

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON - ST PETER

England & Wales · Charity number 1173506

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2017-06-21

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

Contact

Address 86 Belgrave Road
Seaford
BN25 2HE

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Website www.ebbchurches.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: The PCCs charitable objects are focused on the advancement of religion, a charitable purpose having public benefit. All regular public worship is provided free of charge and open to all. Teaching and taking assemblies advance education. Donations to other charities provide public benefits in the relief of poverty and need, and activity within care homes provides benefit for the elderly.

Classification

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

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-12-31 | £104,224 | £131,281 | - | - |
| 2024-12-31 | £113,499 | £155,062 | - | - |
| 2023-12-31 | £134,963 | £178,453 | - | - |
| 2022-12-31 | £107,497 | £153,603 | - | - |
| 2021-12-31 | £98,521 | £107,798 | - | - |
| 2020-12-31 | £86,062 | £97,804 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|---------------------------|------|------------|
| Aileen Mary Rickard | | 2022-05-08 |
| Angela Wiley | | 2024-06-04 |
| Christiana Lindner | | 2023-04-30 |
| Christine Cooke | | 2021-05-01 |
| Christopher John Reynolds | | 2020-02-01 |
| DAPHNE MARGARET DEMPSTER | | 2016-04-10 |
| Eleanor Ferguson | | 2025-04-27 |
| George Rix | | 2026-04-26 |
| Geraldine Hedgecock | | 2026-04-26 |
| Jacqueline Head | | 2020-10-25 |
| Jennifer Margaret Spicer | | 2022-05-08 |
| Juliet Mitton | | 2020-10-25 |
| Linda Stratford | | 2021-05-01 |
| Margaret Anne Collison | | 2023-04-30 |
| Neville Chalkley | | 2023-04-30 |
| Rev Simon Earnshaw | | 2025-03-03 |
| Samukeliso Mavuka | | 2022-05-08 |

Accounts



St Peter's Church

East Blatchington, Seaford

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL
CHURCH COUNCIL
for the year ended 31 December 2025

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Church of St. Peter, Belgrave Road, East Blatchington, Seaford

Rector:

Revd. Simon Earnshaw,
The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road
Seaford, BN25 2HE

Registered Charity number 1173506

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Peter's Chapel Rooms, Belgrave Road, Seaford on Sunday 26th April 2026 at 11.15am

AGENDAS

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2025 Meeting (provided on page 15)
3. Nomination and election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2025 Meeting (provided on page 15)
3. Matters arising from those Minutes
4. To receive from the Parochial Church Council and be free to discuss: -
 - 4a) A report on the numbers entered on the Electoral Roll
 - 4b) An Annual Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish in general, including the report from the Chair of the PCC
 - 4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2025 and the Treasurer's report.
 - 4d) A report from the Churchwardens including a report on the building and fabric of the Church of the Parish.
 - 4e) A report on Health and Safety
 - 4f) A report on Safeguarding
 - 4g) A report on the proceedings of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod
5. To receive a report from/on: The Outreach, Learning, Pastoral and Safeguarding Team
The Choir
Children, Young People and Families
The Fundraising, Charity and Social Life Team
6. To elect up to 4 representatives to the Deanery Synod
7. To elect up to 6 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council.
8. To appoint an independent examiner for the accounts
9. To consider any other matters of Parochial or general church interest

Christine Cooke, PCC Secretary

Administration Information

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number 1173506.

During the relevant period the following served as members of the PCC:

Rector Revd. Simon Earnshaw

Associate Vicar Revd. Elizabeth Jinks

Churchwardens: Mr Neville Chalkley (*Vice-chair*)

Mrs Anne Collison

Treasurer: Mr Chris Reynolds

Deanery Synod Reps: Ms Juliet Mitton

Mrs Linda Stratford

Mrs Kay Blackburn

Mr Keith Blackburn

Lay Representatives:

Elected Members: Mrs Christine Cooke (*Secretary*)

Mrs Daphne Dempster

Ms Eleanor Ferguson

Mrs Jacqueline Head (*Joint Health and Safety Officer*)

Mrs Christa Lindner (*Building Projects Officer*)

Mrs Zena Maher (*Safeguarding Officer*)

Mrs Samukeliso Mavuka

Ms Aileen Rickard

Mrs Pip Spicer

Ms Angela Wiley

Co-opted Members:

Mr Andrew Clark

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended. Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) and consists of certain ex-officio members namely the Rector, the Churchwardens, members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods, and such Licensed Readers as the Annual Meeting may decide: and of the 12 lay members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The PCC also has the power to co-opt members not exceeding one fifth of the total number of elected members of the council or two persons, whichever is greater. Members of the Electoral Roll are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC, and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of St. Peter's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. Under the terms of the Parochial Church (Powers) Measure 1956, as amended by the Synodical Government Measure 1969, the PCC has the duty to co-operate with the Rector "in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical". In planning its activities, the PCC has given due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance as is shown in the following reports.

Location and Historical Background

The ecclesiastical parish of East Blatchington - St. Peter - in the County of East Sussex, lies within the Diocese and Jurisdiction of the Lord Bishop of Chichester, the Archdeaconry of Brighton and Lewes and the Deanery of Lewes and Seaford.

The parish serves the western side of the town of Seaford. In 2008 the parish became a United Benefice with the adjacent parish of St. Andrew, Bishopstone.

The parish church of St. Peter, East Blatchington, dates from the twelfth century, and is situated centrally within the area defined by the parish boundaries. From this centre of worship is carried out a ministry of spiritual, sacramental, pastoral and missionary work in accordance with the statutory obligations laid upon the Church of England as the church established by law in this realm.

The parish church is subject to the faculty jurisdiction of the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Chichester, and the inspecting architect appointed by the Parochial Church Council is Mr. Tim Wells of John D Clark and Partners, Eastbourne.

Apart from the burial of cremated remains, the churchyard is closed, and Lewes District Council is responsible for maintaining the ground.

All correspondence should be sent in the first instance to The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2HE. Email: simonjearnshaw@outlook.com

Adjacent to the church is a flint and brick building known as the Chapel Rooms, a fully equipped hall and upstairs meeting room, refurbished in 2023, used socially by both the church and community. It also houses the benefice office. This building does not come under faculty jurisdiction; however, it has been inspected by the appointed architect.

The Parish Clergy

The Reverend Simon Earnshaw was licenced as Rector on 3rd March 2025. He was previously Assistant Curate at Clayton and Keymer. The Rector is housed in the Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HE. The freehold of the property is vested in the Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance who are also responsible for maintaining the property on the incumbent's behalf. The internal decorations continue to be the responsibility of the PCC.

The parish benefits from the ministry of the Revd. Eric Pollard, Revd. John Harrington and Revd. Chris Collison, retired priests holding the bishop's permission to officiate. Our Reader Emeritus, Mrs. Kay Blackburn, took on the role of Pastoral Care Co-ordinator until her death on 1st January 2026. We are grateful to Mr George Rix and Mrs Kay Blackburn for leading Evening Prayer on several occasions during the year. We enjoy the support of an excellent pastoral team from within the congregation. The parish value all their work and thank them warmly for their goodwill and willingness to volunteer for duties. We are richly blessed to benefit from their commitment and gifts.

Under the Pastoral Scheme, the two parishes in the United Benefice remain distinct. The post of House for Duty Priest at St. Andrew's Bishopstone, was filled when the Reverend Elizabeth Jinks was appointed in November 2022. Her induction as Associate Vicar took place on 18th April 2023. The coming together of both parishes continues, providing opportunities for adults, children and young people and their parents to come together to learn about and grow in faith and in employing a Benefice Administrator.

4a) Electoral Roll

The electoral roll currently stands at 102 names. At the time of this report the revision is due to start on the 8th March. Following the renewal in 2025 there have been no additions and five removals. This means that under the Church Representation Rules the number of representatives who can stand for election for the PCC remains at 12 people.

If anyone has not completed a form but wishes to be on the Electoral Roll, or who knows someone who would like to be included there are forms at the back of the church and names can be added throughout the year until the Revision Period. If there are any questions that cannot be answered at the meeting, then please contact me and I will respond as soon as possible.

Mrs Debbie Phipps Electoral Roll Office

4b) Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

Since the Annual Meeting on 27th April 2025 the PCC has met on six occasions in the Upper Room. The Standing Committee has also met on six occasions.

Amongst the items considered and discussed were:

- Revising our Mission Action Plan which remains at the forefront of our decisions and activities.
- Membership in 2025/6 of the three PCC sub-committees set up in 2022: (OLPS) Outreach, Learning, Pastoral and Safeguarding, (BHS) Buildings, Health and Safety, and (FCSL) Fundraising, Charity and Social Life which have continued to work very successfully.
- Reports from the PCC sub-committees.
- Regular budget forecast reports showing monthly income and expenditure throughout 2025.
- Approval of the Financial Statements for 2025.
- Ideas on ways to increase our income.
- Approval and discussion of six safeguarding matters; namely the review our Safeguarding Action Plan and Church Activities document and discussion and approval of the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy, Responding to Safeguarding Allegations, A Statement on Responding well to Victims and Survivors of Abuse and a Safeguarding Worksheet. Doing this has brought our safeguarding compliance on the Parish Dashboard to 100%.
- The appointment of 18 sidespeople (previously called sidesmen).
- Resolutions to 1) accept a quote from Tilleys, Brighton stonemasons, to replace some broken floor tiles in the nave, 2) accept a quote from Artistic Metalworks for the work to install new boiler room railings, including replacement railings for the vestry steps and putting a handrail on the steps from the rear door of the Chapel Rooms to the churchyard and 3) approving a quote from Handy Kate for repair and repainting work on the upstairs exterior woodwork (windows, soffits and fascia on the front of the Chapel Rooms).
- Strategies to reduce our energy bills.

The names of 107 parishioners were recorded on the electoral roll for the parish that was presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025.

We are an inclusive church, and all are welcome to attend services in St. Peter's. Our main services continue to be live streamed to our online congregation.

Christine Cooke Secretary to the PCC

Report from the Chair of the PCC, Revd. Simon Earnshaw

It is with a real sense of gratitude and thankfulness that I write this Rector's Report looking back over the past year at St. Peter's East Blatchington. As we look back, we are reminded of God's faithfulness, and our shared commitment to love God and neighbour. This report seeks to summarise the key developments, challenges, and blessings of the past year, and to look ahead with hope to the future.

Our worship at St. Peter's continues to rightly be at the core of parish life. Sunday services and the midweek Mass, draw together faithful congregations who value both the tradition and the warmth of our liturgical worship. None of this would be possible without the help and support of many others, not least our organist Coryn Roberts, Senior Chorister, Eleanor Ferguson, and the choir as a whole,

as well as our committed teams of sides people, servers and flower arrangers who make the church look so beautiful whatever the season. I continue to be grateful to George Rix and Linda Stratford for the many things they do in the parish, often behind the scenes. The rhythm of prayer and meditation also continues with morning and evening prayer, as well as Compline and Breathing Space, my thanks go to those who keep this rhythm going in the life of the parish.

Very recently we walked the Stations of the Cross and journeyed through Holy Week preparing to celebrate the Easter joy. The Stations of the Cross were well attended including those in the evening, as were the Lent course and the Advent course earlier in the year. In these courses we have sought to deepen our spiritual lives and draw closer to God through reflection on scripture and thoughtful discussion on what it means to live out our faith in today's world. I am grateful to all who have participated and assisted me in delivering these courses as well as those who run the Bible Group, the weekly bible study that runs for the rest of the year.

The "For All" services at Easter and Christmas have continued to increase in popularity, as well as the Crib Service and Carols by Candlelight, along with other special services such as our Patronal Festival. I am hoping in the coming year to have more Evensongs and potentially some extra "For All" services.

It also brings me great joy that our children's and young people's provision continued with some key changes. We continue to strengthen our existing link with Seaford Primary School, Lighthouse continues and the new ministries of our Xplore Together Mass on Sundays, and Treasure Hunters and Xplore on Sunday afternoons, all of these now happening bi-monthly go from strength to strength. We now have a core group of families who come regularly, and my grateful thanks go to Anne Collison and the team she is building for their help with this ministry of fundamental importance in the life of the church.

Pastoral care remains an important part of our ministry. We have appointed Geraldine Hedgecock as our Pastoral Care Contact, a new online reporting system is up and running and new guidelines for pastoral visiting, and care are in the process of being approved. My grateful thanks go to those involved in this important ministry offering comfort and companionship to those who are housebound, unwell, or bereaved. The challenges of loneliness and isolation, particularly among our elderly parishioners, have been met with kindness and practical support. Forget-Me-Not Café has now come under the umbrella of St. Peter's in terms of leadership and governance, and I am incredibly grateful for all who continue this important ministry, that I know is greatly appreciated by all who take part. We continue to support local, national, and international charities through both financial giving and practical action. Stewardship continues to be a priority, and I want to thank all who give so generously of their time, talents, and resources. Your contributions enable us not only to maintain our historic church building but also to resource our ministry and outreach.

The church building is both a blessing and a responsibility. Thanks to the hard work of Christa Lindner and the wider buildings team and the generosity of the congregation past and present, we have been able to undertake essential maintenance and improvement of the church and churchyard. The long-awaited railings are now in situ and the important repairing and painting of the exterior woodwork on upstairs of the Chapel Rooms is underway.

We continue to face the challenges of rising costs and the need for ongoing fundraising. I am grateful to our treasurer Christopher Reynolds and the PCC for their diligent stewardship and prudent management of funds.

As we look forward, we are mindful of both the challenges and opportunities ahead. In terms of challenges, finances continue to be a concern with the parish still running a high annual deficit as well as the fact that we are currently and have been for nearly a year, looking for a treasurer to take over from Chris after his many years of diligent service.

Our priorities will include continuing the existing pattern of worship with some small adjustments as required, continuing to develop our ministry with children, young people and families and exploring new ways to engage with those on the fringes of church life, as well as continuing to care for our historic building.

We also hope to strengthen our links with neighbouring parishes and to play an active role in the wider deanery and diocese and continue to be involved in Churches Together.

None of this would be possible without the prayer, commitment, and enthusiasm of so many people. I want to thank Reverend Elizabeth our associate Priest, Fr Chris Collison, Fr Eric Pollard and Fr John Harrington, our churchwardens, Neville Chalkley and Anne Collison, our Benefice Administrator, Natasha Tansley, our Secretary to the PCC, Christine Cooke who also edits and distributes Cross Keys magazine, the PCC members, volunteers, and all who contribute to the life of St. Peter's in so many ways. Above all, I give thanks to God for His guidance and for the privilege of serving as your Rector.

Fr Simon
Rector, United Benefice of East Blatchington and Bishopstone.

4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2025 and the Treasurer's report.

The gradual fall of income over the past few years is making it very difficult to meet our ministerial objectives and aspirations within our financial constraints. This year we have incurred a deficit on our day to day activities of £27,057 and the value of our stock market investments has fallen by £12,183 so we have recorded a loss of £39,240 which has been met by drawing down on our reserves.

Income

Receipts are down 8% to £104,224 (£113,499) The mainstay of our funding is the Parish Giving Scheme which amounted to £40,163 (£41,190) but sadly this source is also showing signs of decline. Collections and Donations remained much the same as the previous year as did our Fund-Raising events. Hall letting income was down £16,442 (£17,919) as was Income Tax Reclaimed £9,261 (11,025)

Expenditure

There was no Capital expenditure during the year and so total expenditure fell to £131,281 (£155,062) but it does include £4,413 for Rectory carpeting. The largest element of expenditure is Ministry costs £60,171. Church running expenses were lower at £24,726 (£27,446) as were Church Hall running costs £9,836 (£13,425) Energy costs which have been a considerable problem in the past were down to £9,562 (£19,040)

Reserves

We have £14,199 on deposit with CCLA

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market investments managed on our behalf by CCLA from which we receive quarterly interest payments. Their value varies dependant on international market conditions. Their value at 31st December 2025 was £313,800 (£325,983)

Reserves Policy

One year's income to be held by way of reserve, this to equate to £100,000 at the present time

Conclusion

The expenditure performance demonstrates that we have an acceptable level of control over our outgoings, but income has not only not kept pace with inflation, it has also considerably declined. We have so far been able to fund the difference from reserves. I am confident that we remain a going concern because of our level of reserves, but if there is not a considerable uplift in receipts in 2026 our activities/expenditure may need to be curtailed as it is not prudent to rely on funding shortfalls from reserves.

Chris Reynolds, Treasurer

4d) Churchwardens' Report including report on Buildings, Fabric and Grounds of the Church and Chapel Rooms

1. People

- We were delighted to welcome Fr Simon as our new Rector back in March last year – just in time to help us observe Lent! He was licensed as Rector of the United Benefice by the Bishop of Lewes on 3 March 2025: since then, Fr. Simon and his family have become happily settled as key members of our church community, and it is a joy to have them here. The renovation work on the rectory, including painting and carpeting throughout, was our welcome gift to the family. Many folk have subsequently enjoyed hospitality in the rectory including coffee and pastries after the sunrise service on Easter morning and a tea and mince pies open afternoon in December.
- Three key members of our parish team have sadly passed away in the last year: Angela Chalkley, the leader of our choir died on 2 March, Kay Blackburn, Reader Emeritus, died on 1 January 2026, and Elizabeth Pay, who had filled many important roles over the years, died on 18 January 2026. Each leaves a massive gap in our Parish team, and we miss them dreadfully.
- Anne Collison, Churchwarden, Chris Reynolds, Treasurer, and Christine Cooke, PCC Secretary are all stepping back from their PCC roles, and Zena Maher has resigned from her post as Parish Safeguarding Officer.
- We still need to appoint a Health and Safety officer either as a job share with Jacqueline Head, who is holding the fort at the moment, or solo.
- Nick Linsell retired from his post as custodian of the churchyard in the course of last year, but he continues to look after the churchyard on a voluntary basis, and for that we are immensely grateful.

2. Buildings

- Christa Lindner has had a year's break from her job as Buildings Projects Manager but is planning to return this year.
- The ramp in church was removed as it had become unsafe. Servers now stand at the chancel step to assist when needed and communion is regularly brought down to people in the pews.
- An automatic security light has been fitted to the fire exit door of the Chapel Rooms.
- Grab rails have been attached to the gateway between the car park and the church path.
- The long running saga of railings to the boiler room, required on health and safety grounds, has finally been addressed and will be completed in 2026. The handrails outside the north door of the church, at the back of the vestry, are being replaced with something less austere and more in keeping with the surroundings; the railings by the boiler room steps will be similar, as will those by the steps outside the Chapel Rooms fire exit.
- The rectory had to have a major makeover before Fr Simon and family could move in. We are immensely grateful to Christa Lindner for co-ordinating everything, to Coryn for the internal decorations and to the amazing team who helped with a lot of the preparation work, tip runs, cleaning the house and tidying the garden.
- 'Save Seaford Swifts' approached us about the possibility of installing swift boxes on the church site, and two nesting boxes have now been installed high on the wall of the rectory, overlooking the car park. There are no residents as yet!

3. Summer Festival

Our Petertide summer festival was a great success. We had a wonderful response to the postcard challenge: more than 520 postcards were displayed with a wide variety of styles and mediums around the theme of 'Celebrating Community'. It was so good to have Seaford Primary School embrace the challenge with every child in the school providing a contribution. There was a real community feel to the day with dancers and musicians performing, beautiful flowers, stalls and refreshments. The Total raised was £1728

4. Administration

GDPR – ‘General Data Protection Regulation – is a law that sets strict rules for how organizations collect, process and store the personal data of individuals. It grants people greater control over their data, such as the right to access, correct, or delete it. We are managing this as a benefice, rather than a parish operation. One of the issues we have had to address is the need to create a register of what data is held, by whom, where it is held and for what purpose. This has been completed.

5. Thanks

We are very grateful to the team of sidespeople who meet, greet and care for everyone who attends our services in such a friendly way, and to Geraldine who continues to organise them for extra services. St. Peter’s continues to be an Open Church, allowing people to access its sacred space during daylight hours. We are so grateful to the people who open and lock up the church each day.

We are blessed to have a strong PCC working for St. Peter’s and our thanks go to all its members, but particularly to Christine Cooke (PCC Secretary), Chris Reynolds (Treasurer), Kay (Pastoral care co-ordinator), Jacqueline Head (Health and Safety), and Zena Maher (Safeguarding Officer).

The Chapel Rooms continue to be well used by multiple groups in the community. We are so grateful to Sylvie Aston who manages the online booking system and to Penny Reynolds who keeps an eye on things as the Chapel Rooms Pixie.

Our thanks also go to all the people who enable our services to run smoothly week in week out, from Coryn and the choir to those who beautify the church, from the readers, intercessors, serving team and altar party to those who bless our fellowship by providing coffee afterwards. We are thankful to Natasha Tansley for all her administration work including enabling the live streamed services for our ‘at home’ congregation.

*Anne Collison
Neville Chalkley
Churchwardens*

4e) Health & Safety

There is a vacancy for a Health and Safety Officer, meanwhile I have acted as temporary officer.

1. Accident reporting.

Both accident books (church and chapel rooms) have been inspected and there are no ongoing issues.

2. Risk Assessments.

A new template has been agreed and sent to all Chapel Rooms users, clients and church users need to complete a risk assessment form and return it to the office. The completed forms will be filed on the computer, it is essential that a hard copy is kept in a marked drawer in the office, for anyone who does not have access to the computer files, should the need arise.

3. PAT testing.

It is necessary every three years to have all electrical appliances tested and recorded. This is due in 2026.

4. Fire Appliances.

All appliances were tested and labelled by a qualified inspector in September 2025. This is an annual requirement for insurance purposes.

