.
We have received a few donations from people who are grateful to see the magazine back in production.
All former contributors were contacted and the majority continue to send us notices and articles on a monthly basis. We also have several new contributors and always welcome new ideas for the magazine. It was decided to print the new magazine 'in house' as we now have a copier that can produce stapled A5 booklets at a reasonable cost.
The first edition was delivered to every household on the old distribution list as a 'one off' with an explanation that in future limited printed copies would be available from the three churches, Church Centre and various outlets in the villages. People were encouraged to receive the magazine by email

or to download it from the church website. In addition we offered to deliver the magazine to households who could not access it online or get to one of the outlets to pick one up.
It was not possible to resume the former delivery service to subscribers as a number of those who used to distribute and deliver the magazine are no longer able to do so.
Distribution is as follows:

- Churches:18
- Church Centre:10+
- Local Shops:52
- Delivered:46
- Sheltered/Care Homes:15
- Total Printed 141
- Email: 258
- Downloaded from website: unknown

Advertising
All the former advertisers were contacted and offered a refund of 75% of their 2020 fee to compensate for lost advertising during the pandemic.
A total of £756 (out of a possible £2457) was refunded. Many advertisers chose not to request the refund.
At the same time advertisers who had not paid for their 2020 advertising were contacted and asked to pay 25% of their fee for the January to March 2020 issues. £73.50 out of a possible £262.50 was received.
The editorial team would like to re-commence advertising in the magazine. This would provide revenue which would offset the cost of printing and allow us to use some colour in the printed copies.
However, in order for this to happen we need to recruit an advertising manager. This need not be an onerous task as the majority of adverts are already set up. It would involve updating adverts and requesting the advertising fees every 6 months.
Please contact Jo Claridge on 01934 843014 if you think you could help.

Refresh-men-t
Refresh-men-t is the name given to the Men's Breakfast Group of our churches and meets on the third Saturday of each month except in August and December. The aim of the group is to enjoy a cooked breakfast in the company of like-minded men who can enjoy male camaraderie as well as an inspirational thought or two.
In the post-pandemic world Refresh-men-t was delighted to welcome its members back on September 18th in 2021. This was the first time they could meet since February 15th, 2020, 19 months previously and our own Vicar, Andrew, welcomed everyone back with a short inspirational talk; the smiles on everyone's faces said it all – a freedom of sorts had been reinstated!
In October our own Chris Greenwood gave us a talk about his slightly unusual take on the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela; instead of approaching conventionally from the East across the "top" of Spain, Chris and wife, Yvonne, journeyed from the South, up from Porto in Portugal through Vigo and thereon into Santiago, a route that it is supposed to have been taken by St James's remains centuries ago, on their own way to the city.
In November we received a truly inspiring talk by the Rev Craig Sinclair, curate at St Paul's, Weston-super-Mare; Educated at Eton and Cambridge, offered a lead role in the running of the Chelsea Flower Show at the tender age of 19 (and refused it!) we heard how God gradually moulded him into someone prepared for the ministry through some traumatic brushes with death.

Music and Choir

The Organ at St James

We benefit from having a good quality organ in our Church - considered to be one of the best in the Mendip area. It has required no major work to be done on it over the past year but we are very fortunate that it is maintained regularly by Brian Hooper and Liam Davies. They, very generously, do not charge for their work. Our new Organist, Robert Anderson has certainly enjoyed playing it! In the longer term, there will likely be a need for some expenditure as it is a long time since major repair work has been carried out.

The Choir

Since the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and services were resumed in Church, the Choir has been leading the singing at the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month services as well as additional festival services. Claire Blythe continues to lead us with the help of our new Organist, Robert Anderson, and when all are present we total 12 voices or more. As we gain more members, we are able to extend our repertoire of traditional Anglican church music which is challenging yet fun. The highlight of 2021 was the delayed Service of Installation of Revd. Andrew Hiscox in November. We would welcome new members – particularly Sopranos - so if you are interested please contact Claire or Robert.

Weekly Church Centre Coffee Mornings

In August 2021 the weekly Tuesday Morning Coffee Mornings were re-instated in the Church Centre. Organised by Iris Bridges, Chris Hayter and Beth Cutmore and with a team of wonderful volunteers, the Coffee Mornings are extremely well supported. Over 30 people regularly come for a cup of coffee and chat including residents of St Michaels Axbridge, new residents from the Redrow development and from the wider village community.