5. Hazardous liquids.

All are appropriately stored and the door to the store secured by a bolt out of reach for children.

6. Churchyard safety.

The grounds are checked for any loose headstones, and slippery pathways. There are no reported issues outstanding.

There are no other H and S issues arising, of which I am aware.

The church wardens have covered the railings outside and the safety of the Boiler room steps, in their report and the broken and uneven church floor tiles have been replaced.

There is significant damp from water ingress on the north wall inside the church, so far this does not appear to have caused a problem to health. Regulating the heating inside the church seems to be somewhat erratic still.

Jacqueline Head Health and Safety Officer

4f) Safeguarding

During the last year there have been two minor safeguarding concerns that were resolved, one with the assistance of the Diocese Safeguarding Director & Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Colin Perkins.

DBS certificates have been renewed where appropriate and requested for new volunteers. Safeguarding training has been reviewed to ensure that everyone on the PCC, the lay ministers, the pastoral visitors and other volunteers, all have the appropriate level of training. My thanks to Tash for her help with both of these and to everyone who has submitted their DBS paperwork promptly and completed their training.

We have also been busy working on the Parish Dashboard, a system set up by the Diocese to ensure parish churches are Safeguarding compliant. We have worked through three levels; some items have been taken to the OLPS sub-committee for review, and others to the full PCC for review and approval. I am pleased to confirm that we have now reached 100% safeguarding compliance and will now use the dashboard to confirm we are reviewing items as required on an annual or triennial basis. I would like to thank everyone on the OLPS sub-committee, the PCC, and Father Simon for their support with achieving this.

If you would like any information about Safeguarding or might perhaps even like to undertake the Basic Safeguarding course, please do contact Father Simon or Tash.

Zena Maher, Parish Safeguarding Officer (resigned February 2026)

4g) The Deanery Synod

We are members of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.

The Deanery Synod met four times over the last twelve months.

On the 3rd April 2025 the meeting was held at St Peter's East Blatchington. The main topic was Modern Day Slavery and was given by the Rev Sue Foster who is a member of the Chichester Diocese Mothers' Union. Her aim is to encourage awareness, and she talked about trafficking and exploitation and the Clewer Initiative where we can report a situation where we feel something is off. On the 19th June 2025 the meeting was held at the Church of Ascension, Peacehaven. The Revd. Buff Stone, the Diocesan Environment Officer talked about having Carbon Confidence which included an excellent slide show.

On the 6th October 2025 the meeting was held at St Leonard's Seaford. Rev Sam Carter (assisting archdeacon) reminded us of some of the events of this year of faith of 950 years of the Diocese,

calling us to look to the future, to encourage vocations, so as to lay the next foundation for the next 950 years. John Preston spoke about the Diocesan strategy for growth. A big thank you was given to all the Treasurers, and they were told they do a fantastic job.

The fourth meeting was held on the 19th February 2026 at St Anne's Lewes. The Rt Rev'd William Hazelwood, Bishop of Lewes addressed the meeting and answered several questions. His topics covered Revitalisation and Partnerships: to invest where there is high deprivation and high population. Children Youth and Families: supporting volunteers as well as vocations and new Youth workers. Focal Ministry: This is about keeping the faith in each ministry and developing excellent leaders. He then told us about Bishop Martin retiring at the end of May and he will become Acting Bishop of Chichester which includes going to the General Synod.

This was an interesting year of meetings arranged for the Deanery Synod with a variety of interesting topics and speakers.

*Keith Blackburn
Juliet Mitton
Linda Stratford*

5) Report on the Outreach, Learning, Pastoral and Safeguarding (OLPS) Sub-Committee

The Terms of Reference of the Outreach, Learning, Pastoral and Safeguarding (OLPS) sub-committee are:

This sub-committee will oversee the ministry of the church, its engagement with different age groups, partner organisations, outreach projects, young people, faith development and every activity that furthers the Mission of God in our wider world. At present this will include: Little Fishes, Lighthouse, Schools Ministry, Bible Study Group, Courses, Pastoral Team, Care Homes, Forget-me-Knot Café, Working Age Group, and The Art & Craft Group. The committee will also oversee effective safeguarding across the church's ministry.

The sub-committee met on five occasions in 2025 and can report on progress in the following areas:

Ministry to Children and Young People

While the OLPS sub-committee oversees St. Peter's work with Treasure Hunters (previously Little Fishes) and Lighthouse, this area has been covered in Anne Collison's report.

Schools Ministry

Fr. Simon and Anne Collison have continued their work with Seaford Primary School, starting the year by meeting with David Etherton the new Headteacher. David is on the PCC of his home church and is very keen to work in partnership with St. Peter's. Fr. Simon has become a member of the governing body.

Fr. Simon and Anne have led some of the school assemblies, including the Harvest Assembly, and also took part in a team building activity with the children. Anne also led two advent assemblies with Reception and Year One children.

Following a request by the Head, St. Peter's has also been able to purchase over 30 new bibles for the school thanks to donations from parishioners.

Pastoral Visiting and Home Communion

These have continued throughout the year. The sub-committee have discussed ways of monitoring the visits to ensure that no-one who would like a visit is missed and that visits that do take place are accurately recorded. A meeting is planned with the pastoral visitors from St. Peter's and St. Andrew's to discuss how this may best be achieved.

Care Home Ministry

We continue to offer regular ministry at the following care homes, both individually and in gathered worship. We continue to be grateful to our retired clergy for their support with these visits.

Abundant Grace:- Fr Eric visits on the first Tuesday of the month at 11.15am. This is followed by room visits for around 8 to 10 rooms and includes Holy Communion service for a gentleman in his room. Short Holy Communion services may be held as required. Fr Eric's visit takes about one and a half hours.

Beachlands:- Daphne Dempster and Juliet Mitton visit on the first Thursday of the month with a Communion service in the lounge at 2.30 pm for which the staff set up a Communion table.

Blatchington Manor:- Geraldine Hedgecock, Christa Lindner and Fr Eric visit on the second Tuesday of the month at 11 am to take a service of hymns, readings, prayers and communion. This is led by Geraldine or Christa, with Father Eric leading Communion.

Claremont House:- Fr Chris visits 4-8 residents monthly.

Clifden House:- Fr Simon visits on the first Thursday of the month at 10.30am (Geraldine helps when she can).

Port Manor:- Fr Simon visits on the fourth Thursday of the month at 2.30pm (Geraldine helps when she can).

Threeways:- Daphne Dempster visits on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 10.30 am. Visits last a various length of time depending on who wishes to take Communion and who just wants to chat.

Fr Simon was joined by others to sing Christmas Carols in Threeways, Clifden House and Port Manor, and Daphne organised carol singing at Beachlands, all of which were much enjoyed by everyone.

Forget-me-Knot Memory Café

This has been well attended again this year with St. Peter's taking over the organisation responsibility from Seafriends in October. Many thanks to Anne for her hard work in preparing all the paperwork to ensure that the Café is Safeguarding compliant, and to Tash for all the extra work she has had to do. The Easter for All, Harvest for All and Christmas for All services were very popular and enjoyed by those who attended.

Art & Craft Group

The group has had variable numbers attending this year but is still enjoyed by all who attend. We would like to take this opportunity to recognise Kay Blackburn's contribution to the organisation of this group and know that she will be missed by everyone.

Bible Group

Continues to meet on Mondays at 2pm with the format of a brief focus on the previous Sunday's reading passage as Scripture, then a discussion on its implications for us, which have been interesting and insightful. Their new venue of the Chapel Rooms main hall has been a great blessing and has allowed them to have coffee and biscuits after the meeting giving opportunity to get to know each other better. Sometimes they continue to talk about what they've been looking at but more often than not just get to know each other more. Aileen continues to be assisted by Marianne.

The Lent Course began with Fr Simon and Aileen facilitating the CofE Living Hope Lent material., 48 booklets were studied by members of the Benefice and a few beyond (one in Kettering from our

online congregation and two from Seaford Parish Church). The 'in-person' course has been well received by the thirty who signed up. There is a good mix from both Churches and from the different weekly services.

The group temporarily paused due to the Advent Course and resumed again in January.

Working Age Group

The group meets at the Wellington on the first Friday of the month and have a very supportive WhatsApp group. The numbers who meet each time vary but it is a valued group by all who attend. It was noted by one member that it was good to be able to meet and chat to people who attend a different weekly service to them

Safeguarding

The sub-committee has continued to oversee safeguarding policy and practice (but not individual cases or confidential matters). They have also assisted the Parish Safeguarding Officer with the implementation of the Parish Dashboard, an online system overseen by the Diocese to ensure parish churches meet safeguarding compliance.

Zena Maher

A Report on The Choir

St. Peter's Choir have been performing various anthems during services throughout the year. The choir is well supported with its choristers who willingly join in on a regular Sunday service. The choir also performed for our November concert, sounding so brilliantly on the night. They were so well received, thank you all so much. To our volunteer singers; you are greatly appreciated.

We recently sang Bach's 'Sheep May Safely Graze' during the service, which highlighted how the rehearsal and practice have really improved the sound of the choir. The choir often gets really positive feedback from the congregation which is a testament to the commitment of all its members.

May St. Peter's choir continue to delight and enhance the community of the church going forward. A big thank you to you all those who contribute to the music at St. Peter's!

Coryn Roberts, Organist

Report on Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) ministry

Our work to engage with the youngsters and families linked to our church community has continued this year with monthly Sunday afternoon gatherings for children and their families, and after school sessions for Lighthouse (our teenagers).

Although the numbers of both groups remain quite small there is encouragement and nurturing in the faith – both for the youngsters and their parents.

In September we again blessed our youngsters, teachers and others starting new courses at our 'Blessing of the Backpacks' service on the Sunday before many returned to school. We opened up the service to welcome those praying for their grandchildren or Godchildren as they started or returned to education. The service was followed by a happy time of tea and fellowship.

The arrival of Fr. Simon has led to some re-imagining of our CYPF ministry, since the summer, and some name changes for the groups.

Little Fishes has become Treasure Hunters a name suggested by the children. It partly reflects that the children in our core group are getting older. Our strapline is 'Seeking and Becoming God's treasure', as we explore both the treasures of God in the stories of the Bible and recognise that each of us is treasure in God's eyes. I am so grateful to Hazel Mavuka who has been a real blessing sharing in the leadership and planning of this group.

Following the success of our festival Messy Church afternoons (previously at Easter and Christmas) we decided to rename our family fun afternoons as Xplore. This was mainly because other churches

in the town do Messy Church on a big scale and it feels confusing to be calling such different events by the same name. However, a lot of the content – of craft, activities, worship and a shared meal remain. We had fun afternoons in October (Xplore All Saints) and December (Xplore Christingle) and have regular afternoons planned for 2026. These afternoons can only run because of the willing band of helpers we have – our thanks to all of them, and to Linda and Juliet who feed us at the end of our sessions.

There has also been an attempt at introducing occasional family accessible services, Xplore Together, on a Sunday morning, with an interactive talk and prayers. These have been enjoyed by people of all ages but further work and development is needed.

Lighthouse, for our small group of teenagers, continued to meet monthly in the Upper Room. There is a mixture of games, craft activities, Bible study and fellowship with food. Our December meeting was a trip to Pablo Picasso in town. I am so grateful to Sam Mavuka for helping at the sessions and for Fr. Simon leading our beautiful eucharist services.

Seaford Primary School welcomed a new Headteacher, Mr. David Etherton, in January. As a Christian he is keen to develop the relationship with St. Peter's, and this has been furthered by Fr. Simon becoming a Governor in the Autumn term.

Our accessible Services for All at Easter, Harvest and Christmas were again a real joy with young singers from the school. Towards Christmas we were again privileged to welcome various classes from the school to the Church, as well as Fr. Simon and Anne leading or participating in several assemblies. However, our greatest connection with the school this year was in our Postcard Challenge for the Summer Festival. Based on the theme of Community every child in the school decorated a Postcard to be displayed as 'Mini Masterpieces' in church. The results, in various mediums, were so creative, but with 400 postcards, from the school alone, they presented a challenge to display. I was so privileged to work on the display panels with Liz Pay, to whom I am eternally grateful.

Throughout the year, Fr. Simon, his wife Victoria, and I have had the opportunity to connect with The Anglo Catholic youth and children's ministry network, a national resource sharing group of folk working in similar liturgical and sacramental settings. Most of the meetings are by Zoom but over a weekend in November they had their first in-person meet up in Walsingham. Victoria and I were delighted to be able to go, sponsored by the parish, and found both the sessions and the networking helpful. Fr. Simon and the family also attended the Walsingham Youth pilgrimage in August. Looking forward to 2026, Sam, Hazel and myself have been accepted to train as Authorised Lay Ministers in Children, young people and families ministry. We hope it will be a blessing to the church and to the families we work amongst, as we continue to share the Good News with the next generation. Watch this space!

Anne Collison, Lead volunteer of CYPF ministry at St. Peter's

Report on Fundraising, Charity and Social Life

The sub-committee met on five occasions in 2025. The year saw a full, varied programme of events.

- Our main event was a 'Summer Festival, 'Celebrating Community' led by Anne Collison and Elizabeth Pay which comprised an exhibition in the church of 520 postcards alongside flower displays organised by Daphne Dempster and a Summer Fête with a dancing display by the Nikki Bond Dance School, various stalls, refreshments, live music and children's activities in the Chapel Rooms, carpark and churchyard. The event raised £1728.
- A successful season of East Blatchington Lectures took place starting in May with art historian, Kay Blackburn, on 'Van Gogh'. In June Christine Cooke gave an illustrated talk on 'Local Sussex Churches' (with the aim of encouraging people to go and visit some). In July Charlie Grimble talked about 'Sutton - Seaford's Lost Settlement'. The 2025 season ended with a lecture in December by Kay Blackburn, on the Italian artist 'Pintoricchio'.
- A public awareness meeting took place in September with a talk given by Jane Disney, a Seaford Police Community Support Officer about the dangers of 'Scams and other Community Matters'.

- Three Open Gardens were enjoyed during the summer. Thank you to Sylvie Aston, Christa Ovenden and Tina Bacon.
- A lovely Harvest Supper took place in October organised by Linda Stratford.
- Two excellent concerts took place during the year. The first, in September, was a concert of European Organ Music by Peter Dutton, organised by David Hitchin in aid of St Peter's, and the second, in November, a Concert of Music with the choir, singers and instrumentalists, organised by Coryn Roberts and Eleanor Ferguson in aid of 'Create Music', a provider of high quality, inclusive music and arts education. £450 was raised.
- Two enjoyable quiz evenings organised by Daphne Dempster were held in July and November.
- At Christmas the PCC agreed that the Christmas collections on behalf of charitable causes should be shared between 'Embrace the Middle East' and the local Sussex charity, Family Support Work. £970 was raised.

Christine Cooke

6. To elect up to 4 representatives to the Deanery Synod
7. To elect up to 6 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council
8. To Appoint an independent examiner for the accounts
9. To consider any other matters of parochial or general church interest including the Rector's report

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Peter's Chapel Rooms, Belgrave Road, Seaford on Sunday 27th April 2025 at 11.15am

There were 38 attendees in the hall.

Revd. Simon Earnshaw welcomed all attendees and opened with a prayer.

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Apologies were received from Debbie Phipps, Dr. Peter Fenwick, Ann Fenwick, Angela Wiley, Elizabeth Pay, Carole Clarke, Veronica Gabriel, Karen Jones, Marilyn Haydon, Fr. Eric, John Barber.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2024 were approved.
3. Nomination and election of Churchwardens

Nominations:

Neville Chalkley was proposed by Linda Stratford and seconded by George Rix.

Anne Collison was proposed by Rosemary Leech and seconded by Chris Reynolds.

Both were elected unanimously.

Fr. Simon welcomed them back and thanked them for agreeing to stand again.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies were received from Debbie Phipps, Dr. Peter Fenwick, Ann Fenwick, Angela Wiley, Elizabeth Pay, Carole Clarke, Veronica Gabriel, Karen Jones, Marilyn Haydon, Fr. Eric, John Barber.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2024 were approved; proposed by Geraldine Hedgecock and seconded by Keith Blackburn.
3. Matters arising: there were none.

4. To receive from the Parochial Church Council and be free to discuss:-

4a) A report on the numbers entered on the Electoral Roll

Following the renewal of the Electoral Roll which takes place every six years and ended in early April 2025, there were 107 people on the roll. This means that under the Church Representation Rules the number of lay people who can be elected to the PCC remains at 12.

Debbie thanked Anne and Christine for their help with the renewal process.

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

The Rector thanked Debbie, in her absence, for all the work she does as our Electoral Roll Officer and welcomed those who have recently joined. We pray for those whom we have lost.

4b) An Annual Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish in general, including the report from the Chair of the PCC.

i) The Secretary's report on the proceedings of the PCC listed the main topics of discussion and decisions approved at the various meetings and via email throughout the year.

ii) The Report from the Chair of the PCC

Anne Collison explained that as this year there were three reports in her domain, one, as Chair of the PCC from July 1st during the vacancy following Rev'd Arwen Folkes's resignation, two, as Churchwarden and three, as having responsibility for the Children, Young People and their Families ministry, she had combined them to make an A-Z of everything we needed to note and celebrate about 2024.

Her novel presentation, comprising a very comprehensive review of the many aspects of our Church life in 2024 was greatly appreciated.

As a registered charity we have demonstrated that we meet our charitable purpose.

There were no questions, and both parts of the report were unanimously accepted. Fr. Simon thanked Anne for all her exceptional work during the vacancy as Chair of the PCC and working on her own as Churchwarden for six months when Neville Chalkley had to step down due to unforeseen circumstances.

Anne in turn thanked Penny Reynolds and Christa Lindner for taking on the roles of Deputy Churchwardens during the vacancy. She also thanked the sidespeople who are stepping down this year and Rosemary Leech for her many years of work organising the Sunday coffee sessions and rota and welcomed Marianne Barber who is taking on the role.

4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2024 and the Treasurer's report.

A copy of the Financial Statements and report had been available at the back of the church, so Chris Reynolds hoped people had had a look, prior to the meeting.

He talked about 2024 as being a challenging year financially. Ignoring the funds raised by the sale of investments, there was a fall of income from almost all income sources, from £134,963 to £113,499 and considerably higher operating costs in most areas. Much of this he sees as a result of inflation and the economic situation faced by both individuals and institutions alike. Expenditure was lower than last year at £155,062, (£23,391 less than in 2023). However, at the end of 2024 we were left with a deficit of £33,065 (£13,140 in 2023), making it necessary to use some of our reserves. Unfortunately, 2025 is seen by Chris as being difficult too, financially, but he adds that we have sufficient reserves to meet our future needs.

The Rector thanked Chris for his hard, invaluable work as Treasurer.

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

4d) A report on the Building, Fabric and Grounds of the Church of the Parish and Chapel Rooms from the Buildings, Health and Safety Team

2024 had been a very busy year and much had been achieved. In addition to maintaining the Church and Chapel Rooms, the Rectory was refurbished and decorated inside and out prior to the arrival of our new Rector, Fr. Simon and family. The report included a detailed Buildings Action List, produced by Christa Lindner, of all the work completed or scheduled in the church, churchyard and Chapel Rooms and also a list of all the work done in the Rectory and its garden by us and the Diocese.

Christa thanked the small band of volunteers who helped her.

Christa was thanked for her dedication and the time and energy she used in overseeing the work on the Rectory.

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

4e) A report on Health and Safety

The report was accepted unanimously after

1) it had been noted that nobody has yet come forward to either take on the post of Health and Safety officer or job share with Jacqueline Head and

2) a tabled question from Debbie Phipps had been put to the BHS team and answered by Christa Lindner.

The question was: *"I appreciate that there have been challenges around identifying suitable craftspeople and the original ornate design for the railings around the boiler house steps. Whilst I understand that this is still an ongoing issue, I would appreciate an update on any progress that has been made and if there is a date for these safety works to be taken forward.*

Will a further faculty be required, or has the original been extended?"

The reply mentioned the complications that have arisen with so many parties involved, changes of design by the church architect, health and safety issues with the design, planning permission and a faculty obtained, now needing to be renewed and new quotes from contractors sought since the work was first proposed four years ago. All these matters are being addressed, and it is hoped that, with Fr. Simon's help, everything will come together in 2025, and the work will go ahead.

3) Valerie Skues proposed a new longer handrail for the steps from the churchyard to the car park to help those with mobility difficulties. The matter will be looked into by the BHS sub-committee.

4f) A report on Safeguarding

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

4g) A report on the proceedings of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.

There were no questions and the report from Kay Blackburn, Juliet Mitton and Linda Stratford, our Deanery Synod representatives, was unanimously accepted.

5. Report from the Outreach, Learning, Pastoral and Safeguarding Sub-committee

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

Report on the Choir

There were no questions and Coryn's report was accepted unanimously. The Rector thanked Coryn, our organist, and the choir led by Eleanor Ferguson for their invaluable musical contributions to our worship and particularly their singing over Easter. Kay Blackburn thanked Eleanor for her choice of hymns which always seemed right for the occasion.

Report on the Mothers' Union

There was no report as St Peter's Mothers' Union is no longer active.

Report from the Fundraising, Charity and Social Life Sub-committee

There were no questions, and the report was accepted unanimously.

6. To elect up to 1 representative to the Deanery Synod.

There was one nominee.

Keith Blackburn was proposed by Linda Stratford and seconded by Juliet Mitton.

He was duly elected proposed by Susan Drader and seconded by Valerie Skues.

Our four Reps until April 2026 are, therefore, Juliet Mitton, Linda Stratford, Kay Blackburn and Keith Blackburn.

7. To elect up to 8 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council.

There were 6 nominations.

Those seeking re-election to the PCC this year:

Daphne Dempster, proposed by Christine Cooke and seconded by Kay Blackburn,

Samukeliso Mavuka, proposed by Juliet Mitton and seconded by Christa Lindner,

Aileen Rickard, proposed by Anne Collison and seconded by Natasha Tansley.

Those seeking election to the PCC:

Zena Maher, proposed by Chris Reynolds and seconded by Tony Gubbins,

Angela Wiley, proposed by Christine Cooke and seconded by Anne Collison (Zena and Angela were both previously co-opted members in 2024/5)

Eleanor Ferguson, proposed by Karen Jones and seconded by Susan Adams

All were elected together; proposed by George Rix and seconded by Tina Bacon.

8. To appoint an independent examiner to the accounts.

The proposal was made by Chris Reynolds and seconded by Christine Cooke that Michele Spencer continue in this role and she was duly appointed.

9. To consider any other matters of Parochial or general church interest.

The Rector's Address

Fr. Simon said that he recognises the financial challenges but overwhelmingly feels that there is a great deal going on at St. Peter's and that God is working with us here to spread Christ's Gospel. He has a sense of excitement and potential and looks forward to working with and being challenged by the PCC. Lent went well and Easter was a joyous time with so many people gathering together for our various services and children and adults at the 10am Easter Eucharist. He hopes to have a monthly family focused Mass and make our Children and Young People's ministry a priority with groups meeting more frequently, but this will not be at the expense of everyone and everything else. He said what a joy it had been for him, Victoria, Hannah and Naomi to be made so welcome and he thanked the parish for the refurbishment of the Rectory which they could move into straight away and enjoy. He looks forward to working with us to establish God's name in this place and reach out to our neighbours, the Seaford community and our online congregation both here and further afield.

Valerie Skues mentioned that St Peter's has always had a reputation as a friendly and welcoming church which punched well above its weight in the area.

Anne Collison thanked Fr. Simon for his magnificent celebration of Easter and Victoria and girls for their support and bags for the children.

The Rector thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting with The Grace.

Christine Cooke
St. Peter's PCC Secretary

**PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON,
SEAFORD**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

Registered Charity number 1173506

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Church of St. Peter, Blatchington Hill, Seaford

Rector Revd Simon Earnshaw, The Rectory,
86 Belgrave Road, Seaford BN25 2HE

Independent examiner :- M I Spencer Ltd, 4 Farmland Way, Hailsham
East Sussex BN27 1SP

Bankers :- Santander, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Note: whilst enrolled members are free to discuss the annual report and financial statements at the annual parochial church meeting on 26th April 2026 it would be very much appreciated if any questions on the financial statements could be sent in writing to the Treasurer, Mr C Reynolds, 4 Dutchess Drive, Seaford, E Sussex, BN25 2XL as soon as possible before the meeting.

East Blatchington PCC

The Treasurer's 2025 Financial Report

The gradual fall of income over the past few years is making it very difficult to meet our ministerial objectives and aspirations within our financial constraints. This year we have incurred a deficit on our day-to-day activities of £27,057 and the value of our stock market investments has fallen by £12,183 so we have recorded a loss of £39,240 which has been met by drawing down on our reserves.

Income

Receipts are down 8% to £104,224 (£113,499) The mainstay of our funding is the Parish Giving Scheme which amounted to £40,163 (£41,190) but sadly this source is also showing signs of decline. Collections and Donations remained much the same as the previous year as did our Fund-Raising events. Hall letting income was down £16,442 (£17,919) as was Income Tax Reclaimed £9,261 (£11,025)

Expenditure

There was no Capital expenditure during the year and so total expenditure fell to £131,281 (£155,062) but it does include £4,413 for Rectory carpeting. The largest element of expenditure is Ministry costs £60,171. Church running expenses were lower at £24,726 (£27,446) as were Church Hall running costs £9,836 (£13,425) Energy costs which have been a considerable problem in the past were down to £9,562 (£19,040)

Reserves

We have £14,199 on deposit with CCLA

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market investments managed on our behalf by CCLA from which we receive quarterly interest payments. Their value varies dependant on international market conditions. Their value at 31st December 2025 was £313,800 (£325,983)

Reserves Policy

One year's income to be held by way of reserve, this to equate to £100,000 at the present time

Conclusion

The expenditure performance demonstrates that we have an acceptable level of control over our outgoings, but income has not only not kept pace with inflation, but it has also considerably declined. We have so far been able to fund the difference from reserves. I am confident that we remain a going concern because of our level of reserves, but if there is not a considerable uplift in receipts in 2026 our activities/expenditure may need to be curtailed as it is not prudent to rely on funding shortfalls from reserves

Chris Reynolds
Treasurer

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

BALANCE SHEET

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2025</u> £ | <u>2024</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 252,996 | 262,538 |
| Investments | 5(b) | 313,800 | 325,983 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 6,168 | 6,381 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 14,199 | 23,885 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 3,354 | 11,066 |
| Cash in hand | | 5 | 7 |
| | | <u>23,726</u> | <u>41,339</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-4,917</u> | <u>-5,016</u> |
| Net current assets | | 18,809 | 36,323 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>585,606</u></u> | <u><u>624,845</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 348937 | 384,887 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 236669 | 239,958 |
| | | <u><u>585,606</u></u> | <u><u>624,845</u></u> |

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

Rev. Simon Earnshaw
 Chairman

Rev S Earnshaw

Date 13/04/2026

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

| | Notes | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.25 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 £ |
|--|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 62,346 | 2,992 | 65,339 | 71,523 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 5,491 | 0 | 5,491 | 5,199 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 10,314 | 0 | 10,314 | 11,495 |
| Church activities | 2d | 23,080 | 0 | 23,080 | 25,283 |
| Gains and losses on investments | 2a(i) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60,000 |
| Total income and endowments | | 101,232 | 2,992 | 104,224 | 173,499 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 122,955 | 6,279 | 129,234 | 152,825 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 396 | 0 | 396 | 611 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,650 | 0 | 1,650 | 1,626 |
| Total expenditure | | 125,002 | 6,279 | 131,281 | 155,062 |
| Net incoming/expenditure before investment gains/losses | | -23,770 | -3,287 | -27,057 | 18,437 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | -12,183 | | -12,183 | -51,504 |
| | | -35,951 | -3,288 | -39,237 | -33,065 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | (i) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2025 | 6 | 384,887 | 239,958 | 624,844 | 657,909 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2025 | | 348,937 | 236,671 | 585,606 | 624,845 |

(i) There were no funds vired during the year due to the change of practice regarding the restricted funds from St Johns.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011, 2016 & 2022 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is no longer held within the Restricted Funds following confirmation during the year from the Diocese that the funds are not restricted in any way.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1,000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.25 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 £ |
|---|------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | 40,163 | 0 | 40,163 | 41,190 |
| Collections at all services | | 4,109 | 2,592 | 6,701 | 6,894 |
| (i) Other Income | | 250 | 0 | 250 | 2,572 |
| Grants | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 896 |
| Sundry donations and appeals | 6 | 8,566 | 400 | 8,966 | 8,948 |
| Income tax recoverable | | 9,260 | 0 | 9,261 | 11,025 |
| | | <u>62,347</u> | <u>2,992</u> | <u>65,339</u> | <u>71,523</u> |
| (i) Other income includes £215 insurance payout in relation to the lost microphone. | | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| Fairs, bazaars and other fund-raising events | | 5,491 | 0 | 5,491 | 5,199 |
| | | <u>5,491</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>5,491</u> | <u>5,199</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| Interest & dividends | | 10,314 | 0 | 10,314 | 11,495 |
| | | <u>10,314</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>10,314</u> | <u>11,495</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| Church hall lettings etc | | 16,442 | 0 | 16,442 | 17,919 |
| Fees from weddings etc | | 6,638 | 0 | 6,638 | 7,364 |
| | | <u>23,080</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>23,080</u> | <u>25,282</u> |
| e Gains and losses on investments | | | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of shares | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60,000 |
| | | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>60,000</u> |
| Total Income & Endowments | | <u>101,233</u> | <u>2,992</u> | <u>104,224</u> | <u>173,499</u> |

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.25 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Home | 611 | 3,083 | 3,694 | 3,951 |
| | <hr/> 611 | <hr/> 3,083 | <hr/> 3,694 | <hr/> 3,951 |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 54,754 | 0 | 54,754 | 57,518 |
| other clergy costs | 6,007 | 0 | 6,007 | 6,643 |
| i Church running expenses | 24,726 | 0 | 24,726 | 27,446 |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Church maintenance | 8,055 | 0 | 8,055 | 15,998 |
| Upkeep of services | 10,101 | 0 | 10,101 | 10,455 |
| Upkeep of churchyard & Memorial Garden | 1,599 | 80 | 1,678 | 2,167 |
| Church hall running costs | 9,706 | 130 | 9,836 | 13,425 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,558 |
| Depreciation | 7,395 | 2,986 | 10,382 | 11,663 |
| | <hr/> 122,954 | <hr/> 6,280 | <hr/> 129,235 | <hr/> 152,826 |
| i <i>no longer includes council tax and water charges for St Andrews curate</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>includes recharge of admin staff member from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 396 | 0 | 396 | 611 |
| | <hr/> 396 | <hr/> 0 | <hr/> 396 | <hr/> 611 |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| Independent examination fee | 1,650 | 0 | 1,650 | 1,625 |
| | <hr/> 1,650 | <hr/> 0 | <hr/> 1,650 | <hr/> 1,625 |
| Total expenditure | <hr/> <hr/> 125,001 | <hr/> <hr/> 6,280 | <hr/> <hr/> 131,281 | <hr/> <hr/> 155,062 |

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 Staff Costs | 2025 | 2024 |
| a Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The St Peters PCC did not employ any staff during 2025. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services. There is a shared admin assistant employed by St Andrews and this is recharged to St Peters.

b Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were made to any member of the PCC which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £810 (2024 £1,435)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| 5 (a) Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | R & UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
| Cost as at 1st January 2025 | 228,417 | 36,530 | 7,438 | 30,632 | 18,010 | 321,027 |
| Additions | | | | 840 | | 840 |
| Cost as at 31st December 2025 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>36,530</u> | <u>7,438</u> | <u>31,472</u> | <u>18,010</u> | <u>321,867</u> |
| Depreciation as at 1st January 2025 | | 27,000 | 6,459 | 8,763 | 16,267 | 58,490 |
| Charge for the year | | 1,000 | 489 | 7,500 | 1,392 | 10,382 |
| Depreciation as at 31st December 2025 | <u>0</u> | <u>28,000</u> | <u>6,948</u> | <u>16,263</u> | <u>17,659</u> | <u>68,872</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2025 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>8,530</u> | <u>490</u> | <u>15,209</u> | <u>351</u> | <u>252,996</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2024 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>9,530</u> | <u>979</u> | <u>21,869</u> | <u>1,742</u> | <u>262,537</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5 (b) Investments | Investment | Property | Total |
| Market value 1st January 2025 | 312,173 | 13,810 | 325,983 |
| Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | -12,480 | 297 | -12,183 |
| Market value 31st December 2025 | <u>299,693</u> | <u>14,107</u> | <u>313,800</u> |

During 2007 two investments were purchased, £200,000 in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund. Their market values at the balance sheet date is indicated above.

The valuation was undertaken by CCLA.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Within the restricted sundry donations and appeals were monies for the School Bible appeal (£633) and donations towards the Brighton Dome Festival (£451).

| 7 Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2025 TOTAL | 2024 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Fixed Assets | 17,410 | 235,586 | 252,997 | 262,538 |
| Investments | 313,801 | | 313,801 | 325,984 |
| Current Assets | 22,644 | 1,083 | 23,726 | 41,339 |
| Current Liabilities | -4,918 | | -4,918 | (5,016) |
| | <u>348,937</u> | <u>236,669</u> | <u>585,606</u> | <u>624,845</u> |
| 8 Debtors | | | <u>2025</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| Trade Debtors & Church hall letting fees due | 1,122 | 0 | 1,122 | 1,265 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 5,047 | 0 | 5,047 | 5,116 |
| Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>6,168</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>6,168</u> | <u>6,381</u> |
| 9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | | | <u>2,025</u> | <u>2,024</u> |
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 5,054 | 0 | 5,054 | 5,016 |
| Trade Creditors - Octopus Credit | -137 | | -137 | |
| | <u>4,917</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4,917</u> | <u>5,016</u> |

Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

However, it is noted that there is again a deficit experienced in 2025. Confirmation has been received from the PCC is doing it very best to minimise this loss. A proportion of the loss is attributable to a loss on the investments held by the Church.

The PCC continue to work hard to ensure that the income is increased to cover the ever-increasing running and maintenance costs.

Signed: *C Jones*

Name: Clare Jones

Professional qualifications: FCIPD

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
4 Farmland Way
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1SP

**PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON,
SEAFORD**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

Registered Charity number 1173506

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| Balance Sheet | 3 |
| Notes to the accounts | 4-9 |
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Church of St. Peter, Blatchington Hill, Seaford

Rector Revd Simon Earnshaw, The Rectory,
86 Belgrave Road, Seaford BN25 2HE

Independent examiner :- M I Spencer Ltd, 4 Farmland Way, Hailsham
East Sussex BN27 1SP

Bankers :- Santander, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Note: whilst enrolled members are free to discuss the annual report and financial statements at the annual parochial church meeting on 26th April 2026 it would be very much appreciated if any questions on the financial statements could be sent in writing to the Treasurer, Mr C Reynolds, 4 Dutchess Drive, Seaford, E Sussex, BN25 2XL as soon as possible before the meeting.

East Blatchington PCC

The Treasurer's 2025 Financial Report

The gradual fall of income over the past few years is making it very difficult to meet our ministerial objectives and aspirations within our financial constraints. This year we have incurred a deficit on our day-to-day activities of £27,057 and the value of our stock market investments has fallen by £12,183 so we have recorded a loss of £39,240 which has been met by drawing down on our reserves.

Income

Receipts are down 8% to £104,224 (£113,499) The mainstay of our funding is the Parish Giving Scheme which amounted to £40,163 (£41,190) but sadly this source is also showing signs of decline. Collections and Donations remained much the same as the previous year as did our Fund-Raising events. Hall letting income was down £16,442 (£17,919) as was Income Tax Reclaimed £9,261 (£11,025)

Expenditure

There was no Capital expenditure during the year and so total expenditure fell to £131,281 (£155,062) but it does include £4,413 for Rectory carpeting. The largest element of expenditure is Ministry costs £60,171. Church running expenses were lower at £24,726 (£27,446) as were Church Hall running costs £9,836 (£13,425) Energy costs which have been a considerable problem in the past were down to £9,562 (£19,040)

Reserves

We have £14,199 on deposit with CCLA

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market investments managed on our behalf by CCLA from which we receive quarterly interest payments. Their value varies dependant on international market conditions. Their value at 31st December 2025 was £313,800 (£325,983)

Reserves Policy

One year's income to be held by way of reserve, this to equate to £100,000 at the present time

Conclusion

The expenditure performance demonstrates that we have an acceptable level of control over our outgoings, but income has not only not kept pace with inflation, but it has also considerably declined. We have so far been able to fund the difference from reserves. I am confident that we remain a going concern because of our level of reserves, but if there is not a considerable uplift in receipts in 2026 our activities/expenditure may need to be curtailed as it is not prudent to rely on funding shortfalls from reserves

Chris Reynolds
Treasurer

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

BALANCE SHEET

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2025</u> £ | <u>2024</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 252,996 | 262,538 |
| Investments | 5(b) | 313,800 | 325,983 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 6,168 | 6,381 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 14,199 | 23,885 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 3,354 | 11,066 |
| Cash in hand | | 5 | 7 |
| | | <u>23,726</u> | <u>41,339</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-4,917</u> | <u>-5,016</u> |
| Net current assets | | 18,809 | 36,323 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>585,606</u></u> | <u><u>624,845</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 348937 | 384,887 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 236669 | 239,958 |
| | | <u><u>585,606</u></u> | <u><u>624,845</u></u> |

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

Rev. Simon Earnshaw
 Chairman

Rev S Earnshaw

Date 13/04/2026

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

| | Notes | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.25 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 £ |
|--|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 62,346 | 2,992 | 65,339 | 71,523 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 5,491 | 0 | 5,491 | 5,199 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 10,314 | 0 | 10,314 | 11,495 |
| Church activities | 2d | 23,080 | 0 | 23,080 | 25,283 |
| Gains and losses on investments | 2a(i) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60,000 |
| Total income and endowments | | 101,232 | 2,992 | 104,224 | 173,499 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 122,955 | 6,279 | 129,234 | 152,825 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 396 | 0 | 396 | 611 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,650 | 0 | 1,650 | 1,626 |
| Total expenditure | | 125,002 | 6,279 | 131,281 | 155,062 |
| Net incoming/expenditure before investment gains/losses | | -23,770 | -3,287 | -27,057 | 18,437 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | -12,183 | | -12,183 | -51,504 |
| | | -35,951 | -3,288 | -39,237 | -33,065 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | (i) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2025 | 6 | 384,887 | 239,958 | 624,844 | 657,909 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2025 | | 348,937 | 236,671 | 585,606 | 624,845 |

(i) There were no funds vired during the year due to the change of practice regarding the restricted funds from St Johns.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011, 2016 & 2022 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is no longer held within the Restricted Funds following confirmation during the year from the Diocese that the funds are not restricted in any way.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1,000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.25 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 £ |
|--|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | 40,163 | 0 | 40,163 | 41,190 |
| Collections at all services | | 4,109 | 2,592 | 6,701 | 6,894 |
| (i) Other Income | | 250 | 0 | 250 | 2,572 |
| Grants | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 896 |
| Sundry donations and appeals | 6 | 8,566 | 400 | 8,966 | 8,948 |
| Income tax recoverable | | 9,260 | 0 | 9,261 | 11,025 |
| | | <u>62,347</u> | <u>2,992</u> | <u>65,339</u> | <u>71,523</u> |
| (i) | <i>Other income includes £215 insurance payout in relation to the lost microphone.</i> | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| Fairs, bazaars and other fund-raising events | | 5,491 | 0 | 5,491 | 5,199 |
| | | <u>5,491</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>5,491</u> | <u>5,199</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| Interest & dividends | | 10,314 | 0 | 10,314 | 11,495 |
| | | <u>10,314</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>10,314</u> | <u>11,495</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| Church hall lettings etc | | 16,442 | 0 | 16,442 | 17,919 |
| Fees from weddings etc | | 6,638 | 0 | 6,638 | 7,364 |
| | | <u>23,080</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>23,080</u> | <u>25,282</u> |
| e Gains and losses on investments | | | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of shares | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60,000 |
| | | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>60,000</u> |
| Total Income & Endowments | | <u>101,233</u> | <u>2,992</u> | <u>104,224</u> | <u>173,499</u> |

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.25 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Home | 611 | 3,083 | 3,694 | 3,951 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 611 | 3,083 | 3,694 | 3,951 |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 54,754 | 0 | 54,754 | 57,518 |
| i other clergy costs | 6,007 | 0 | 6,007 | 6,643 |
| ii Church running expenses | 24,726 | 0 | 24,726 | 27,446 |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Church maintenance | 8,055 | 0 | 8,055 | 15,998 |
| Upkeep of services | 10,101 | 0 | 10,101 | 10,455 |
| Upkeep of churchyard & Memorial Garden | 1,599 | 80 | 1,678 | 2,167 |
| Church hall running costs | 9,706 | 130 | 9,836 | 13,425 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,558 |
| Depreciation | 7,395 | 2,986 | 10,382 | 11,663 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 122,954 | 6,280 | 129,235 | 152,826 |
| i <i>no longer includes council tax and water charges for St Andrews curate</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>includes recharge of admin staff member from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 396 | 0 | 396 | 611 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 396 | 0 | 396 | 611 |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| Independent examination fee | 1,650 | 0 | 1,650 | 1,625 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 1,650 | 0 | 1,650 | 1,625 |
| Total expenditure | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 125,001 | 6,280 | 131,281 | 155,062 |

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 Staff Costs | 2025 | 2024 |
| a Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The St Peters PCC did not employ any staff during 2025. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services. There is a shared admin assistant employed by St Andrews and this is recharged to St Peters.

b Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were made to any member of the PCC which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £810 (2024 £1,435)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| 5 (a) Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | R & UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
| Cost as at 1st January 2025 | 228,417 | 36,530 | 7,438 | 30,632 | 18,010 | 321,027 |
| Additions | | | | 840 | | 840 |
| Cost as at 31st December 2025 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>36,530</u> | <u>7,438</u> | <u>31,472</u> | <u>18,010</u> | <u>321,867</u> |
| Depreciation as at 1st January 2025 | | 27,000 | 6,459 | 8,763 | 16,267 | 58,490 |
| Charge for the year | | 1,000 | 489 | 7,500 | 1,392 | 10,382 |
| Depreciation as at 31st December 2025 | <u>0</u> | <u>28,000</u> | <u>6,948</u> | <u>16,263</u> | <u>17,659</u> | <u>68,872</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2025 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>8,530</u> | <u>490</u> | <u>15,209</u> | <u>351</u> | <u>252,996</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2024 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>9,530</u> | <u>979</u> | <u>21,869</u> | <u>1,742</u> | <u>262,537</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5 (b) Investments | Investment | Property | Total |
| Market value 1st January 2025 | 312,173 | 13,810 | 325,983 |
| Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | -12,480 | 297 | -12,183 |
| Market value 31st December 2025 | <u>299,693</u> | <u>14,107</u> | <u>313,800</u> |

During 2007 two investments were purchased, £200,000 in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund. Their market values at the balance sheet date is indicated above.