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

TAG had a very interesting year and we achieved, in our opinion, quite a lot.

- Website fully functional with more pages added and updated on a regular basis.
- WhatsApp as a communication aid now well established and regularly used.
- Hall Booking system now functioning fully being used by hirers. Douglas Ogram kindly took on the administration of the system which is in itself quite a task.
- During the lockdown period services were regularly videoed and posted on the website and our YouTube Channel so that the congregation could still experience worship. We have ceased videoing services as the Churches are now fully open, however, the rise in Covid cases at Christmas meant that we provided a recorded Community Carol Service.
- Our Facebook page continues to be another means of communication. We have recently set up a second page for Messy Church.

TAG itself is currently resting awaiting further calls for technical aid.
Thanks to Chris Greenwood and David Hurst for their endeavours.
Jo and Derrick Claridge

Cleaning

Cleaning of St James's has been done nobly by our Churchwardens and spouses over the past two years but a Rota of Cleaners will be restarted in 2022.

Flower Arranging

After many years of service, Rosalind Symons ceased organizing the Flower Arranging

Rota during 2021. We are very grateful to her for all her hard work and organizational skills. Margaret Aske kindly took on this task. Once Services resumed in St James's after the various Covid-19 restrictions, the Teams provided flowers in the church on a regular basis which were much appreciated by the congregation. Over the past two eventful years, several of the longstanding team members decided to retire from the task so if anyone would like to join the band of arrangers please contact Margaret Aske.

Bellringers

During the Covid restrictions the bells were not rung. Throughout this period the bells and the inside of the tower were regularly inspected, usually at the same time as the clock was wound. Records were kept of each inspection. When the Covid rules allowed, 4 of the refurbished ropes (purchased in 2020) were fitted.

Before ringing recommenced at the end of May, as the bells had not been rung for a considerable time, they were checked and were found to be in good repair. At a further inspection at the end of 2021 the bells remained in good repair. Despite our normal 'spring clean' not being able to be carried out, the tower is in reasonable condition.

Since returning to ringing we have struggled to have enough ringers for service rings. On a number of occasions, we have had to abandon practice night due to lack of ringers. We have been cooperating with the ringers from St John's at Churchill to support each other to make up the numbers. This has enabled us to ring for more services at both towers.

During 2021, we have rung at 2 weddings and a funeral. We also rang, half muffled, for Armistice Day and the Remembrance Day service and chimed the tenor as a mark of respect after the death of both Captain Tom and Prince Phillip. This, and most service rings during this difficult period, was only possible with the help of ringers from local towers who gave up their time (and continue to do so) to ring with us and to whom our thanks must be recoded. Without their continued in help our bells would rarely be heard.

John Mathews.

4 THE PCC

Report from the Secretary

During 2021, the PCC met 11 times and amongst the topics discussed the following were some of the important topics:

- Approval of the Budget for 2021, payment of the Parish Share in 2021 and approval of the Accounts for 2020
- Proposal for re-letting Birch Cottage after undertaking refurbishment work
- Re-launch of the Parish Magazine (now called 'Signpost') in September 2021. This is primarily available digitally although some hard copies are still produced using the officer photocopier. It was also agreed that refunds should be offered to those advertisers who had paid for full year of advertising in 2020 but only benefited from 3 issues.
- Development of a Strategic Plan for the next five years and agreeing a Vision:

- Creation of Welcome Packs for delivery to those moving in to new homes in the villages
- Quinquennial Report for All Saints and approval to proceed with Phase 2 of the work.
- Administrator's Post – David Ashton-Hilton left the post in June 2021.
- Impact of the Pandemic during the year that included:
    - Hand delivery of posies of flowers to homes on Mothering Sunday
    - Arrangements for online Services and management of the risks for Gathered Services
    - Use of the Common Cup
- Recommendations from the Faith-in-Action Group
- Engagement of an Organist to play at St James's Church
- Development of the Church Centre
- Safeguarding
- Installation of Rev's Andrew as Vicar of Winscombe and Sandford on 8th November
- Letting of the Churchyard Room after undertaking essential works
- The Bellringers' Painting

At the Annual Parishioners' Meeting held on 24th May:

- Diana Williams was elected as Churchwarden for All Saints; and
- Derrick Claridge was elected as Churchwarden for St James's