The valuation was undertaken by CCLA.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Within the restricted sundry donations and appeals were monies for the School Bible appeal (£633) and donations towards the Brighton Dome Festival (£451).

| 7 Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2025 TOTAL | 2024 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Fixed Assets | 17,410 | 235,586 | 252,997 | 262,538 |
| Investments | 313,801 | | 313,801 | 325,984 |
| Current Assets | 22,644 | 1,083 | 23,726 | 41,339 |
| Current Liabilities | -4,918 | | -4,918 | (5,016) |
| | <u>348,937</u> | <u>236,669</u> | <u>585,606</u> | <u>624,845</u> |
| 8 Debtors | | | <u>2025</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| Trade Debtors & Church hall letting fees due | 1,122 | 0 | 1,122 | 1,265 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 5,047 | 0 | 5,047 | 5,116 |
| Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>6,168</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>6,168</u> | <u>6,381</u> |
| 9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | | | <u>2,025</u> | <u>2,024</u> |
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 5,054 | 0 | 5,054 | 5,016 |
| Trade Creditors - Octopus Credit | -137 | | -137 | |
| | <u>4,917</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4,917</u> | <u>5,016</u> |

Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

However, it is noted that there is again a deficit experienced in 2025. Confirmation has been received from the PCC is doing it very best to minimise this loss. A proportion of the loss is attributable to a loss on the investments held by the Church.

The PCC continue to work hard to ensure that the income is increased to cover the ever-increasing running and maintenance costs.

Signed: *C Jones*

Name: Clare Jones

Professional qualifications: FCIPD

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
4 Farmland Way
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1SP

Accounts

**PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON,
SEAFORD**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Registered Charity number 1173506

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Church of St. Peter, Blatchington Hill, Seaford

Rector Revd Simon Earnshaw, The Rectory,
86 Belgrave Road, Seaford BN25 2HE

Independent examiner :- M I Spencer Ltd, 4 Farmland Way, Hailsham
East Sussex BN27 1SP

Bankers :- Santander, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Note: whilst enrolled members are free to discuss the annual report and financial statements at the annual parochial church meeting on 27th April 2025 it would be very much appreciated if any questions on the financial statements could be sent in writing to the Treasurer, Mr C Reynolds, 4 Dutchess Drive, Seaford, E Sussex, BN25 2XL as soon as possible before the meeting.

The Treasurer's 2024 Financial Report

It has been another challenging year financially. There always has to be a balance between what we need to do to keep our wonderful church and chapel rooms in good order and yet stay as much as we can within the bounds of the income that we can generate. In a difficult economic climate 2024 has seen a decline in our income levels and increased pressure on our outgoings. Energy costs have remained uncomfortably high at £19,040. Unit prices increased during the period, but careful use of our heating control systems has seen a reduction from the previous year's costs of £22,367.

Total income was £173,499 boosted by the sale of investment funds which raised £60,000, whilst expenditure fell to £155,062 (£178,453 - 2023).

The investments managed by CCLA saw a small increase in their value compared to last year, however the closing value of the investments is lower due to the sale of some shares in the year. The overall result is that we are posting a deficit of £33,065 which is significantly more than in 2023 (£13,140).

Income

Ignoring the funds raised from the sale of investments, receipts fell from £134,963 the previous year to £113,499. Voluntary income fell 22% to £71,523. Planned Giving was 5% down at £41,190 and Donations 25% down at £8948. Chapel Room lettings showed a small increase to £17,919. Fund raising activity contributions were slightly down on the previous year.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was lower at £155,062 (£178,453). Church maintenance was £15,998 (£2,625) and Chapel Rooms running cost were down 20% at £13,425.

Clergy costs were lower as a result of the interregnum £6643 (£9037).

Charitable Giving increased to £3,951 (£1494).

During the period we have also purchased a new installation of Video, Audio and Wi-Fi equipment at a cost of £29,159. This has been treated as an asset purchase and therefore does not appear in the Profit & Loss account. It will be depreciated over a 4-year period.

Reserves

We have £23,885 on Deposit with CCLA.

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. Their value varies dependent on market conditions. At the start of 2024 their value was £377,487, there has been a modest appreciation in the value of the funds, however during the year £60,000 worth of units were sold and the value at the end of the year was £325,983.

Conclusion

Over the past couple of years, we have successfully carried some major refurbishments, the Nave re-ordering, Chapel Rooms upgrade and now a state-of-the-art audio & sound system all against a background of considerably higher operating costs, and in this year, falling income levels.

This has of course had an impact on our financial position, and it has been necessary to use some of our reserves, the fall in income this year is concerning. In all probability 2025 will continue to present difficult operating conditions, but I am certain that we continue to have sufficient reserves to meet our future needs.

Chris Reynolds
Treasurer

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

| | Notes | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.23 £ |
|--|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 66,772 | 4,751 | 71,523 | 92,705 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 5,199 | 0 | 5,199 | 5,779 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 11,495 | 0 | 11,495 | 12,316 |
| Church activities | 2d | 25,283 | 0 | 25,283 | 24,162 |
| Gains and losses on investments | 2a(i) | 60,000 | 0 | 60,000 | 0 |
| Total income and endowments | | 168,748 | 4,751 | 173,499 | 134,963 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 141,929 | 10,896 | 152,825 | 172,096 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 611 | 0 | 611 | 1,006 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,625 | 1 | 1,626 | 5,352 |
| Total expenditure | | 144,165 | 10,897 | 155,062 | 178,453 |
| Net incoming/expenditure before investment gains/losses | | 24,583 | -6,146 | 18,437 | -43,490 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | -51,504 | | -51,504 | 30,350 |
| | | -26,919 | -6,147 | -33,065 | -13,140 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | (i) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2024 | 6 | 411,806 | 246,104 | 657,909 | 671,048 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2024 | | 384,887 | 239,958 | 624,845 | 657,909 |

(i) There were no funds vired during the year due to the change of practice regarding the restricted funds from St Johns.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

BALANCE SHEET

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2024</u> £ | <u>2023</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 262,538 | 245,041 |
| Investments | 5(b) | 325,983 | 377,487 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 6,381 | 6,204 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 23,885 | 27,390 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 11,066 | 8,050 |
| Cash in hand | | 7 | 12 |
| | | <u>41,339</u> | <u>41,656</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-5,016</u> | <u>-6,275</u> |
| Net current assets | | 36,323 | 35,381 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>624,845</u></u> | <u><u>657,909</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 384887 | 411,805 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 239958 | 246,103 |
| | | <u><u>624,845</u></u> | <u><u>657,909</u></u> |

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

Rev. Simon Earnshaw
Chairman

Rev S Earnshaw

Date 11.04.25

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011, 2016 & 2022 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is no longer held within the Restricted Funds following confirmation during the year from the Diocese that the funds are not restricted in any way.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1,000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.23 £ |
|--|------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | 41,190 | 0 | 41,190 | 43,543 |
| Collections at all services | | 4,018 | 2,876 | 6,894 | 6,287 |
| (i) Other Income | | 2,572 | 0 | 2,572 | 5,385 |
| Grants | | 896 | 0 | 896 | 15,100 |
| Sundry donations and appeals | 6 | 7,073 | 1,874 | 8,948 | 12,034 |
| Income tax recoverable | | 11,024 | 0 | 11,025 | 10,357 |
| | | <u>66,773</u> | <u>4,751</u> | <u>71,523</u> | <u>92,705</u> |
| (i) <i>Other income includes curate expenses reimbursed (£1820). Also Includes £752 from an insurance receipt relating to storm damage to the roof</i> | | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| Fairs, bazaars and other fund-raising events | | 5,199 | 0 | 5,199 | 5,779 |
| | | <u>5,199</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>5,199</u> | <u>5,779</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| Interest & dividends | | 11,495 | 0 | 11,495 | 12,316 |
| | | <u>11,495</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>11,495</u> | <u>12,316</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| Church hall lettings etc | | 17,919 | 0 | 17,919 | 16,123 |
| Fees from weddings etc | | 7,364 | 0 | 7,364 | 8,039 |
| | | <u>25,283</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>25,282</u> | <u>24,162</u> |
| e Gains and losses on investments | | | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of shares | | 60,000 | 0 | 60,000 | 0 |
| | | <u>60,000</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>60,000</u> | <u>0</u> |
| Total Income & Endowments | | <u>168,749</u> | <u>4,751</u> | <u>173,499</u> | <u>134,963</u> |

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.24 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.23 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Home | 566 | 3,386 | 3,951 | 1,494 |
| | <u>566</u> | <u>3,386</u> | <u>3,951</u> | <u>1,494</u> |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 57,518 | 0 | 57,518 | 52,359 |
| i other clergy costs | 6,643 | 0 | 6,643 | 9,037 |
| ii Church running expenses | 27,446 | 0 | 27,446 | 27,823 |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| iii Church maintenance | 14,998 | 1,000 | 15,998 | 2,625 |
| Upkeep of services | 10,455 | 0 | 10,455 | 9,508 |
| Upkeep of churchyard & Memorial Garden | 2,020 | 147 | 2,167 | 2,077 |
| Church hall running costs | 13,425 | 0 | 13,425 | 16,793 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 597 | 2,962 | 3,558 | 44,295 |
| Depreciation | 8,260 | 3,403 | 11,663 | 6,086 |
| | <u>141,928</u> | <u>10,897</u> | <u>152,826</u> | <u>172,097</u> |
| i <i>includes council tax and water charges for St Andrews curate</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>includes recharge of admin staff member from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| iii <i>Includes repairs to the organ</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 611 | 0 | 611 | 1006 |
| | <u>611</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>611</u> | <u>1,006</u> |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| iv College of Catholic Anglican Women | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3528 |
| Independent examination fee | 1,625 | 0 | 1,625 | 1,824 |
| | <u>1,625</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1,625</u> | <u>5,352</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>144,164</u> | <u>10,897</u> | <u>155,062</u> | <u>178,453</u> |

iv *The monies in other resources expended relates to the income temporarily held for the College of Catholic Anglican Women - repaid in full before 31.12.23*

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Staff Costs | 2024 | 2023 |
| a | Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The St Peters PCC did not employ any staff during 2024. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services. There is a shared admin assistant employed by St Andrews and this is recharged to St Peters.

b **Payments to PCC members**

No payments or expenses were made to any member of the PCC which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £1,435 (2023 £889)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| 5 (a) | Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | R & UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
| | Cost as at 1st January 2024 | 228,417 | 36,530 | 7,438 | 1,473 | 18,010 | 291,868 |
| | Additions | | | | 29,159 | | 29,159 |
| | Cost as at 31st December 2024 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>36,530</u> | <u>7,438</u> | <u>30,632</u> | <u>18,010</u> | <u>321,028</u> |
| | Depreciation as at 1st January 2024 | | 26,000 | 5,969 | 1,473 | 13,384 | 46,827 |
| | Charge for the year | | 1,000 | 489 | 7,290 | 2,883 | 11,663 |
| | Depreciation as at 31st December 2024 | <u>0</u> | <u>27,000</u> | <u>6,458</u> | <u>8,763</u> | <u>16,267</u> | <u>58,490</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2024 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>9,530</u> | <u>980</u> | <u>21,869</u> | <u>1,743</u> | <u>262,538</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2023 | <u>228,417</u> | <u>10,530</u> | <u>1,469</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4,625</u> | <u>245,041</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5 (b) | Investments | Investment | Property | Total |
| | Market value 1st January 2024 | 363,537 | 13,950 | 377,487 |
| | Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | -51,364 | -140 | -51,504 |
| | Market value 31st December 2024 | <u>312,173</u> | <u>13,810</u> | <u>325,983</u> |

During 2007 two investments were purchased, £200,000 in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund. Their market values at the balance sheet date is indicated above.

During 2024 2581.2114 shares were sold to enable to PCC to purchase improved audio, video and Wifi equipment for use in their services. The sale yielded £60,000 which was also used to support the ongoing maintenance and repairs to the church and hall.

The valuation was undertaken by CCLA.

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON, SEAFORD, 1173506

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Within the restricted sundry donations and appeals were monies for the chair appeal (£510) and donations towards the new WiFi (£1315).

| 7 | Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2024 TOTAL | 2023 |
|---|--|--------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Fixed Assets | 23,965 | 238,573 | 262,538 | 245,041 |
| | Investments | 325,984 | | 325,984 | 377,487 |
| | Current Assets | 39,954 | 1,385 | 41,339 | 41,654 |
| | Current Liabilities | -5,016 | | -5,016 | (6,275) |
| | | <u>384,887</u> | <u>239,958</u> | <u>624,845</u> | <u>657,908</u> |
| 8 | Debtors | | | 2024 | 2023 |
| | Trade Debtors & Church hall letting fees due | 1,265 | 0 | 1,265 | 492 |
| | PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 5,116 | 0 | 5,116 | 5,712 |
| | Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | <u>6,381</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>6,381</u> | <u>6,204</u> |
| 9 | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | | | 2,024 | 2,023 |
| | Accruals for utilities and other costs | 5,016 | 0 | 5,016 | 6,275 |
| | | <u>5,016</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>5,016</u> | <u>6,275</u> |

Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

However, it is noted that there is again a substantial deficit experienced in 2024 due to expenditure on the Church and Hall. Confirmation has been received from the PCC that there are less significant expenditures planned for 2025.

The PCC continue to work hard to ensure that the income is increased to cover the ever-increasing running and maintenance costs.

Signed: *C Jones*

Name: Clare Jones

Professional qualifications: FCIPD

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
4 Farmland Way
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1SP

Accounts

The Treasurer's 2023 Financial Report

Our day to day financial performance was heavily impacted by the continuance of the extraordinarily high energy costs but generous giving through collections at services, donations and appeals, and increases in Hall Letting income have ameliorated the position to a certain extent. The Chapel Rooms had a long overdue refurbishment with new toilets and redecorating throughout at a cost of £44,295 towards which we were successful in obtaining grants of £15,100.

Income including grants rose 25% to £134,963 whilst Expenditure was up 16% at £178,453 which created a deficit of £43,490 but increases in the value of our investments has reduced this figure to a final deficit of £13,140.

Income

Planned Giving has increased 2% to £43,543. This is an excellent and tax effective way of supporting St. Peter's and I would urge any new parishioners to join the scheme. Income from general fund raising activities rose 35% and Donations & Appeals 80% to £5,779 and £12,034 respectively. Hall lettings income has risen 54% to £16,123. The refurbishments should ensure that income at this level continues.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £178,453. Church running costs were up 53% at £27,823 of which Heat & Light was £11,242. Chapel Rooms running cost was up 49% at £16,793 Heat & Light accounted for £11,023. Upkeep of services saw a 21% increase to £9,508 whilst Churchyard Upkeep costs fell 30% to £2,077

Reserves

We started the year with £70,074 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £55,000 to fund R & R activity and energy costs but we have received £12,316 in interest income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2023 these deposits stood at £27,390

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA as mentioned below. The investment market saw an uplift in growth during the year with the result that the value of these funds grew from £347,137 to £377,487

Restricted Funds

When St. John's Hall was sold in 2007 it was believed that the proceeds were controlled by a stipulation contained in a 1914 deed when the land was originally purchased. Thus when the sale proceeds of £220,000 were invested with CCLA Investment Management the subsequent use of these funds was determined as restricted.

However, following enquiries made of the Diocese it was discovered that the land which related to the 1914 deed was in fact sold in 1948. The then PCC sought a legal opinion in 1951 which determined that the funds could be used without restriction.

On 20th June 2023 the PCC passed a resolution that these funds could be regarded as unrestricted and at the same time passed a resolution to create a Reserves Policy which stated that we should always hold one year's income by way of a reserve. Nominally £100,000.

Conclusion

It is very pleasing that the long overdue refurbishment of the Chapel Rooms has taken place and it now offers wonderful facilities not only for church activities but also to a growing number and range of hirers. This should see the strong increase in rental income continue. As in previous years, the PCC is extremely grateful for the generous financial help it has received by way of donations big and small, and for the support and attendance at all the fund raising activities.

Despite the difficult financial conditions that continue around us, I believe that our finances and controls are in good order.

Chris Reynolds
Treasurer

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

| | Notes | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.23 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 £ |
|---|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 68,905 | 23,801 | 92,705 | 69,963 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 5,779 | 0 | 5,779 | 4,276 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 12,316 | 0 | 12,316 | 11,514 |
| Church activities | 2d | 24,162 | 0 | 24,162 | 16,130 |
| Other income | 2a(i) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,614 |
| Total income and endowments | | 111,162 | 23,801 | 134,963 | 107,497 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 155,246 | 16,850 | 172,096 | 151,146 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 1,006 | 0 | 1,006 | 501 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,824 | 3,528 | 5,352 | 1,956 |
| Total expenditure | | 158,075 | 20,378 | 178,453 | 153,603 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year | | -46,913 | 3,423 | -43,490 | -46,106 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | 30,350 | | 30,350 | -46,309 |
| | | -16,563 | 3,422 | -13,140 | -92,415 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | (i) | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2023 | 6 | 428369 | 242681 | 671048 | 763463 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2023 | | 411805 | 246103 | 657909 | 671048 |

(i) There were no funds vired during the year due to the change of practice regarding the restricted funds from St Johns.

BALANCE SHEET**NOT RESTATED**

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2023</u> £ | <u>2022</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 245,041 | 247,773 |
| Investment | 5(b) | 377,487 | 347,137 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 6,204 | 4,991 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 27,390 | 8,963 |
| Short term deposits Restricted | | 0 | 61,111 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 8,050 | 8,069 |
| Cash in hand | | 12 | 22 |
| | | <u>41,656</u> | <u>83,157</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-6,275</u> | <u>-7,019</u> |
| Net current assets | | 35,381 | 76,138 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>657,909</u></u> | <u><u>671,048</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 411805 | 17,970 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 246103 | 653,078 |
| | | <u><u>657,909</u></u> | <u><u>671,048</u></u> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on17th April.....2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Arwen Folkes
Chairman

A Folkes

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Act 2016 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is no longer held within the Restricted Funds following confirmation during the year from the Diocese that the funds are not restricted in any way.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|--|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.23 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 £ |
|--|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| | | 43,543 | 0 | 43,543 | 42,715 |
| | | 5,384 | 903 | 6,287 | 4,142 |
| (i) | | 1,858 | 3,527 | 5,385 | 5,614 |
| | | 0 | 15,100 | 15,100 | 6,416 |
| | 6 | 7,763 | 4,271 | 12,034 | 6,439 |
| | | 10,357 | 0 | 10,357 | 10,251 |
| | | <u>68,905</u> | <u>23,801</u> | <u>92,705</u> | <u>75,577</u> |
| (i) | <i>Other income includes curate expenses reimbursed (£1858). The monies in other income restricted funds relates to the income temporarily held for the College of Catholic Anglican Women - repaid in full before 31.12.23</i> | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| | | 5,779 | 0 | 5,779 | 4,276 |
| | | <u>5,779</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>5,779</u> | <u>4,276</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| | | 12,316 | 0 | 12,316 | 11,514 |
| | | <u>12,316</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>12,316</u> | <u>11,514</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| | | 16,123 | 0 | 16,123 | 10,415 |
| | | 8,039 | 0 | 8,039 | 5,715 |
| | | <u>24,162</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>24,162</u> | <u>16,130</u> |
| Total income & Endowments | | <u>111,162</u> | <u>23,801</u> | <u>134,963</u> | <u>107,497</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.23 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 806 |
| Home | 1,110 | 384 | 1,494 | 1,519 |
| | <u>1,110</u> | <u>384</u> | <u>1,494</u> | <u>2,325</u> |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 52,359 | 0 | 52,359 | 53,187 |
| i other clergy costs | 9,037 | 0 | 9,037 | 8,555 |
| ii Church running expenses | 27,573 | 250 | 27,823 | 18,092) |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65) |
| Church maintenance | 2,625 | 0 | 2,625 | 35,384 |
| Upkeep of services | 9,508 | 0 | 9,508 | 7,835 |
| Upkeep of churchyard | 2,077 | 0 | 2,077 | 2,986 |
| Church hall running costs | 16,793 | 0 | 16,793 | 11,276 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 31,152 | 13,143 | 44,295 | 5,920 |
| Depreciation | 3,012 | 3,074 | 6,086 | 5,521 |
| | <u>155,246</u> | <u>16,851</u> | <u>172,097</u> | <u>151,146</u> |
| i <i>includes council tax and water charges for St Andrews curate</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>includes recharge of admin staff member from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 1006 | 0 | 1,006 | 501 |
| | <u>1,006</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1,006</u> | <u>501</u> |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| iii College of Catholic Anglican Women | | 3528 | 3,528 | 0 |
| Independent examination fee | 1,824 | 0 | 1,824 | 1,956 |
| | <u>1,824</u> | <u>3,528</u> | <u>5,352</u> | <u>1,956</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>158,075</u> | <u>20,378</u> | <u>178,453</u> | <u>153,603</u> |

iii *The monies in other resources expended relates to the income temporarily held for the College of Catholic Anglican Women - repaid in full before 31.12.23*

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Staff Costs | 2023 | 2022 |
| a | Wages and Salaries | - | - |

The St Peters PCC did not employ any staff during 2023. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services. There is a shared admin assistant employed by St Andrews and this is recharged to St Peters.

b **Payments to PCC members**

No payments or expenses were made to any member of the PCC which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £889 (2022 £1095)

| 5 (a) Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|---------------|
| Cost as at 1st January 2023 | 228417 | 36530 | 5480 | 1473 | 16613 | 288513 |
| Additions | | | 1958 | | 1397 | 3355 |
| Cost as at 31st December 2023 | <u>228417</u> | <u>36530</u> | <u>7438</u> | <u>1473</u> | <u>18010</u> | <u>291868</u> |
| Depreciation as at 1st January 2023 | | 25000 | 5480 | 1105 | 9157 | 40741 |
| Charge for the year | | 1000 | 489 | 368 | 4228 | 6086 |
| Depreciation as at 31st December 2023 | <u>0</u> | <u>26000</u> | <u>5969</u> | <u>1473</u> | <u>13384</u> | <u>46827</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2023 | <u>228417</u> | <u>10530</u> | <u>1468</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4625</u> | <u>245041</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2022 | <u>228417</u> | <u>11530</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>368</u> | <u>7456</u> | <u>247772</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| 5 (b) Investments | Investment | Property | Total |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Market value 1st January 2023 | 332,275 | 14,862 | 347,137 |
| Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | 31,262 | -912 | 30,350 |
| Market value 31st December 2023 | <u>363,537</u> | <u>13,950</u> | <u>377,487</u> |

During 2007 two investments were purchased, £200,000 in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund. Their market values at the balance sheet date is indicated above.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Within the restricted sundry donations and appeals were monies for the chair appeal (£2,500), Father Eric birthday collection (£125) and the Christmas Collection (£903).
 Within the unrestricted fund were monies from the Winter Warmer and received from PayPal giving.

| 7 Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2023 TOTAL | 2022 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | 4,381 | 240,661 | 245,042 | 247,773 |
| Investments | 377,487 | | 377,487 | 347,137 |
| Current Assets | 36,212 | 5,442 | 41,654 | 83,157 |
| Current Liabilities | (6,275) | | (6,275) | (7,019) |
| | <u>411,805</u> | <u>246,103</u> | <u>657,908</u> | <u>671,049</u> |
| 8 Debtors | | | 2023 | 2022 |
| Trade Debtors & Church hall letting fees due | 492 | 0 | 492 | 0 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 5,712 | 0 | 5,712 | 4,991 |
| Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>6,204</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>6,204</u> | <u>4,991</u> |
| 9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | | | 2023 | 2022 |
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 6,275 | 0 | 6,275 | 7,019 |
| | <u>6,275</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>6,275</u> | <u>7,019</u> |

10 Events in the year

The PCC members have received from the Diocese a copy of a historic letter, which indicates that it is entitled to spend monies (or a portion thereof) arising from the sale of land, which previously resided within the Restricted Fund, together with the income derived from such Fund(s) on the fabric of the Church and hall. The PCC have agreed that the proceeds from the sale of St Johns will now be treated as unrestricted. A new financial and reserves policy will be created to reflect this.