The meeting thanked Tony Callow, Beth Cutmore and Douglas Ogram for their brilliant work as Churchwardens which had been far from normal as they had to cope the a Vacancy and a pandemic.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting also held on 24th May 2021, John Hayter stepped down as a member and the following were elected to the PCC:

- Jo Claridge – continuing as Safeguarding Officer
- Douglas Ogram
- William Du Croz – continuing as Secretary
- Hilary Hagen
- Sue Reed
- Meryl Leach

At the meeting in July, the PCC agreed to co-opt Jan Welling, Hilary Bebb and Pauline Nixon on to the PCC.
Finally, I thank all those who have helped me over the last year.
William Du Croz, PCC Secretary

5 DEANERY SYNOD 2021

2021 started the year with the Festival of Light, which was held on Zoom. In fact most of the meetings for the year were held on Zoom. Not ideal but it kept people in touch.

The Deanery is responsible for 27 Churches. There are:

13 Benefices/Parishes
16.5 stipendiary clergy
3 self-supporting clergy

3 curates
3 Pioneer ministers
1 externally funded clergy.
27th January, the Bishop gave permission to hold APCM meetings on Zoom.
Much of the year was focused on the areas around Weston-super-Mare and Worle.

10th February Deanery Synod meeting was held on Zoom. Most notable was that there was a 15% shortfall in payments to the Diocese of Parish Share.
17th February Mike Tedstone, the Lay Chair had a meeting with relevant people to discuss the future of the Parish of Churchill and Langford. It was agreed that the oversight of the two churches should be separated with St John's Churchill being aligned to the Parish of Winscombe and Sandford, and that St Mary's. Langford become under the oversight of the Parish of Wrington et al. It was also recognised that the Parish boundaries would have to be altered, so that the Parish of St. John's Churchill would become one Parish and Langford would become part of Wrington et al.
The Deanery Pastoral and Mission Group are very keen to keep the funding previously provided by the Diocese for Revd Tim Jessimen's position to be ring-fenced for the provision of a youth worker to work with Andrew linked with Churchill Academy.
The restrictions mandated by the Covid pandemic has caused a rethink of the use of THE COMMON CUP. When it was sought to be debated at General Synod level in the summer, it was ignored. By October a proposal was put to Diocesan Synod that "This deanery would welcome a discussion at Diocesan Synod around the use of the Common Cup."
30th June meeting was also held on Zoom.
As well as the discussions on the Common Cup there was a presentation of the Course being recommended by the Bishops' "Living in Faith and Love". This course is already being used in this parish. It would be advantageous for all members to attend one of the courses.
Also the issue of becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030 was presented by Hayden. He indicated how this could be achieved in our parishes.
6th October Synod also held on Zoom.
The focus at this meeting was on FOCAL MINISTRY or ENABLING MINISTRY. This should not be seen as a way of reducing clergy posts,but enabling local lay people and clergy to have a greater oversight in the running of their churches. Burrington has already appointed a couple to be Focal Ministers there.
6th November – DPMG Away day in Clevedon
The main conclusion after debate was that Covid has given churches and church members the opportunity to re-imagine church. Church buildings being closed had enabled us to move from the "islands of Christianity" in the community model, to being a Christian presence throughout the wider community. Thus there are opportunities to influence others and be influenced by others in aspects of the community. The preparations for the Platinum Jubilee are an excellent example of this.
Revd. Andrew Hemming and I were asked to sketch out a new boundary between Churchill and Langford, acknowledging the new and proposed housing developments in those areas.
The Bishop gave permission for clergy to not hold Services on 26th December.
Dorothy Baldwin, Deanery Representative

6 FAITH IN ACTION REPORT

Support for charities in 2021

During the year, the FIA team met regularly to consider priorities and also to review the work of the charities we have regularly supported. In particular we have focused St James giving on Christian charities, but have been pleased that some of the charities, such as Elizabeth Ann Charity and Spring

of Hope, the Bristol based charity supporting abused women, reach out to all, with Christian love, where they see great need.
We have been careful to look at the accounts of charities we support, to make certain we are not funding what we consider to be high administrative expenses. The Elizabeth Ann charity, which works in an Indian village, is a wonderful example of a charity that spends nothing on UK admin costs, relying on trustees' generosity to provide administrative services free of charge. Their newsletters are heart-warming, showing all at St James, the difference our gifts make to the lives of the very poor in the village of Burlavaripalem, India.
Other charities supported this year, are listed on the attached sheet, together with the funding amounts allocated to each. Barnabas Fund has been one of the main charities we have supported in 2021, providing a wonderful variety of support programmes to persecuted and marginalized Christians across the world. Some of their stories have been harrowing during Covid, as certain countries have prevented poor Christians obtaining basic rations from food aid allocations.
Thanks are due once again to donors of goods and money to the For All Healthy Living Centre in Weston and to Denys and team, for their tireless logistical efforts in taking food each week to the Food Bank.
In addition to the £1000 allocated to charity giving by the PCC in 2021, charitable funding was raised through an appeal in January which raised almost £4000. In addition, a special appeal was made in the Autumn for the sudden crisis in Afghanistan. The generosity of St James donors, with special thanks due to a small number of very generous donors, resulted in over £12000 plus Gift Aid. This was allocated to charities we knew were directly supporting Christians, and to the British Red Cross, who were able to operate freely in that country during the initial crisis period.
The decision by the PCC not to include charitable giving in the 2022 St James budget has resulted in disbandment of FIA but the PCC has other plans in mind for charitable giving this year.

STATEMENT OF CHARITABLE GIVING BY ST. JAMES CHURCH IN 2021
Total sum raised for allocation by FIA was nearly £17,000, with another £4000 Gift Aid due from HMRC for the Afghanistan appeal in early 2022.

The funds were distributed as follows:
Somewhere To Go (Weston) £485
For All Healthy Living Centre (Weston) £375 plus donations of food.
Church Mission Society £835
Elizabeth-Ann Charity £1040
Spring of Hope (Bristol) £375
Barnabas Fund £4985
Bible Society £225
Missionary Aviation Fellowship £419
Samaritans (Weston) £200
Christian Aid £4000
British Red Cross £4000
Note: St James' Church also has support groups which raise funds for The Children's Society and for Christian Aid.
Peter Thompson and John Hayter, for FiA Team

7 SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2021

The PCC has continued to comply with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.
This means that we are committed to:

• Promoting a safer environment and culture
• Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
• Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
• Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
• Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
• Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

The PCC has received regular Safeguarding Reports at its meetings over the past year.
No safeguarding concerns were reported during the year within the Parishes.
54 people currently hold up to date DBS certificates (including 6 clergy) many of whom are actively volunteering with adult or children's activities.
These certificates have been reviewed after 5 years, however, this has changed to every 3 years from January 2022.
All new volunteers have completed basic safeguarding training (C0).
The Church Wardens at St James's and All Saints have refreshed their Safeguarding Training (C1)since being appointed to their new roles.
It is now 3 years since we last ran Safeguarding Training in the Parish so this will need to be planned for later this year. It will be a requirement for all volunteers to attend and it is likely that a number of sessions will be run.
The Parish Safeguarding Policy has been reviewed and approved by the PCC. The policy is reviewed annually.
In June 2021 the Church of England published its 'Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance.' The PCC were briefed about this. The guidance applies to both voluntary and paid positions within the church.
The PSO has been working on updating the Benefice's existing paperwork in relation to Safer Recruitment and creating a Safer Recruitment Policy to be used within the parishes.
The Guidance is accompanied by a 'Safer Recruitment Training' module which is a requirement for all those who may be involved in overseeing the recruitment of volunteers and paid employees.
To date it has been completed by the PSO and by 2 of the 3 church wardens. As some activities recommence leaders have been reminded of the correct process for recruiting volunteers.
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have any questions or concerns regarding safeguarding.
Jo Claridge, Parish Safeguarding Officer

8 ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT 2021

The Electoral Roll was reviewed in April 2021. There were 92 on the St James's Roll (an increase of one on 2020!) and 31 on the All Saints Roll, making a total of 123. A copy of the Electoral Roll was displayed on the notice boards of both churches.
Sarah Gunn, Electoral Roll Officer

9 CHURCH LOG BOOKS, INVENTORIES AND TERRIERS

St James's Church

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date. The documents are filed in the Church Office and are available for inspection if required.

All Saints

The Terrier, Inventory and Log Book are up to date, and they are kept in the safe in the Church Room.