The comparatives for 2022 prepared under the previous policy have not been restated.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2022 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

However, it is noted that the substantial deficit experienced in 2022 has been significantly reduced in 2023 due to the hard work to increase income to cover the day to day running costs of the church and hall. Confirmation was received in 2023 to allow the monies previously held in restricted funds to be moved to unrestricted funds and new policies are being put in place to make provision for how this money should be handled.

Signed: *C Jones*

Name: Clare Jones

Professional qualifications: FCIPD

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
4 Farmland Way
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1SP

Accounts



St Peter's Church

East Blatchington, Seaford

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL
CHURCH COUNCIL
for the year ended 31 December 2022

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Minutes of the Meetings held on 8th May 2022

Church of St. Peter, Belgrave Road, East Blatchington, Seaford

Rector:

Revd. Arwen Folkes,
The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road
Seaford, BN25 2HE

Registered Charity number 1173506

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Peter's Church, Belgrave Road, Seaford and live streamed on Sunday 30th April 2023 at 11.15am

AGENDAS

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2022 Meeting (provided on page 12)
3. Nomination and election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2022 Meeting (provided on page 16)
3. Matters arising from those Minutes.
4. To receive from the Parochial Church Council and be free to discuss: -
 - 4a) A report on the numbers entered on the Electoral Roll
 - 4b) An Annual Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish in general, including the report from the Chair of the PCC
 - 4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2022 and the Treasurer's report.
 - 4d) A report on the building and fabric of the Church of the Parish.
 - 4e) A report on Safeguarding.
 - 4f) A report on the proceedings of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.
 - 4g) A report on Health and Safety.
5. To receive a report from:
 - The Pastoral Team
 - The Choir
 - The Mothers' Union
 - The EBB Café Church and Little Fishes
 - The East Blatchington Lectures
6. To elect up to 4 representatives to the Deanery Synod
7. To elect up to 6 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council.
8. To appoint an independent examiner to the accounts.
9. To consider any other matters of Parochial or general church interest.

Christine Cooke, PCC Secretary

Administration Information

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number 1173506.

During the relevant period the following served as members of the PCC:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Rector | The Revd. Arwen Folkes (<i>Chair</i>) |
| Assistant Curate | The Revd. Joe Padfield (<i>Vice Chair</i>) |
| Churchwardens: | Ms Juliet Mitton Mrs Geraldine Hedgecock |
| Treasurer: | Mr Chris Reynolds |
| Licensed Reader: | Mrs Kay Blackburn (<i>Deanery Synod Representative</i>) |
| Deanery Synod Reps: | Mrs Maggie Chitty Mrs Jennifer Spicer |
| Lay Representatives: | |
| Elected Members: | Mrs Christine Cooke (<i>Secretary</i>) Mr Jeffrey Clarke Mrs Daphne Dempster Mrs Susan Drader Mrs Jacqueline Head Mrs Samukeliso Mavuka Ms Christa Ovenden Mrs Debbie Phipps (<i>Electoral Roll and Health and Safety Officer</i>) Ms Aileen Ricard Mrs Linda Stratford |
| Co-opted Members: | Mrs Carly Taylor (<i>Safeguarding Officer</i>) Mrs Christa Lindner (<i>Buildings Officer</i>) |

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended. Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) and consists of certain ex-officio members namely the Rector, the Churchwardens, members of the Deanery Diocesan or General Synods, and such Licensed Readers as the Annual Meeting may decide: and of the 12 lay members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The PCC also has the power to co-opt members not exceeding one fifth of the total number of elected members of the council or two persons, whichever is greater. Members of the Electoral Roll are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of St. Peter's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. Under the terms of the Parochial Church (Powers) Measure 1956, as amended by the Synodical Government Measure 1969, the PCC has the duty to co-operate with the Rector "in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical". In planning its activities, the PCC has given due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance as is shown in the following reports.

Location and Historical Background

The ecclesiastical parish of East Blatchington - St. Peter - in the County of East Sussex, lies within the Diocese and Jurisdiction of the Lord Bishop of Chichester, the Archdeaconry of Brighton & Lewes and the Deanery of Lewes and Seaford.

The parish serves the western side of the town of Seaford. In 2008 the parish became a United Benefice with the adjacent parish of St. Andrew, Bishopstone.

The parish church of St. Peter, East Blatchington, dates from the twelfth century, and is situated centrally within the area defined by the parish boundaries. From this centre of worship is carried out a ministry of spiritual, sacramental, pastoral and missionary work in accordance with the statutory obligations laid upon the Church of England as the church established by law in this realm.

The parish church is subject to the faculty jurisdiction of the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Chichester, and the inspecting architect appointed by the Parochial Church Council is Mr. Tim Wells of John D Clark and Partners, Eastbourne.

Apart from the burial of cremated remains, the churchyard is closed, and Lewes District Council is responsible for maintaining the ground.

All correspondence should be sent in the first instance to The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2HE. Email: rector@ebbchurches.org.uk

Adjacent to the church is a flint and brick building known as the Chapel Rooms, a fully equipped hall used socially by both the church and community. This building does not come under faculty jurisdiction; however, it has been inspected by the appointed architect.

The Parish Clergy

The Reverend Arwen Folkes was licensed as Rector on 22nd March 2019. She is housed in The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HE. The freehold of the property is vested in the Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance who are also responsible for maintaining the property on the incumbent's behalf. The internal decorations continue to be the responsibility of the PCC.

The Reverend Joe Padfield was licensed as our Assistant Curate on 26th June 2021 and licensed as priest on 11th June 2022. The parish benefits from the ministry of the Revd. Eric Pollard, Revd. John Harrington and Revd. Chris Collison, retired priests holding the bishop's permission to officiate and Reader, Mrs. Kay Blackburn. We are grateful to Mr George Rix for continuing to lead evening prayer on occasions. We enjoy the support of an excellent pastoral team from within the congregation. The parish value all their work and thank them warmly for their goodwill and willingness to volunteer for duties. We are richly blessed to benefit from their commitment and gifts.

Under the Pastoral Scheme, the two parishes in the united benefice remain distinct. The post of House for Duty Priest at St. Andrew's Bishopstone, vacant since November 2021, has been filled; the Revd. Elizabeth Jinks was appointed in November 2022. Her induction will take place in April 2023. The coming together of both parishes continues, providing opportunities for children and young people and their parents to come together to learn about and grow in faith and in employing a Benefice Administrator. In December members of both PCCs met together for the first time for an enjoyable 'Bring and Share' Christmas lunch.

4a) Electoral Roll

The electoral roll currently stands at 116 names. At the time of this report the revision is continuing but to date there have been 4 additions and 4 removals. This means that under the Church Representation Rules the number of representatives who can stand for election for the PCC remains at 12 people.

Mrs Debbie Phipps Electoral Roll Office

4b) Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

Since the Annual Meeting on 8th May 2022 the PCC has met on six occasions in church and in the Upper Room.

Amongst the items considered and discussed were:

- The restructuring, remit and budget of the PCC sub-committees. The three set up this year: (OLPS) Outreach, Learning, Pastoral and Safeguarding, (BHS) Buildings, Health and Safety, and (FCSL) Fundraising, Charity and Social Life have worked very successfully.
- Reports from the PCC sub-committees.
- Regular budget forecast reports showing monthly income and expenditure throughout 2022.
- Approval of the Financial Statements for 2022.
- Ensuring that our Mission Action Plan remains at the forefront of our decisions and activities.
- The appointment of 14 sidespeople (previously called sidesmen)
- The decision to allow small memorial slabs for people whose ashes are buried in our churchyard.
- The decision to install a defibrillator on the outside wall of the Chapel Rooms.
- Resolutions to spend various amounts of money for Repairs and Replacements in the church and Chapel Rooms.
- The decision to go ahead with employing a part-time Children and Families worker, paid for with a Mission Funding grant.
- The appointment of new House for Duty priest at Bishopstone.

The Standing Committee of the PCC has met on 4 occasions since the last APCM in the Chapel Rooms.

The names of 116 parishioners were recorded on the electoral roll for the parish that was presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2022.

All are welcome to attend services in St. Peter's; they were fully restored in church in 2022 and will continue to be live streamed to our online congregation for the foreseeable future.

Christine Cooke Secretary to the PCC

Report from the Rector, chair of the PCC

The year of 2022 has been another busy year during which the Parish of East Blatchington has continued to recover from the pandemic whilst also responding to new challenges in the wider community. New challenges have faced us in equal measure to new opportunities to serve.

Our United Benefice was much strengthened by the creation of a paid post for administrative support. This began in January and has fast become a vital role within our team liberating clergy from admin, coordinating our communications, managing events, and supporting our treasurers. I am grateful to both PCCs for funding this post and for the difference that it has made to our ministry. I would also like to make special thanks to Christine Cooke, Chris Reynolds, Geraldine Hedgecock, and Juliet Mitton for their tireless work as the executive officers of the PCC and making sure that we are able to lead the church and deal with the business of each day with efficiency and diligence.

The Church & our Team

The year also began with the works on the accessibility project being completed in our 'Lady Chapel' and the restoration of our statue with thanks to a generous donation. The project was completed by the gifting of the Driftwood Cross, created by local carpenter John Aimes with wood from the Seaford coastline and funded by Robin Yarnton. The completion of this work was held in celebration with Bishop Will coming to bless the new area.

Despite any initial reservations about removing these pews it has to be said that it has made an enormous impact on how we use the church itself. Small groups use the space almost daily regularly for prayer, study, and pastoral meetings. Within our main services we are now able to welcome children, families, people with pushchairs, wheelchairs, mobility scooters far more effectively. We were delighted with the works themselves which were completed to a high standard.

A significant change was made in how we manage and maintain our buildings this year with the creation of the 'Buildings Team' (to then become the 'Buildings Officer') as a delegated responsibility from the churchwardens. After openly advertising this role, we were pleased to welcome Christa Lindner who brought experience from her prior church in this regard. Taking over from Nick Linsell, Christa continues to develop an effective team and efficient schedule of works for the church. Our Quinquennial was conducted by Tim Wells in August and as a PCC we look to 2023 to plan and manage the recommendations from that. Nick Linsell continues to maintain our churchyard and thanks to the generous donations from within the church and his help, a beautiful circular bench has been placed in the newly cleared Memorial Garden facing the porch. This has been, as hoped, very well used, both for worship, contemplation, prayer and pastoral conversations.

In June it was wonderful to witness our Assistant Curate, Fr Joe Padfield, be made priest at All Saints, Hove and we have welcomed his increasingly growing ministry with us. Carly Taylor has also been a source of vital support with her taking on of the Parish Safeguarding Officer, as a lay pastoral assistant and then, in September, picking up the reins of the administrative assistant role. The strength of our team was made apparent during the time of my sickness in the summer. I thank everyone who held the team together in my absence and supported me in my return. My gratitude also goes to our PCC and Standing Committee, who have helped me enormously throughout the year with their commitment and wisdom.

Worship

We have continued to maintain a busy timetable of worship. This has been possible due to the shared ministry with our Assistant Curate, our Reader Kay Blackburn and our retired and PTO clergy. All of us are ably assisted and supported by George Rix and Linda Stratford, who lead our sacristy and server teams. Our readers, intercessors and stewards have meant that we are able to involve the wider church community. Our musical life has recovered fully with the growth in our choir, led by Angela Chalkley and Coryn Roberts. It is wonderful to see our church life recovered and to see that our services welcome people from across many different walks of life.

It is thanks to our tech team, now led by Danny Taylor, that we have been able to continue offering our worship online and I know this is greatly appreciated by those who find themselves still at home each week or occasionally. I think this is now embedded in the life of our church as a positive thing to have emerged from Covid-19.

We took the lead for the annual Walk of Witness on Good Friday, with Churches Together in Seaford, and led a new route which welcomed a great number of people. At Easter, just after the nave works were completed, it was a particular delight to see the residents of our local care home on one side, and children playing on the floor on the other side. The breadth of life in the worship of God.

In September we marked the very sad death of Queen Elizabeth II with the opening of a book of condolence. I remain delighted that we continue to keep our doors open every day of the year and that Morning Prayer, Breathing Space and the Rosary Group have become stable weekday expressions of our faith and witness.

Having appointed in November of this year, we look forward to welcoming our new Associate Vicar, The Rev'd Elizabeth Jinks, to join us in 2023, to receive her expression of faith in our worship, and the support that her ministry will provide to the Benefice team as a whole.

Having delivered a parish-wide invitation and communication, Christmas also saw us welcome a great many people to our indoor and outdoor services and we thank God for the opportunity to do so.

Ministry & Outreach

Our church found themselves again in the middle of a crisis and with a calling to respond. Spearheading 'Seaford for Ukraine', the people of St Peter's were actively and energetically involved in the local response to 'Homes for Ukraine'. This involved the setting up of a Ukrainian café in the centre of town, providing a peer support network for hosts, overseeing safeguarding, managing volunteers both inside and outside the church, fundraising to enable the resourcing of refugees as they arrived and the provision of English lessons. As Rector I was proud that we so readily used our resources and skills to meet this challenge and thank the many people who were involved; our ecumenical partners, our public sector partnerships, our PCC members, our church congregation and especially Carly Taylor and Fr Joe Padfield. St Peter's once again fulfilled her mission to be open and responsive to the needs in the community.

Partnership working is also what enabled us to support the launch of the Forget-me-Knot memory cafe which continues to meet every Friday in the Chapel Rooms, meeting the needs of carers and members of the community who struggle with memory issues. Seafriends are the managing partner who take care of this space and we provide our room free for their use and it is supported by a number of trained volunteers, many of whom comes from our church community.

Under the careful eye of Geraldine Hedgecock, Fr Joe Padfield and the many involved volunteers, I am pleased that we have now recovered our ministry to Care Homes and Home Communion in our parish. This is such a rewarding and vital ministry, and it is very good to have witnessed its gentle recovery over the year.

The launch of our 'Bible Study Group' in May this year has provided a space of reflection and engagement with the Holy Scriptures. Aably led by Aileen Rickard, Jeff Clarke and Carly Taylor, I am delighted that we now have this as part of our life together. Our commitment to learning together has also been seen in good attendance at our Lent and Advent courses, and the very well-attended 'St Peter's Seminar'.

Thanks to a generous donation of books from Kay Blackburn and others, Flora Schofield has catalogued them all and enabled us to launch a parish library for use by anyone who wishes to read further.

A successful plant sale and book sale took place in 2022, organised by Nick and Margaret Linsell to whom we are very grateful. We also recovered the East Blatchington lecture tradition and at all of these events we were pleased to welcome people from across our community. We are focused on fully recovering our pre-COVID outreach and fundraising life in 2023.

Our children and young people ministry has continued with stability and growth through Little Fishes and our 'Café Church' was renamed 'Lighthouse' towards the end of this year. We welcome families from across both parishes and this is an excellent form of joined up ministry. We have trialled an age inclusive service named 'Kairos' on a Saturday evening at 5.30pm. These groups are exciting, and we hope to build upon their growth in the coming year. I have continued in my role as governor of Seaford Primary School, and we have welcomed many children on school visits during the summer and at Christmas. We hope to continue building upon these relationships.

Considering the cost of living and winter heating crisis, Linda Stratford has ably led a team to deliver weekly winter warmer lunches. These have been greatly appreciated and attended and very well served by a team of parishioners and opened up an important conversation about reducing isolation. Our weekly Art and Crochet Groups serve a particular need in this area.

Finally, but not marginally, the attention to communicating our church life, with our posters, bulletin communications, leaflets and Cross Keys has continued through the commitment and time given by Neville Chalkley and Christine Cooke, and I know they are much appreciated and play a crucial role in keeping our church life together.

The Chapel Rooms

Following COVID-19 our chapel rooms soon became busy again, under the careful stewardship of Jacqueline Head. It is so good to see groups from across our community using the space again, but it has also become apparent that after thirty years of ownership the building is in need of significant repair and maintenance. This has led the PCC to carefully consider the Chapel Rooms in terms of viability and ministry.

From this work, and the careful eye of our Buildings Officer, we have identified areas of the building that require attention. This has led to a small increase in our hire charges, but in line with other organisations. With Jacqueline Head retiring from her role after six hardworking years we have migrated our hirers across to an online booking system during December and Sylvie Aston, with the support of Carly Taylor has taken this up. The future looks encouraging for the Chapel Rooms, and I am committed to seeking funding from other sources to facilitate the protection and maintenance of this valuable community resource. To this end, Jeff Clarke and I held a very productive meeting with Kathryn Prior, fundraising advisor from the Diocese of Chichester, in November.

Closing comments

As Rector, and chair of the PCC, I close this report with immense thanksgiving to the whole church community and everyone mentioned above. We believe in a God with whom all things are possible, and our continued commitment to the presence of Christ in the Eucharist surely finds its fullest expression in the how we make his presence known to each other and in the community. We have been through a time of negotiating much change and it feels as though we have finally reached a stable point in our life. However, the energy crisis has impacted greatly on our finances and though we do have fiscal challenges ahead of us I ask the whole church community to join me in giving thanks and prayer for all that has been, and to join me in saying 'yes' to whatever lies ahead.

I commend this report to your thanksgiving and prayer. Thank you all for all you do to make St Peter's as vibrant as it is.

Rev'd Arwen Folkes (MA) Chair of East Blatchington PCC
Rector of the United Benefice of East Blatchington & Bishopstone

4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2022 and the Treasurer's report.

With the impact of the COVID virus having lessened we saw St. Peter's return to a full year of activity. Income increased 9% to £107,497 but expenditure also rose 31% to £156,303 which has produced a deficit of £46,106 necessitating the need to draw from our reserves to fund the difference. Part of this increase in expenditure was pre-planned, such as the improvements to the nave, but there was also an urgency to remove the worn away roof guttering hangers and replace with wider width guttering. The old radiators in the Chapel rooms were also replaced. Expenditure on these items amounted to £34,340 so the operating deficit was £11,766.

Income

Planned giving continues to be the mainstay of our support which at £42,715 together with associated tax relief of £10,272 represents 40% of our income. This scheme is a great asset to the PCC with budgeting and I would advocate that anyone who is not currently using the scheme join. Activities for generating funds saw an increase of 41% to £4,276 mainly through the excellent plant and book sales.

The ability to hire out the Chapel rooms for a full year saw a 58% increase in revenue to £10,415. A new computer booking system will commence in January 2023 and together with a considerable number of new hirers the prospects of further increases in revenue are extremely good.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £156,303. For reasons mentioned above, Church Maintenance was £35,384 compared to £11,295 the previous year, and Chapel Rooms repairs/improvements were £5,920 compared to no expenditure in 2021.

Charitable giving increased to £2,325 (£369)

Church running costs increased by 13% to £18,092. Every effort is made to keep costs under strict control, but some things are out of our hands. One of our investments during the year was to install a NEST operating system in the church to give greater control over our heating in view of the drastic increase in price following the war in Ukraine. Nevertheless, there has been a 68% increase in our energy costs to £16,454.79 (£9,762.27) and these costs will continue to have significant impact in 2023.

Reserves

We started the year with £98,560 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £40,000 to fund R & R activity but we have received £11,514 in interest and income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2021 these deposits stood at £70,074

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. On 1st January 2021 the book value was £393,446. The war in Ukraine and other global events have had a negative impact on investment markets and our funds are now valued at £347,137.