10 FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH

The small West Door was repaired during 2021 but no other projects were undertaken, in part due to continuing Covid-19 restrictions. The Friends continue to consider the outside lighting of the church and churchyard as a possible future project. The Friends also contributed to the purchase of the picture of the Bell Ringers painted by Ros Cuthbert in the 1980s. Their fundraising events were curtailed during 2021 with only their delayed 2021 AGM and Lecture taking place, in November 2021.

11 SERIOUS INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS

Our Charity Number is 1173106

All charities with an income over £25,000 have to report Serious Incidents to the Commission. A Serious Incident is:

An adverse event, actual or alleged which results in or risks significant:

- Loss to the charity's money or assets
- Damage to the charity's property
- Harm to the charity's work, beneficiaries or reputation.

There were no Serious Incidents to report in 2021.

12 STEWARDS in 2022

St James's

Senior Stewards

Niel AKED - 8.00am only
Beth CUTMORE
Hugh GUNN
Sarah GUNN
Martin HAGEN
John HAYTER
David LISTER
Paul MATTHEWS
Douglas OGRAM

Stewards

Margaret ASKE
Dorothy BALDWIN
Jo CLARIDGE
Barbara COOK
William DU CROZ
Hilary HAGEN
Chris HAYTER
Ian HINE
Margaret LISTER

All Saints Stewards

Tony CALLOW
Angela MORRIS
Jan WELLOW

Winscombe & Sandford - St James the Great Winscombe's Receipts & Payments Account

for the year ended 31 December 2021

Receipts	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 £	2020 £	Accounts List code
Donations and Legacies:							
Planned giving		45,146	-	-	**45,146**	*42,037*	1
Collections, donations & other giving		22,128	-	-	**22,128**	*6,146*	2
Income tax recovered		10,828	-	-	**10,828**	*15,037*	3
Legacies		40,500	-	-	**40,500**	*500*	4
Other Trading activities							
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc		5,129	-	-	**5,129**	*10,126*	5
Income from other Properties		5,623	-	-	**5,623**	*4,698*	6
Annual Fete/events		891	-	-	**891**	-	7
Receipts from Investments:							
Interest & dividends		807	-	-	**807**	*1,015*	8
Receipts from Charitable activities:							
Parochial fees		3,901	-	-	**3,901**	*3,248*	
Other Receipts							
Insurance claims		240	-	-	**240**	-	10
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		50	-	-	**50**	-	11
Loans received		-	-	-	**-**	-	12
Other		4,687	-	-	**4,687**	*19*	13
Total Receipts		**139,930**	**-**	**-**	**139,930**	*82,826*	
Payments							
Charitable activities:							
Donations/Grants to charities		(16,104)	-	-	**(16,104)**	*(1,050)*	14
Mission & Evangelism		(126)	-	-	**(126)**	*(85)*	15
Parish Share		(40,000)	-	-	**(40,000)**	*(47,000)*	16
Clergy expenses		(1,101)	-	-	**(1,101)**	*(1,463)*	17
Church running expenses		(6,438)	-	-	**(6,438)**	*(6,193)*	18
Churchyard maintenance		(570)	-	-	**(570)**	-	19
Cost of raising funds		(11,377)	-	-	**(11,377)**	*(10,504)*	20
Support costs		(1,837)	-	-	**(1,837)**	*(363)*	21
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)		(11,085)	-	-	**(11,085)**	*(13,690)*	22
Governance Costs		-	-	-	**-**	-	24
Other		(4,285)	-	-	**(4,285)**	*(4,366)*	23
Major expenditure							
Repairs to church buildings		(1,032)	-	-	**(1,032)**	-	25
Repairs to other property		-	-	-	**-**	-	26
Capital purchases/additions		-	-	-	**-**	-	27
Loan repayments		-	-	-	**-**	-	28
Total payments		**(93,955)**	**-**	**-**	**(93,955)**	*(84,714)*	
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over payments		**45,975**	**-**	**-**	**45,975**	*(1,888)*	
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	**-**	-	
		45,975	-	-	**45,975**	*(1,888)*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		64,754	-	-	**64,754**	*66,642*	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec		110,729	-	-	**110,729**	*64,754*	

*produced using the Diocesan Cashbook v5

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of Winscombe & Sandford ("The PCC")

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021 as set out in the Receipts and Payments and Financial Return reports.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner
The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.

There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Independent Examiner

Date: 2nd May 2022