Conclusion

The PCC is truly grateful for the wonderful financial support it has received from across the parish with donations big and small, but it has been a very disappointing and difficult year financially. Although we are posting a considerable deficit this year, it is my considered opinion that East Blatchington PCC is a viable enterprise. However, it is essential that we bring our income and expenditure into balance. In 2023 it will be imperative to explore avenues to both increase income and reduce overheads as a matter of priority.

We have commenced some actions to establish a better knowledge concerning the provenance of our restricted funds and this also will need to be addressed in 2023 in order that we can establish a sound reserves policy.

Chris Reynolds, Treasurer

4d) Churchwardens report on the Fabric and Grounds of the Church and Chapel Rooms

This year we were pleased to appoint Christa Lindner as our Buildings Officer, working closely with the churchwardens and under the auspices of the Buildings & Health & Safety sub-committee of the PCC. The Rector, Treasurer and H&S Officer are part of this sub-committee. Christa wasted no time in getting to grips with the tasks in hand and the great bulk of the achievements listed below are down to her hard work.

The H&S aspect of the work will be covered in the H&S report. There is a certain amount of crossover, for example the replacement and maintenance of fire extinguishers, which is why it is so useful to work closely together.

Quinquennial Inspection The architect Tim Wells has carried out the 5 Yearly Inspection of the church and grounds and produced a report listing areas that need attention. Some are more urgent than others. I will not give you details here, but if you would like to know any more or see a copy of the report, please ask Geraldine or Christa.

Church

In February 2022 the long-planned re-ordering of the nave took place with the removal of pews on either side of the aisle, creating space for users of disability aids and families. The space is now referred to as The Lady Chapel and provides a lovely area for small groups. There is a carpeted ramp to the chancel.

Arwen arranged for the statue of Mary to be sent away to be re-painted and a beautiful job has been done.

A butler sink has been installed in the sacristy enabling the flower arrangers to safely access water within the church and providing an appropriate place for the sacristans to wash cruets etc.

A Google NEST thermometer has been fitted for better control of the heating.

Lighting in the vestry has been improved and non-slip tape placed on the steps. The door to the sacristy no longer catches on the floor.

Alan Oatway has done a lovely job of repairing the exterior porch light, and making it look better than ever, and the inner porch light has been replaced. There is a new mat in the porch.

The organ requires new speakers, and their replacement has been organised but the company will not be able to supply and fit until 2023.

Churchyard and Grounds

Nick Linsell continues to care for the churchyard and with the help of Margaret has begun a sympathetic planting scheme in the Memorial Garden opposite the South entrance.

Lewes District Council have levelled the path at the Belgrave Road entrance and put tarmac at the lychgate entrance.

The soakaway has been cleared outside the South door.

Nick has scraped moss and weeds from the steps to the North door, boiler room and path to priest's door and Dave Batchelor has painted yellow lines on exterior steps to improve safety.

A light has been fitted in the shed and a problem with the lychgate light has been sorted. The exterior floodlights continue to be an issue by dazzling people, and as a temporary measure the light nearest the gate to Belgrave Road has been disconnected and this has helped a little.

Chapel Rooms

New radiators have been fitted throughout.

Following a serious leak from the flat roof in heavy rain in November, a temporary repair was carried out. Plans have been made for a permanent repair which will take place in 2023.

The damaged and unsafe concertina divider has been removed from the main hall.

All the strip lighting was replaced in the office and the upstairs meeting room as well as new bulbs on the staircase. Bulbs replaced to improve lighting in the lavatories. All the lighting is energy efficient. The motion-activated light outside the main entrance and light above the fire exit are now in working order.

Dirtbuster mats purchased for the entrance hall.

There is a key safe fitted on the brick pillar near the front door.

Record keeping and communication

The office has been reconfigured and all documents and information on buildings and grounds are stored there, as well as being on a shared electronic Google drive. Christa has created a schedule of works which is on the shared drive.

Our thanks go to the rector Arwen for her support, and to everyone who has (and continues) to help with the care of our beautiful church, grounds and hall. Some of the projects listed have been made possible by donations and we thank those individuals for their generosity.

Other business

Thanks go to the team of sidespeople who meet, greet and care for everyone who attends our services in such a friendly way. If this is a role that you are interested in, or would like to know more, please let us know.

We would also like to thank the people who lock the church at the end of the day, Daphne Dempster, Christine Cooke, Neville Chalkley and occasionally Jill Morgan and Penny Reynolds.

Geraldine Hedgecock and Juliet Mitton, Churchwardens

4e Safeguarding

I have been the Parish Safeguarding Officer since the APCM in April 2022.

All required DBS checks are up to date. PCC members currently do not require DBS checks but this will change if a children's and families worker is appointed in the future.

The majority of PCC members and church volunteers needed to renew their safeguarding training this year. After discussion with the diocesan safeguarding team regarding the difficulty for some volunteers in accessing online training it was agreed training could be offered in group sessions to those who needed this. Group training was also offered to those volunteering in the Seaford for Ukraine Community Cafe and English Language Classes.

All volunteers in church activities requiring safeguarding training are now up to date. There is one PCC member who still needs to complete their training. They are aware and have been reminded.

The safeguarding policies were all updated and approved by PCC on 30/08/22.

The Annual Safety Quality Protects review was carried out in September which showed we are meeting the expected safeguarding requirements.

Two improvement points were raised in the review.

1. To improve the access and visibility of our safeguarding policies - This has since been achieved. Our safeguarding policies are now available on the benefice website and a paper copy is kept in the church porch.
2. To update our pastoral policy - The pastoral policy has been reviewed by Rev'd Joe Padfield and Carly Taylor. An updated draft policy will be put to the PCC in March 2023.

This year there have been five safeguarding concerns which have all been documented and reviewed in line with parish and diocesan safeguarding procedures and policies.

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding, please contact me on pastoralassistant.ebb@gmail.com or 09764 101553

Carly Taylor, Parish Safeguarding Officer

4f) The Deanery Synod

We are members of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.
The Deanery Synod meets 3 times per year.

There were the regular reports on financial matters, including parish share and presentations on *Fair Trade* and *Family Support Work*. Of particular note this year were 1) the consideration of the Mission Action Plans from all the parishes in the Deanery with the purpose of drawing up Deanery Action Plan to help churches work together more collaboratively. The Deanery Plan was subsequently completed and distributed. 2) The dropping of costs for parishes/benefices like ours with a house for duty priest.

Kay Blackburn

4g) Health and Safety

Work continues for the boiler house steps to be enclosed. New risk assessments were completed for the Jubilee Celebrations and concerts held in the church. All risk assessments have been uploaded to the parish google drive.

The dead trees in the churchyard, one of which was brought down in high winds had already been identified and reported to Lewes District Council. We continue to push for a resolution to this, the bulging flint wall facing Blatchington Hill and the uneven paving stones from the Council and have sought advice from Ecclesiastical Insurance.

Debbie Phipps H&S Officer

5) Pastoral Team Report

The Outreach, Learning and Pastoral and Safeguarding (OLPS) sub-committee was formed at the St Peter's PCC meeting on 21 June 2022. At the first meeting of the sub-committee on 23 July, the following Terms of Reference were agreed:

This sub-committee will oversee the ministry of the church, its engagement with different age groups, partner organisations, outreach projects, young people, faith development and every activity that furthers the Mission of God in our wider world. At present this will include: Little Fishes; Café Church; Bible Study Group; Courses; Pastoral Team; Care Homes; Forget-me-Knot Café; The Bereavement Cafe & follow-up; welcome and inclusion. The committee will also oversee effective safeguarding across the church's ministry.

The sub-committee has met on three occasions at time of writing and can report on progress in the following areas:

Ministry to Children and Young People

The Little Fishes pre-school group continues to meet each month and has grown slightly over the year. Sessions are a combination of play, craft and learning based on a biblical or church seasonal theme.

Lighthouse (formerly Café Church) now meets twice per month – once for fun activities around a biblical or church seasonal theme and once for Bible Study (known as Café Church Extra).

The sub-committee would particularly like to thank Anne Collison for her work with and commitment to both of these groups.

The job description for a salaried part-time Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Worker is currently being finalised.

Bereavement Support

The Bereavement Café was not well attended, and the general feeling was that it wasn't meeting a particular need. However, the sub-committee is conscious that bereavement is a significant issue for many people, so other options are being considered.

Members of the bereavement support group provided a knitted square and prayer (with contact details) to everyone who attended the memorial services at St Peter's and St Andrew's in November, and these were well-received.

Kay is undertaking follow-up with families, at 3 months and then 12 months after each funeral.

Pastoral Visiting and Home Communion

Visits are taking place as required and home communion offered where needed. The pastoral care policy has been revised.

Care Home Ministry

Care homes are now being managed individually rather than centrally, with the following co-ordinators, with other members assisting:

- Abundant Grace – Fr Eric
- Beachlands – Fr Joe
- Blatchington Manor – Geraldine
- Clifden House – Arwen
- Threeways – Carly

We will need to consider offering a service to Claremont House and the new care home being built on Homefield Road.

Forget-me-Knot Memory Café

This is still very well-attended. Tony G and Geraldine have done excellent work on this project but have now had to step back, so more volunteers are being sought.

Winter Warmer Lunches

The Winter Warmer lunches held on a Friday have been very successful, and the sub-committee would like to thank Linda for her hard work in co-ordinating these.

Art Group

The weekly Art Group run by Kay continues to be well attended and is a good source of fellowship.

Bible Study Group

The weekly Bible Study Group has a total membership of 17, with about 11-12 attending each week. Feedback from those attending has been excellent, and the group's numbers swelled during Lent when others joined them for the Lent Course.

The sub-committee would like to thank Aileen, Carly and Jeff for their leadership of this group.

Theological Seminars

Two seminars have been held so far, on the Trinity (Rev'd Arwen) and The Blessed Virgin Mary (Fr Joe). These have been well-attended and well-received. Ideas are being discussed by the sub-committee for future seminars.

Safeguarding

The sub-committee has continued to oversee safeguarding policy and practice (but not individual cases or confidential matters). The Safeguarding Officer will report to the APCM separately.

Fr Joe

A Report on The Choir

It is wonderful to have a congregation willing to sing everything put in front of them and to do it so well! To hear their singing filling the church, ably led by the clergy and choir, is music to our ears!

We would like to thank clergy and congregation for taking on the Kilcreggan Mass and making it part of our worship. On the occasions we are able to sing all four parts, it sounds wonderful, but its lyrical melodies work even when we have everyone singing the main tune. We are all, congregation and choir, able to worship through song, using the Thomas or the Kilcreggan Mass, depending on the mood required — and thanks to Arwen for her permission. We hope to continue to expand the repertoire of both choir and congregation.

We have introduced and included 'chants' into some events and services and also brought back some beautiful hymns from the past such as, 'It is well with my soul' which again was sung beautifully by you all. The text was written by Horatio G Spafford in 1873 and the tune by Philip P Bliss in 1876. Those of you who heard Father Chris's sermon, which told us the story of Horatio, will know what an expression of faith the hymn portrays.

Thank you to St Andrew's Bishopstone, our united benefice church, for joining us and leading the music for one of the carol services at Christmas with a wonderful instrumental group. Hopefully this will happen again this year as it was greatly appreciated. They will be welcome whenever they come.

Coryn, Angela and Neville, helped with the organisation and production of two charity concerts which supported the displaced people of Ukraine, and the Woodland Trust.

We are always happy to welcome new members: just tell us you want to join. Thank you to Arwen for her support and encouragement and the willing participation of all the clergy who lead our services in St Peter's. Thank you also to Danny for putting the words of hymns on screen so that those at home can participate fully.

We would like to thank our present choir members for their constant support and encourage those in the congregation who enjoy singing and are able to spare the time, to join the choir. To find out more, any interested person should talk to Coryn, Angela or any choir member.

Coryn Roberts, Organist and Angela Chalkley

Report on East Blatchington Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union had a good year in 2022 with many interesting speakers starting in January with Kay telling us about many 'Great Female Artists' with slides. This was followed by Rosemary talking about 'Dante', a talk about 'Seaford and Climate Change' by Keith Blackburn, 'Russia, Ukraine and Me' by Fr Chris Collison, Kathryn Anderson telling us about 'Her time at the Lambeth Conference', Kay giving a talk on 'Giotto', and Chris Collison talking about 'St Hilda and Friends in Hartlepool'. Apart from all the talks we held a quiz on 12 July which was fun. We also held the 'Wave of Prayer' as usual at the end of February.

At each Meeting we had tea and a raffle and were able to send more than £250 to Mary Sumner House for the A.F.I.A holidays and the Contact Centre in Eastbourne. We sent £50 for Mothering Sunday and also £50 for the Summer of Hope. We held a 'Challenge 22' where some of us were able to save £1 each week for up to 22 weeks.

In December we were invited to St Leonard's Church for the annual Advent Carol Service. The highlight of the year was the Garden Party for Mary Sumner Day at Kay and Keith's new house in Alfriston, which luckily fell on a beautiful day. We had a lovely tea with cakes and a raffle, and everyone enjoyed themselves enormously thanks to Kay and Keith's wonderful hospitality.

Marilyn Haydon

Report on Children, Young People and Families

Our work to engage with the youngsters and families in our Benefice churches has continued this year with monthly Sunday afternoon gatherings for Little Fishes and their families. The older youngsters, now all at Secondary school, chose to change their group name from Café Church to Lighthouse in the Autumn.

Although the numbers of both groups remain quite small there is valuable seed sowing and nurturing going on – both for the youngsters and their parents.

A highlight for both groups this year was having access to a Beach hut in May half-term. Fun times were had by all – as well as ice creams!

In September we held a beautiful ‘Blessing of the Backpacks’ Eucharist at the newly formed Kairos Saturday service to bless the youngsters as they returned, started or changed schools.

All the mothers of our registered children received a beautiful hand-knitted gift at Christmas, made by members of the Mothers’ Union. They were greatly appreciated – it was a lovely way to recognise all they do for their young ones.

Little Fishes

Highlights for our small people have been hunting for lost sheep in the Churchyard, meeting Anne’s friends (Micky and Pebbles the puppets), listening to our Bible stories – sometimes enacted with Godly Play, getting sticky with cutting and sticking crafts, sharing in games together, eating refreshments, bubble prayers and our All Hallows Light Party. Several Little Fish families also joined in the Shepherd’s Trail at Christmas. A big Thank you to Linda for often helping with refreshments.

Our EBB youngsters - Café Church becomes Lighthouse

The young people continue to meet regularly, to share friendship and fellowship and to support one another in their daily life and faith journey. We have a core group of 8 youngsters which allows us to have fun with various games and activities and to have an intimate feel to the Eucharist services that we often share together. One of those services was to celebrate their year anniversary of being confirmed in October.

The youngsters expressed an interest in ‘Digging Deeper’ into the Bible and were very grateful to all be given a Bible by St. Andrew’s Church, and a beautiful cover made by Linda. As a result, the group now meets for an Extra session, in the Upper room, once a month based around the Bible. Our first Extra session was spent attaching book tabs to their new Bibles to help them become familiar with finding their way around. It has been a real joy to witness the enthusiasm the youngsters have shown for looking things up for themselves. We are very blessed to have such supportive parents who often join us, especially for the Eucharists, and in helping out.

Please continue to hold these precious families and young people in your prayers.

We look forward with hope to the appointment of a Children, young people and families’ worker to develop what has been started and to find new ways to reach and nurture those in our care.

Anne Collison

A report on the East Blatchington Lectures

When the COVID restrictions were lifted, it was decided to restart the EB Lectures. Unfortunately, Shirley Linsell who started the lectures and organized them for more than ten years, raising thousands of pounds for St Peter’s, decided it was time for her to step down. Fortunately, she was willing to act as ‘consultant’ to whoever took them on.

A successful summer season of lectures took place starting in April with ‘The Night Sky’ by Fr Joe who brought along his telescope and shared one of his hobbies with us. May brought a more intimate experience with local author Simon Parke talking about his recent book, ‘Gospel – Rumours of Love’ which describes the final years of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection imagined from Jesus’ point of view as well as that of one of his women followers. In July the rector, Arwen told us how the Bible came to be in English. In July Shirley and her team of family and friends organised Shirley’s

last lecture – a talk by Revd. Peter Blee about the paintings in Berwick Church, their recent restoration and the changes to the church building to make it a more suitable environment in which to display valuable works of art. At the end of the lecture Shirley was warmly thanked for all her work over the years and presented with an icon. The 2022 season ended with a lecture in December by Kay Blackburn on ‘Leonardo da Vinci’.

Christine Cooke

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Peter’s Church, Belgrave Road, Seaford and live-streamed on Sunday 8th May 2022 at 2.00pm

There were 22 attendees in church and 6 who joined via Zoom

Revd Arwen Folkes welcomed all attendees and opened with a prayer.

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Apologies were received from Fr Joe Padfield, Christa Ovenden, Tina Bacon, Beryl Henley, Barbara Prendergast, Karen Jones, Rosemary Leech and Jeffery Clarke.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2021 were approved with no matters arising.
3. Nomination and election of Churchwardens.

Nominations:

Juliet Mitton was proposed by Linda Stratford and seconded by George Rix.

Geraldine Hedgecock was proposed by Beryl Henley and seconded by Susan Adams.

Both were duly elected.

Arwen welcomed them and thanked them for being prepared to stand again.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies were received from Fr. Joe Padfield, Christa Ovenden, Tina Bacon, Beryl Henley, Barbara Prendergast, Karen Jones, Rosemary Leech and Jeffrey Clarke.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2021 were approved.
3. Matters arising: Work on the memorial garden suggested by Valerie Skues to remember those lost in the pandemic has gone ahead. Donations have been received, a curved bench purchased, and planting begun.
4. To receive from the Parochial Church Council and be free to discuss:-

4a) A report on the numbers entered on the Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll currently stands at 111 names. Since last year there have been 3 additions and 4 removals. This means that under the Church Representation Rules the number of representatives who can stand for election for the PCC continues at the figure of 12 people.

Since the written report, following the revision of the Electoral Roll, Debbie Phipps informed us that on March 27th there were 116 names with 9 additions and four removals *There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted*

The Rector thanked Debbie, she welcomed those who have joined; we pray for those whom we have lost.

4b) An Annual Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish in general, including the report from the Chair of the PCC.

Arwen detailed what has been achieved during the year and expressed her awe and delight at how in the wake of the pandemic we have recovered so much of our common life and begun a new chapter for our parish thanks to the efforts of the large number of people contributing to this. She expressed her thanks to them all.

As a registered charity we have demonstrated that we meet our charitable purpose.

Arwen Folkes Rector

Christine Cooke PCC Secretary

There were no questions, and the written report was unanimously accepted.

The rector then addressed the meeting.

Rector's Address: The year of 2021, as I have outlined in my report has been a demanding one where much energy, flexibility, patience and tolerance has been required as we negotiated the careful balancing of faith, legality, and regard for the care of our community both inside and outside the parish. It is to the parish of East Blatchington's credit that so many people need thanking and that it is simply impossible to begin thanking individuals – knowing that I will have missed people out, as I do this, please forgive me and know that I am indebted to each of you. Recovering our life of events, worship, seeing the changes in the church building, the churchyard looking beautiful, the greater range of ages engaging with us, our better working with our sister church of St Andrew, and the recovery of our life of serving the community has filled me, and many of you I know, with such joy. It isn't exactly as it was, but then God doesn't always put things back in place as we imagined.

But I would like to begin this address today by thanking God. His faithfulness to us, in the midst of turbulence, frustration, sickness, and tiredness has been remarkable. Through you, he has blessed us with increased giving – the welcoming of new people and new skills, the incredible gift of financial resource keeping our head above water and a fuller congregation – undoubtedly more diverse in age and background than we were before the pandemic. At times it has been hard to see how it would all come back together, the process of change has troubled some, delighted others, but I do stand here today as your grateful and somewhat relieved Rector. We have worked hard, but we have always worked prayerfully and discerningly, ready to try new things, ready to adapt, but most of all ready to pray.

Our Mission Action Plan, shaped by the new things we tried and learned during this time of pandemic, has become a MAP for our next steps, and so we leave 2021 full of hope and promise for what lies ahead. But most of all understanding anew that prayer works, that handing over to God to lead us, works, that God is busy working here in this place, through us, around us, and helping us to go into and serve the corner of the world entrusted to us by him.

We have said goodbye to two members of our congregation who will be sorely missed – Malcolm Breckon and Bill Young. We have also seen changes in our core ministry team – Nick Linsell handed over the role as churchwarden to Geraldine and brings his role as Building Officer to an end as the big church projects are completed. Daphne Dempster hands over the role of Safeguarding Officer to Carly Taylor. Shirley Linsell handed over the management of the lectures. Barbara Prendergast handed over the role of sacristan to Linda Stratford, Kay Blackburn handed over the role of chair of the pastoral team and coordinator, to Fr Joe and Geraldine, Alan and Claire Yates have handed over the management of the website to the benefice administrator, and Ann Lloyd James handed over the role of Chapel Rooms 'pixie' to our churchwardens. I thank those who have let go of their responsibilities and acknowledge the deep foundations that they have laid for us to work with. I also welcome Anne Collision who in 2021 became a significant and vital lay lead for our children and young people's work, and of course we welcome Fr Joe and Carly who I am not sure I will know what I'd do without! Our enduring thanks goes to our retired clergy who continue to contribute so much to

the life of this benefice. Fr John, Fr Chris, Fr Eric, Rev'd Lucy, Fr Colin and sometimes Frs Stephen and Martin. How blessed we are by their experience and gifts in our midst.

The churchwardens, Geraldine and Juliet, our treasurer Chris, our secretary Christine, George, Linda and Neville have been amazing as they have helped to lead us with the decision making demanded of us all and being ready for all the challenges that we have faced. Flowers, cleaners, stewards, door openers and closers, have been the mainstay. Christine Cooke and her network of deliverers have helped us to keep in contact through Cross Keys with an increasing number of parishioners, and last but by no means least...Jaqueline Head who is remarkably important as the key person who engages with all our users of the Chapel Rooms.

We continue to thank Nick Linsell, Lorraine and Ian whose service to our churchyard and buildings above and beyond what we pay them.

Today we welcome new faces onto our PCC. - almost a third is renewed with new people – but that means we are also saying goodbye to some important voices in our church leadership: Ann Lloyd-James, Barbara Prendergast, Tina Bacon, Sue Williams, and Jill Morgan. We will miss you on the PCC and we thank you for all you have contributed to the life of this church, knowing that you continue to hold the life of this church in your prayer and moral support will be as important as ever. Prayer is the primary and foremost contribution that anyone can make to this church and please don't forget that!

The other PCC members and I warmly welcome Jenny Spicer, Jeff Clarke, Aileen Rickard, and Sam Mavuko. We look forward to discerning with God through your presence, the next steps of our church life and putting it into practice.

You join a remarkable team – both on and off the PCC – who by praying and working together are able to achieve remarkable things and I pray that we remain, as our Mission Action Plan says: Open-hearted, open-minded, open to God, and, open to All.

Going forward I hope that we will continue to deliver and fulfil all that God has in mind for us. I hope that we will see continued learning, the emergence of vocations, the appointment of a new children's worker, the continued presence of our admin assistant Jan, and a greater emphasis on our inclusivity, welcome and maybe even an increase in weddings. We are alive and joyfully buoyed by what we are witnessing, but we mustn't rest on our laurels.

I wait with bated breath for what else God will do through us and in the next chapter in the life of St. Peter's.

I welcome any questions that may come from the floor now – this is your church, and you are free to query, comment or suggest anything that will contribute or clarify the life of this church.

Revd. Arwen Folkes

There were no questions, just a comment from Valerie Skues that we should also thank the technical team for all their work with live streaming the services.

4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021 and the Treasurer's report.

A copy of the Financial Statements and report had been available at the back of the church so Chris hoped people had had a look prior to the meeting. He mentioned that from July we again had income from the Chapel Rooms lettings, some re-instated fundraising activities and generous donations but the majority of our income came as usual, from Planned Giving. Stock market results had been good. Expenditure however exceeded income by £9,277 (over £2,000 less than in 2020) mainly due to the

need to expend considerable sums on Repairs and Replacements. However, we had been able to absorb the loss.

The rector thanked Chris for his hard, invaluable work as Treasurer.
There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

4d) A report on the building and fabric of the Church of the Parish.

The comprehensive written churchwardens' report detailed what had been achieved in another demanding year. Aileen Ricard commented on how well Juliet and Geraldine had worked and coped during this difficult time.

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

4e) A report on Safeguarding.

Since the submitted report nothing new has happened. Daphne Dempster is handing over the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer to Carly Taylor this month. She thanked everyone for their support during her time in office and asked the same for Carly. Arwen thanked Daphne for her work. *There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.*

4f) A report on the proceedings of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.

There were no questions and the report from Kay Blackburn and Maggie Chitty, our Deanery Synod representatives, was unanimously accepted.

4g) A report on Health and Safety.

There is little to add to the written report. Covid has continued to feature highly in the H & S team's work and updated risk assessments, all based on the national guidance and rules and guidance from the Church of England website.

Arwen thanked Debbie for her oversight of safety, help and guidance during another difficult year.

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

5. A report from the Pastoral Team.

There were no questions, and the report was unanimously accepted.

A report from the Choir

There were no questions and Coryn's report was accepted unanimously.

A report from East Blatchington Mothers' Union *The report was accepted unanimously.*

A report from EBB Church Café and Little Fishes

Anne Collison's joyful report on the progress and activities of these two groups was unanimously accepted. Anne added that it has been a great privilege to work with our younger members and their families and she asked us to pray for them, particularly those at school who can find it tough dealing with comments about their faith.

6. To elect up to 2 representatives to the Deanery Synod. We are entitled to have a total of 4 representatives and so there are two vacancies. Jenny Spicer was nominated for election, proposed by George Rix, seconded by Linda Stratford and duly elected.

7. To elect up to 6 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council.

Jeffrey Clarke was nominated by Valerie Skues and seconded by Jean Allen.

Daphne Dempster was nominated by Kay Blackburn and seconded by Christine Cooke.

Samukeliso Mavuka was nominated by Geraldine Hedgecock and seconded by Penny Reynolds.

Aileen Ricard was nominated by Juliet Mitton and seconded by Linda Stratford.
All four were duly elected.

8. To appoint an independent examiner to the accounts.
The proposal was made that Michele Spencer continue in this role and she was duly elected.

9. To consider any other matters of Parochial or general church interest

AOB: Speech by Valerie Skues

I first came to Saint Peter's in 1969, a bit of a shock as I thought I'd strayed into Rome. Fortunately, I soon found out I was wrong, and I was welcomed so warmly I stayed on and I'm still here 52 years later.

I look around the church and listen to the names, and just as Arwen can look at the long list of rectors since 1257, to the year's minds each week and can picture a goodly number who gave so much to keep our little community together.

I have worshipped with seven rectors and served as churchwarden to three of them for 13 years, including two interregnums, after which the PCC bestowed on me the honorary title of 'churchwarden emeritus' which I so appreciated.

Therefore, in that capacity and length of service I feel qualified to speak on behalf of all members of the congregation older and recent who now come and take part in our services, prayer and other important groups; you can read all about them in Cross Keys.

It has been a difficult and really challenging time for all of us specially for the clergy and wardens. With our faces covered for so long it's difficult to recognise each other as well as the effects of general ageing and decline.

So, on behalf of you all, I would like to thank Arwen and her team for keeping us together during the last couple of years and for all her inspirational hard work and commitment to building our congregation and reaching out to all who cross our threshold.

Thank you, Arwen we were very blessed, when you blew in on a southwest wind.

The Rector closed with The Grace.

Christine Cooke PCC Secretary

Parish of East Blatchington, Seaford

The Treasurer's 2022 Financial Report

With the impact of the Corona virus having lessened we saw St. Peter's return to a full year of activity. Income increased 9% to £107,497 but expenditure also rose 30% to £153,603 which has produced a deficit of £46,106 necessitating the need to draw from our reserves to fund the difference. Part of this increase in expenditure was pre-planned, such as the improvements to the Nave, but there was also an urgency to replace the worn away roof guttering hangers and replace with wider width guttering. The old radiators in the Chapel rooms were also replaced. Expenditure on these items amounted to £34,340 so the operating deficit was £11,766.

Income

Planned giving continues to be the mainstay of our support which at £42,715 together with associated tax relief of £10,251 represents 49% of our income. This scheme is a great asset to the PCC with budgeting and I would advocate that anyone who is not currently using the scheme to join. Activities for generating funds saw an increase of 41% to £4,276 mainly through the excellent plant and book sales.

The ability to hire out the Chapel rooms for a full year saw a 58% increase in revenue to £10,415. A new computer booking system will commence in January 2023 and together with a considerable number of new hirers the prospects of further increases in revenue are extremely good.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £156,303. For reasons mentioned above, Church Maintenance was £35,384 compared to £11,295 the previous year, and Chapel Rooms repairs/improvements were £5,920 compared to no expenditure in 2021.

Charitable giving increased to £2,325 (£369)

Church running costs increased by 13% to £18,092. Every effort is made to keep costs under strict control, but some things are out of our hands. One of our investments during the year was to install a NEST operating system in the church to give greater control over our heating in view of the drastic increase in price following the war in Ukraine. Nevertheless, there has been a 68% increase in our energy costs to an estimated £16,454.79 for 2023 (£9,762.27- 2022) and these costs will continue to have significant impact in 2023.

Reserves

We started the year with £98,560 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £40,000 to fund R & R activity but we have received £11,514 in interest and income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2021 these deposits stood at £70,074

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. On 1st January 2021 the book value was £393,446. The war in Ukraine and other global events have had a negative impact on investment markets and our funds are now valued at £347,137

Conclusion

The PCC is truly grateful for the wonderful financial support it has received from across the parish with donations big and small, but it has been a very disappointing and difficult year financially. Although we are posting a considerable deficit this year, it is my considered opinion that East Blatchington PCC is a viable enterprise. However, it is essential that we bring our income and expenditure into balance. In 2023 it will be imperative to explore avenues to both increase income and reduce overheads as a matter of priority. We have commenced some actions to establish a better knowledge concerning the provenance of our restricted funds and this also will need to be addressed in 2023 in order that we can establish a sound reserves policy.

Chris Reynolds
Treasurer

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

| | | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 £ |
|---|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 61,280 | 8,682 | 69,963 | 72,479 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 4,276 | 0 | 4,276 | 3,022 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 131 | 11,383 | 11,514 | 10,341 |
| Church activities | 2d | 16,130 | 0 | 16,130 | 12,679 |
| Other income | 2a(i) | 5,614 | 0 | 5,614 | 0 |
| Total income and endowments | | 87,431 | 20,065 | 107,497 | 98,521 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 121,228 | 29,918 | 151,146 | 104,664 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 501 | 0 | 501 | 644 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,956 | 0 | 1,956 | 2,490 |
| Total expenditure | | 123,685 | 29,918 | 153,603 | 107,798 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year | | -36,254 | -9,853 | -46,106 | -9,277 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | 0 | -46,309 | -46,309 | 49,235 |
| | | -36,254 | -56,162 | -92,415 | 39,958 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | | 6,880 | -6,880 | 0 | |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2022 | 6 | 47344 | 716120 | 763463 | 723505 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2022 | | 17970 | 653078 | 671048 | 763463 |

BALANCE SHEET

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2022</u> £ | <u>2021</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 247,773 | 249,121 |
| Investment | 5(b) | 347,137 | 393,446 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 4,991 | 8,070 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 8,963 | 24,832 |
| Short term deposits Restricted | | 61,111 | 73,728 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 8,069 | 19,835 |
| Cash in hand | | 22 | 14 |
| | | <u>83,157</u> | <u>126,479</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-7,019</u> | <u>-5,585</u> |
| Net current assets | | 76,138 | 120,896 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>671,048</u></u> | <u><u>763,463</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 17970 | 47,343 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 653078 | 716,120 |
| | | <u><u>671048</u></u> | <u><u>763,463</u></u> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th April.....2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Arwen Folkes
Chairman

A Folkes

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Act 2016 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is currently being held within the Restricted Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|--|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 £ |
|---|------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | 42,715 | 0 | 42,715 | 42,641 |
| Collections at all services | | 3,236 | 906 | 4,142 | 4,687 |
| i() Other Income | | 5,614 | 0 | 5,614 | 0 |
| Grants | | 1,759 | 4,657 | 6,416 | 0 |
| Sundry donations and appeals | 6 | 3,320 | 3,119 | 6,439 | 13,076 |
| Income tax recoverable | | 10,251 | 0 | 10,251 | 12,075 |
| | | <u>66,895</u> | <u>8,682</u> | <u>75,577</u> | <u>72,481</u> |
| (i) <i>Other income includes an agreed contribution from St Andrews (£2,500), curate council tax reimbursed (£1,112), and insurance claim monies for the window damaged in the storm £1136.</i> | | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| Fairs, bazaars and other fund-raising events | | 4,276 | 0 | 4,276 | 3,022 |
| | | <u>4,276</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4,276</u> | <u>3,022</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| Interest & dividends | | 131 | 11,383 | 11,514 | 10,341 |
| | | <u>131</u> | <u>11,383</u> | <u>11,514</u> | <u>10,341</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| Church hall lettings etc | | 10,415 | 0 | 10,415 | 6,591 |
| Fees from weddings etc | | 5,715 | 0 | 5,715 | 6,089 |
| | | <u>16,130</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>16,130</u> | <u>12,680</u> |
| Total income & Endowments | | <u>87,431</u> | <u>20,065</u> | <u>107,497</u> | <u>98,524</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 806 | 806 | 0 |
| Home | 1,100 | 419 | 1,519 | 369 |
| | <u>1,100</u> | <u>1,225</u> | <u>2,325</u> | <u>369</u> |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 53,187 | 0 | 53,187 | 47,736 |
| i other clergy costs | 8,555 | 0 | 8,555 | 5,750 |
| ii Church running expenses | 18,092 | 0 | 18,092 | 15,891) |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 65 | 0 | 65 | 0) |
| Church maintenance | 15,803 | 19,581 | 35,384 | 11,295 |
| Upkeep of services | 7,835 | 0 | 7,835 | 8,288 |
| Upkeep of churchyard | 2,915 | 71 | 2,986 | 2,350 |
| Church hall running costs | 11,276 | 0 | 11,276 | 7,138 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 413 | 5,507 | 5,920 | 0 |
| Depreciation | 1,987 | 3,534 | 5,521 | 5,848 |
| | <u>121,228</u> | <u>29,918</u> | <u>151,146</u> | <u>104,665</u> |
| i <i>includes council tax and water charges for St Andrews curate</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>includes recharge of admin staff member from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 501 | 0 | 501 | 644 |
| | <u>501</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>501</u> | <u>644</u> |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| Independent examination fee | 1,956 | 0 | 1,956 | 2,490 |
| SVET Grant - for Covid relief | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>1,956</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1,956</u> | <u>2,490</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>123,685</u> | <u>29,918</u> | <u>153,603</u> | <u>107,798</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Staff Costs | 2022 | 2021 |
| a | Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The St Peters PCC did not employ any staff during 2022. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services. There is a shared admin assistant employed by St Andrews and this is recharged to St Peters

b **Payments to PCC members**

No payments or expenses were made to any member of the PCC which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £1095 (2021 £1098)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|---------------|
| 5 (a) | Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
| | Cost as at 1st January 2022 | 228417 | 36530 | 5480 | 1473 | 12440 | 284341 |
| | Additions | | | | | 4173 | 4173 |
| | Cost as at 31st December 2022 | <u>228417</u> | <u>36530</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>1473</u> | <u>16613</u> | <u>288513</u> |
| | Depreciation as at 1st January 2022 | | 24000 | 5480 | 736 | 5003 | 35220 |
| | Charge for the year | | 1000 | 0 | 368 | 4153 | 5521 |
| | Depreciation as at 31st December 2022 | <u>0</u> | <u>25000</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>1105</u> | <u>9157</u> | <u>40741</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2022 | <u>228417</u> | <u>11530</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>368</u> | <u>7457</u> | <u>247773</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2021 | <u>228417</u> | <u>12530</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>737</u> | <u>7437</u> | <u>249121</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5 (b) | Investments | Investmen | Property | Total |
| | Market value 1st January 2022 | 376,608 | 16,838 | 393,446 |
| | Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | -44,333 | -1,976 | -46,309 |
| | Market value 31st December 2022 | <u>332,275</u> | <u>14,862</u> | <u>347,137</u> |

Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund. Their market values at the balance sheet date is indicated above.

The PCC are aware that Global events have had a significantly negative effect on the value of investments.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Within the restricted sundry donations and appeals were monies for the radiator appeal (£1,960), Winter Warmer lunches (£271), memorial garden (£100), Vestry sink replacement (£500) and the Ukraine Appeal (£741). Within the unrestricted fund were monies from the Christmas appeal and received from PayPal giving.

| 7 Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2022 TOTAL | 2021 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | 4,347 | 243,426 | 247,773 | 249,121 |
| Investments | | 347,137 | 347,137 | 393,446 |
| Current Assets | 20642 | 62,515 | 83,157 | 126,481 |
| Current Liabilities | (7,019) | | (7,019) | (5,585) |
| | <u>17,970</u> | <u>653,079</u> | <u>671,049</u> | <u>763,463</u> |

8 Debtors

| | | | 2022 | 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Church hall letting fees due | 0 | 0 | 0 | 288 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 4991 | 0.00 | 4991 | 4871 |
| Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2911 |
| | <u>4991</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4991</u> | <u>8070</u> |

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | | | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 7019 | 0 | 7019 | 4462 |
| Sundry Creditors - Dignity Funerals | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1123 |
| | <u>7019</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>7019</u> | <u>5585</u> |

10 Events after the Balance Sheet Date

The PCC members have received from the Diocese a copy of a historic letter, which indicates that it may be entitled to spend monies (or a portion thereof) arising from the sale of land, which currently reside within the Restricted Fund, together with the income derived from such Fund(s) on the fabric of the Church. This matter is under review by members of the PCC.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

However, it is noted that a substantial deficit arose during the year: and this level of expenditure is not sustainable in subsequent years without a significant increase in income, given the balance remaining in Unrestricted Funds.

It is also noted that after the balance sheet date a letter was received from the Diocese which indicates from historic information that a portion of the Restricted Capital may be released to spend on the fabric of the Church, together with income arising from such Capital.

The basis of preparing the Accounts for the subsequent year will be reviewed in light of post balance sheet events.

Signed: *M Spencer*

Name: Michele Spencer

Professional qualifications: FAIA, CTA,

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
70 Victoria Road
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 6BU

Parish of East Blatchington, Seaford

The Treasurer's 2022 Financial Report

With the impact of the Corona virus having lessened we saw St. Peter's return to a full year of activity. Income increased 9% to £107,497 but expenditure also rose 30% to £153,603 which has produced a deficit of £46,106 necessitating the need to draw from our reserves to fund the difference. Part of this increase in expenditure was pre-planned, such as the improvements to the Nave, but there was also an urgency to replace the worn away roof guttering hangers and replace with wider width guttering. The old radiators in the Chapel rooms were also replaced. Expenditure on these items amounted to £34,340 so the operating deficit was £11,766.

Income

Planned giving continues to be the mainstay of our support which at £42,715 together with associated tax relief of £10,251 represents 49% of our income. This scheme is a great asset to the PCC with budgeting and I would advocate that anyone who is not currently using the scheme to join. Activities for generating funds saw an increase of 41% to £4,276 mainly through the excellent plant and book sales.

The ability to hire out the Chapel rooms for a full year saw a 58% increase in revenue to £10,415. A new computer booking system will commence in January 2023 and together with a considerable number of new hirers the prospects of further increases in revenue are extremely good.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £156,303. For reasons mentioned above, Church Maintenance was £35,384 compared to £11,295 the previous year, and Chapel Rooms repairs/improvements were £5,920 compared to no expenditure in 2021.

Charitable giving increased to £2,325 (£369)

Church running costs increased by 13% to £18,092. Every effort is made to keep costs under strict control, but some things are out of our hands. One of our investments during the year was to install a NEST operating system in the church to give greater control over our heating in view of the drastic increase in price following the war in Ukraine. Nevertheless, there has been a 68% increase in our energy costs to an estimated £16,454.79 for 2023 (£9,762.27- 2022) and these costs will continue to have significant impact in 2023.

Reserves

We started the year with £98,560 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £40,000 to fund R & R activity but we have received £11,514 in interest and income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2021 these deposits stood at £70,074

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. On 1st January 2021 the book value was £393,446. The war in Ukraine and other global events have had a negative impact on investment markets and our funds are now valued at £347,137

Conclusion

The PCC is truly grateful for the wonderful financial support it has received from across the parish with donations big and small, but it has been a very disappointing and difficult year financially. Although we are posting a considerable deficit this year, it is my considered opinion that East Blatchington PCC is a viable enterprise. However, it is essential that we bring our income and expenditure into balance. In 2023 it will be imperative to explore avenues to both increase income and reduce overheads as a matter of priority. We have commenced some actions to establish a better knowledge concerning the provenance of our restricted funds and this also will need to be addressed in 2023 in order that we can establish a sound reserves policy.

Chris Reynolds
Treasurer

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

| | | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 £ |
|---|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 61,280 | 8,682 | 69,963 | 72,479 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 4,276 | 0 | 4,276 | 3,022 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 131 | 11,383 | 11,514 | 10,341 |
| Church activities | 2d | 16,130 | 0 | 16,130 | 12,679 |
| Other income | 2a(i) | 5,614 | 0 | 5,614 | 0 |
| Total income and endowments | | 87,431 | 20,065 | 107,497 | 98,521 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 121,228 | 29,918 | 151,146 | 104,664 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 501 | 0 | 501 | 644 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,956 | 0 | 1,956 | 2,490 |
| Total expenditure | | 123,685 | 29,918 | 153,603 | 107,798 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year | | -36,254 | -9,853 | -46,106 | -9,277 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | 0 | -46,309 | -46,309 | 49,235 |
| | | -36,254 | -56,162 | -92,415 | 39,958 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | | 6,880 | -6,880 | 0 | |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2022 | 6 | 47344 | 716120 | 763463 | 723505 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2022 | | 17970 | 653078 | 671048 | 763463 |

BALANCE SHEET

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2022</u> £ | <u>2021</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 247,773 | 249,121 |
| Investment | 5(b) | 347,137 | 393,446 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 4,991 | 8,070 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 8,963 | 24,832 |
| Short term deposits Restricted | | 61,111 | 73,728 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 8,069 | 19,835 |
| Cash in hand | | 22 | 14 |
| | | <u>83,157</u> | <u>126,479</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-7,019</u> | <u>-5,585</u> |
| Net current assets | | 76,138 | 120,896 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>671,048</u></u> | <u><u>763,463</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 17970 | 47,343 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 653078 | 716,120 |
| | | <u><u>671048</u></u> | <u><u>763,463</u></u> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th April.....2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Arwen Folkes
Chairman

A Folkes

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Act 2016 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is currently being held within the Restricted Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|--|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 £ |
|--|---|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| | | 42,715 | 0 | 42,715 | 42,641 |
| | | 3,236 | 906 | 4,142 | 4,687 |
| i() | | 5,614 | 0 | 5,614 | 0 |
| | | 1,759 | 4,657 | 6,416 | 0 |
| | 6 | 3,320 | 3,119 | 6,439 | 13,076 |
| | | 10,251 | 0 | 10,251 | 12,075 |
| | | <u>66,895</u> | <u>8,682</u> | <u>75,577</u> | <u>72,481</u> |
| (i) | <i>Other income includes an agreed contribution from St Andrews (£2,500), curate council tax reimbursed (£1,112), and insurance claim monies for the window damaged in the storm £1136.</i> | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| | | 4,276 | 0 | 4,276 | 3,022 |
| | | <u>4,276</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4,276</u> | <u>3,022</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| | | 131 | 11,383 | 11,514 | 10,341 |
| | | <u>131</u> | <u>11,383</u> | <u>11,514</u> | <u>10,341</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| | | 10,415 | 0 | 10,415 | 6,591 |
| | | 5,715 | 0 | 5,715 | 6,089 |
| | | <u>16,130</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>16,130</u> | <u>12,680</u> |
| Total income & Endowments | | <u><u>87,431</u></u> | <u><u>20,065</u></u> | <u><u>107,497</u></u> | <u><u>98,524</u></u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.22 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 806 | 806 | 0 |
| Home | 1,100 | 419 | 1,519 | 369 |
| | <u>1,100</u> | <u>1,225</u> | <u>2,325</u> | <u>369</u> |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 53,187 | 0 | 53,187 | 47,736 |
| i other clergy costs | 8,555 | 0 | 8,555 | 5,750 |
| ii Church running expenses | 18,092 | 0 | 18,092 | 15,891) |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 65 | 0 | 65 | 0) |
| Church maintenance | 15,803 | 19,581 | 35,384 | 11,295 |
| Upkeep of services | 7,835 | 0 | 7,835 | 8,288 |
| Upkeep of churchyard | 2,915 | 71 | 2,986 | 2,350 |
| Church hall running costs | 11,276 | 0 | 11,276 | 7,138 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 413 | 5,507 | 5,920 | 0 |
| Depreciation | 1,987 | 3,534 | 5,521 | 5,848 |
| | <u>121,228</u> | <u>29,918</u> | <u>151,146</u> | <u>104,665</u> |
| i <i>includes council tax and water charges for St Andrews curate</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>includes recharge of admin staff member from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 501 | 0 | 501 | 644 |
| | <u>501</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>501</u> | <u>644</u> |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| Independent examination fee | 1,956 | 0 | 1,956 | 2,490 |
| SVET Grant - for Covid relief | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>1,956</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1,956</u> | <u>2,490</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>123,685</u> | <u>29,918</u> | <u>153,603</u> | <u>107,798</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Staff Costs | 2022 | 2021 |
| a | Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The St Peters PCC did not employ any staff during 2022. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services. There is a shared admin assistant employed by St Andrews and this is recharged to St Peters

b **Payments to PCC members**

No payments or expenses were made to any member of the PCC which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £1095 (2021 £1098)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|---------------|
| 5 (a) | Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
| | Cost as at 1st January 2022 | 228417 | 36530 | 5480 | 1473 | 12440 | 284341 |
| | Additions | | | | | 4173 | 4173 |
| | Cost as at 31st December 2022 | <u>228417</u> | <u>36530</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>1473</u> | <u>16613</u> | <u>288513</u> |
| | Depreciation as at 1st January 2022 | | 24000 | 5480 | 736 | 5003 | 35220 |
| | Charge for the year | | 1000 | 0 | 368 | 4153 | 5521 |
| | Depreciation as at 31st December 2022 | <u>0</u> | <u>25000</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>1105</u> | <u>9157</u> | <u>40741</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2022 | <u>228417</u> | <u>11530</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>368</u> | <u>7457</u> | <u>247773</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2021 | <u>228417</u> | <u>12530</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>737</u> | <u>7437</u> | <u>249121</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5 (b) | Investments | Investmen | Property | Total |
| | Market value 1st January 2022 | 376,608 | 16,838 | 393,446 |
| | Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | -44,333 | -1,976 | -46,309 |
| | Market value 31st December 2022 | <u>332,275</u> | <u>14,862</u> | <u>347,137</u> |

Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund. Their market values at the balance sheet date is indicated above.

The PCC are aware that Global events have had a significantly negative effect on the value of investments.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Within the restricted sundry donations and appeals were monies for the radiator appeal (£1,960), Winter Warmer lunches (£271), memorial garden (£100), Vestry sink replacement (£500) and the Ukraine Appeal (£741). Within the unrestricted fund were monies from the Christmas appeal and received from PayPal giving.

| 7 Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2022 TOTAL | 2021 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | 4,347 | 243,426 | 247,773 | 249,121 |
| Investments | | 347,137 | 347,137 | 393,446 |
| Current Assets | 20642 | 62,515 | 83,157 | 126,481 |
| Current Liabilities | (7,019) | | (7,019) | (5,585) |
| | <u>17,970</u> | <u>653,079</u> | <u>671,049</u> | <u>763,463</u> |

8 Debtors

| | | | 2022 | 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Church hall letting fees due | 0 | 0 | 0 | 288 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 4991 | 0.00 | 4991 | 4871 |
| Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2911 |
| | <u>4991</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4991</u> | <u>8070</u> |

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | | | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 7019 | 0 | 7019 | 4462 |
| Sundry Creditors - Dignity Funerals | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1123 |
| | <u>7019</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>7019</u> | <u>5585</u> |

10 Events after the Balance Sheet Date

The PCC members have received from the Diocese a copy of a historic letter, which indicates that it may be entitled to spend monies (or a portion thereof) arising from the sale of land, which currently reside within the Restricted Fund, together with the income derived from such Fund(s) on the fabric of the Church. This matter is under review by members of the PCC.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

However, it is noted that a substantial deficit arose during the year: and this level of expenditure is not sustainable in subsequent years without a significant increase in income, given the balance remaining in Unrestricted Funds.

It is also noted that after the balance sheet date a letter was received from the Diocese which indicates from historic information that a portion of the Restricted Capital may be released to spend on the fabric of the Church, together with income arising from such Capital.

The basis of preparing the Accounts for the subsequent year will be reviewed in light of post balance sheet events.

Signed: *M Spencer*

Name: Michele Spencer

Professional qualifications: FAIA, CTA,

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
70 Victoria Road
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 6BU

Accounts



St Peter's Church

East Blatchington, Seaford

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL
CHURCH COUNCIL
for the year ended 31 December 2021

CONTENTS

Agendas for the meetings to be held on 8th May 2022

Annual Report

Also

Minutes of the Meetings held on 18th April 2021

Church of St. Peter, Belgrave Road, Seaford

Rector:

Revd Arwen Folkes,
The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road
Seaford, BN25 2HE

Registered Charity number 1173506

PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Peter's Church, Belgrave Road, Seaford and live streamed on Sunday 8th May 2022 at 2.00pm

AGENDAS

Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2021 Meeting (provided on page 12)
3. Nomination and election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2021 Meeting (provided on page 12)
3. Matters arising from those Minutes.
4. To receive from the Parochial Church Council and be free to discuss: -
 - 4a) A report on the numbers entered on the Electoral Roll
 - 4b) An Annual Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish in general, including the report from the Chair of the PCC
 - 4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021 and the Treasurer's report.
 - 4d) A report on the building and fabric of the Church of the Parish.
 - 4e) A report on Safeguarding.
 - 4f) A report on the proceedings of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.
 - 4g) A report on Health and Safety.
5. To receive a report from:
 - The Pastoral Team
 - The Choir
 - The Mothers' Union
 - The EBB Church Café and Little Fishes

Owing to the pandemic there are no activities to report from:

- The East Blatchington Lectures

6. To elect up to 3 representatives to the Deanery Synod
7. To elect up to 6 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council.
8. To appoint an independent examiner to the accounts.
9. To consider any other matters of the Parochial or general church interest.

Christine Cooke, PCC Secretary

Administration Information.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity and is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number 1173506.

During the relevant period the following served as members of the PCC:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Rector | The Revd. Arwen Folkes (<i>Chair</i>) |
| Assistant Curate | The Revd. Joe Padfield |
| Churchwardens: | Ms Juliet Mitton (<i>Vice Chair</i>) Mrs Geraldine Hedgecock |
| Licensed Reader: | Mrs Kay Blackburn (<i>Deanery Synod Representative</i>) |
| Lay Representatives: | |
| Elected Members: | Mr Chris Reynolds (<i>Treasurer</i>) Mrs Ann Lloyd-James Mrs Debbie Phipps (<i>Electoral Roll and Health and Safety Officer</i>) Mrs Daphne Dempster (<i>Safeguarding Officer</i>) Mrs Susan Drader Mrs Barbara Prendergast Mrs Tina Bacon Mrs Jill Morgan Mrs Maggie Chitty (<i>Deanery Synod Representative</i>) Ms Christa Ovenden Mrs Susan Williams Mrs Jacqueline Head Mrs Linda Stratford Mrs Christine Cooke (<i>Secretary</i>) |

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended. Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) and consists of certain ex-officio members namely the Rector, the Churchwardens, members of the Deanery Diocesan or General Synods, and such Licensed Readers as the Annual Meeting may decide: and of the 12 lay members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The PCC also has the power to co-opt members not exceeding one-fifth of the total number of elected members of the council or two persons whichever is greater. Members of the Electoral Roll are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of St. Peter's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. Under the terms of the Parochial Church (Powers) Measure 1956, as amended by the Synodical Government Measure 1969, the PCC has the duty to co-operate with the Rector "in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical". In planning its activities, the PCC has given due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance as is shown in the following reports.

Location and Historical Background

The ecclesiastical parish of East Blatchington - St. Peter - in the County of East Sussex, lies within the Diocese and Jurisdiction of the Lord Bishop of Chichester, the Archdeaconry of Brighton & Lewes and the Deanery of Lewes and Seaford.

The parish serves the western side of the town of Seaford. In 2008 the parish became a United Benefice with the adjacent parish of St. Andrew, Bishopstone.

The parish church of St. Peter, East Blatchington, dates from the twelfth century, and is situated centrally within the area defined by the parish boundaries. From this centre of worship is carried out a ministry of spiritual, sacramental, pastoral and missionary work in accordance with the statutory obligations laid upon the Church of England as the church established by law in this realm. The parish church is subject to the faculty jurisdiction of the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Chichester, and the inspecting architect appointed by the Parochial Church Council is Mr. Tim Wells of John D Clark and Partners, Eastbourne.

Apart from the burial of cremated remains, the churchyard is closed and Lewes District Council is responsible for maintaining the ground.

All correspondence should be sent in the first instance to The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2HE. rectoryebb@gmail.com

Adjacent to the church is a flint and brick building known as the Chapel Rooms, a fully equipped hall used socially by both the church and community. This building does not come under faculty jurisdiction; however, it has been inspected by the appointed architect.

The Parish Clergy

The Reverend Arwen Folkes was licensed as Rector on 22nd March 2019. She is housed in The Rectory, 86 Belgrave Road, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HE. The freehold of the property is vested in the Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance who are also responsible for maintaining the property on the incumbent's behalf. The internal decorations continue to be the responsibility of the PCC.

The Reverend Joe Padfield was licensed as our Assistant Curate on 26th June 2021.

The parish benefits from the ministry of the Revd. Eric Pollard, Revd. John Harrison and Revd. Chris Collison, retired priests holding the bishop's permission to officiate and Reader, Mrs. Kay Blackburn. We are grateful to Mr George Rix for continuing to lead evening prayer on many occasions. We enjoy the support of an excellent pastoral team from within the congregation. The parish value all their work and thanks them warmly for their goodwill and willingness to volunteer for duties. We are richly blessed to benefit from their commitment and gifts.

Under the Pastoral Scheme, the two parishes in the united benefice remain distinct. The Revd. Trevor Smyth, House for Duty Priest at St. Andrew's Bishopstone retired in November 2021 and his replacement is yet to be appointed. However, it is good to note the coming together of both parishes in providing opportunities for children and young people and their parents to come together to learn about and grow in faith and in employing a Benefice Administrator.

4a) Electoral Roll

The electoral roll currently stands at 110 names. At the time of this report the revision is continuing but to date there has been 3 additions and 4 removals. This means that under the Church Representation Rules the number of representatives who can stand for election for the PCC remains at 12 people.

Mrs Debbie Phipps Electoral Roll Officer.

4b) Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

Since the Annual Meeting on 18th April 2021 the PCC has met on 6 occasions in church.

Amongst the items considered and discussed were:

- approval of the Financial Statements for 2021.
- The restructuring and remit of the PCC sub-committees.
- reports from the PCC sub-committees.
- ensuring that the Parish Vision and Mission Statement remain at the forefront of our activities through the approval and adoption of a new Mission Action Plan.
- A paper on diversity and inclusion – agreed ideas, included in the MAP.
- approval of the appointment of a Benefice Admin. Assistant, part-time from January 2022.
- The relaxation of Covid restrictions, following government and church guidance in such matters as, social distancing, the compulsory wearing of masks, the receiving of the bread only at Eucharist services, the phased reintroduction of singing by the choir and congregation and revision of the stewarding and cleaning of the church.
- prayer and worship during the pandemic, both in church and online
- an application for a Mission Funding grant (successful) for a part-time Children and Families worker.

The Standing Committee of the PCC has met on 6 occasions since the last APCM in the Chapel Rooms and once on Zoom.

The names of 111 parishioners were recorded on the electoral roll for the parish that was presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2021.

All are welcome to attend services in St. Peter's; for much of the year these were spasmodic because of the pandemic, but at the end of 2021 they were fully restored in church and will be live streamed to our online congregation for the foreseeable future.

Christine Cooke Secretary to the PCC

Report from the Rector, chair of the PCC

In the year of 2021 the church of St Peter the Apostle has continued to adjust and cope with the demands of the pandemic. In contrast to 2020, worship has been continually offered albeit in various forms to ensure the safety of our congregations and adherence to the guidelines. We have been pleased to see the gradual recovery of our fuller worship with the return of singing, the removal of social distancing, and our gratitude to be a church community once more. We continue to provide an extra Eucharist service on Saturday at 5.30pm to meet the needs of our congregation. I thank the congregation for their patience and Coryn Roberts (organist) and Angela Chalkley in particular for their patience and flexibility around the musical life of our worship. I thank George Rix, Linda Stratford, Neville Chalkley, those who've cleaned the church, closed the door, wiped down the pews, stewarded the door. The pandemic overall has been made much less challenging by the faithful diligence of our churchwardens Geraldine Hedgecock and Juliet Mitton who have themselves been assisted by this great number of wonderful parishioners, by the Health and Safety skills of Debbie Phipps and the kindness of so many people.

In June we welcomed Fr Joe Padfield as our Assistant Curate and thank him for his emerging ministry amongst us. Father Trevor returned, from his long sick leave to active ministry in August 2021 and we were greatly blessed by his pastoral presence for three months until his retirement to Devon in November 2021 which was marked by a very well attended service and a wonderful leaving party in

Bishopstone. This meant that we ended our year in vacancy for the House of Duty post based in Bishopstone and so our combined Benefice ministry has been covered by the Rector, ably supported by The Assistant Curate, Benefice Reader, and retired clergy who continue to help cover the ministry at both benefice churches.

Even though we have managed to keep in touch with our community (through Christine's Cooke's Cross Keys delivered by so many of you!) it was a great joy to hold our first post-pandemic community and social events with the wonderful Plant Sale in May, Craft Fair in June and pet Service at Blatchington Pond in September. Our 2021 income was significantly affected by the reduction in full fundraising that we would normally undertake but we give thanks that our donations and Parish Giving Scheme, and good performance of our financial investments means that our loss wasn't as great as it might have been. Jacqueline Head has looked after the re-opening of the Chapel Rooms which has built up in a wonderful way and regained the community presence that we missed so very much during the pandemic. My thanks goes to everyone involved with our 2021 events and I look forward to the development of further events in 2022 given that we have seen such an encouraging response to St Peter's.

St Peter's continues to welcome new parishioners who have either moved to the area, found us online or heard about us by word of mouth. Welcoming new people has been coupled with welcoming back some, though not yet all, of our usual church members and we continue to find ways to integrate our somewhat fragmented church community. We were thrilled to see Cafe Church launch and thrive in 2021, culminating in a wonderful confirmation service at which we confirmed 5 young people, 5 adults, received one adult into the Church of England and one young person into communion. To see the church full of all ages and backgrounds for such a joyous occasion in October, was a true blessing. 2021 also saw us work to try and get Little Fishes off the ground for our baptism families, this work has begun well but slightly hampered by pandemic outbreaks. I am grateful to Anne Colli-son for her excellent and calm lay leadership in the CYF area and we look forward to developing this with the Mission funding awarded to our benefice for this area of ministry.

Our Pastoral life has been busy and demanding with the rising need and the work of rebuilding our teams. Fr Joe, Fr Eric and Kay Blackburn have exercised incredible diligence and support in this vital side of our work. I also thank Geraldine for her continuing concern for our Care Homes which has again been intermittent due to the pandemic. The welcoming of a placement student has resulted in Carly Taylor joining our team and staying with St Peter's as she discerns her vocation.

The year of 2021 has seen us prayerfully and creatively discern the direction and vocation of this church. Our new Mission Action Plan, which focuses on the openness of our parish, will guide us in taking the parish into her next chapter. Within the Benefice we have been able to identify areas of shared ministry between us and St Andrew's. This has led to the development of collaborative working on areas such as Children, Young People, Pastoral Outreach, Admin functions, and we are now studying together very regularly. We continue to discern and develop this shared approach to these aspects of ministry. Within our PCC we have developed new sub-committees which are finding their feet. I am very grateful to the excellent standing committee of the PCC who have worked so well with me over the year and on behalf of the PCC to transact the business of the PCC and I am so thankful for all that we have achieved.

Considering the state of things at the end of 2020, it is remarkable how much of our common life we have been able to recover. I am in awe of the sheer number of people who have contributed to the rebuilding of our common life and recovery of our church community. I simply haven't been able to name them all here, but I do thank each and every one of you.

Rev'd Arwen Folkes (MA) Chair of East Blatchington PCC
Rector of the United Benefice of East Blatchington & Bishopstone

4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021 and the Treasurer's report.

This year saw a little more normality returning to church life, particularly from July onwards. Total income was 14% higher than the previous year at £98,521 but still well below pre-Covid levels seen in 2019 (£103,179). Running costs have been well controlled but there has been a need to expend quite considerable sums on Repairs & Replacements (£13,748 – including a new boiler, LED lighting and repairs to the stone work and this figure includes the associated Architects Fees. An investment into new chairs for the Nave (£2,911) has been made, the payment is showing as a Payment in Advance within the accounts as the new chairs had not been delivered before the year end. There is an overall shortfall in the year between income and outgoings of £9,277 (shortfall £11,742 - 2020). The value of our stock market investments has increased during the year by £49,235 thus producing an overall surplus of £39,957.

Income

Planned Giving continues to be the mainstay of our support and is up again by another 5% to £42,641. Further tax relief income relating to the period of £7,951 (Planned Giving and Gift Aid) will be received in the new year. Total income tax recovered was slightly up at £12,075. In the second part of the year we could re-instate some fundraising activities, the Craft Fair raised £1,300, Book sales £442, Plant Sale £1,230 and other small donations £50, making a total of £3,022 (£1,498 - 2020). Six months of Chapel rooms lettings brought in £5,795 (£5,141 -2020) and we also received a legacy of £4,578 (recorded within Voluntary Income).

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £107,798. It was necessary to spend considerable sums on Repairs & 1 Expenditure Total expenditure was £107,798. It was necessary to spend considerable sums on Repairs & Replacements. The large spend items were a New boiler in Church £4,299: Repairs to Stonework £2,263: New LED lighting in Church for efficiency and economy reasons £3,378: New chairs for Nave £2,911: Associated architects and faculty fees £3,808. There has been a good control of the costs that are within our remit, but some of the above has meant Church running expenses were £15,891 (£11,767) and Upkeep of Services £8,288 (£5,060) and Cost of Hall trading slightly up at £7,138 (£6,494).

Reserves

We started the year with £108,219 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £20,000 to fund R & R activity but we have received £10,341 in interest and income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2021 these deposits stood at £98,560.

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. On 1st January 2021 the book value was £344,212. Despite the difficult economic climate this figure had risen to £393,446 on 31st December 2021.

Conclusion

The PCC is truly grateful for the wonderful financial support it has received from across the parish with donations big and small, but our efforts to carry out all our regular activities and achieve a surplus have once again been thwarted by the pandemic. The shortfall is less than in the previous year, which is encouraging, and we have absorbed the loss. We are working on a reserves policy, and as it can be seen the PCC is in a stable financial position to carry out its mission objectives.

Chris Reynolds, Treasurer

4d) Churchwardens' Report 2021

Building and Fabric

The new church heating boiler was installed in August and new LED lighting in church. We are grateful to Nick Linsell for seeing these project through. The PCC has approved quotes to improve the boiler room steps (for safety) and to renew guttering in 2022. The planned work on the nave reordering will go ahead in 2022 too. Once cleaning regulations were relaxed, we were able to enjoy the beautiful and comfortable new blue pew cushions made for the church by Daphne Dempster, Linda Stratford, Barbara Prendergast and Penny Reynolds during the pandemic.

In June someone reversed into the fence in the Chapel Rooms car park damaging the fence of our neighbours living in Chapel Close. After an initial plan to get a local company to replace the damaged panel, Arwen engaged Shane Somani as our handyman, and he quickly made a repair at very little cost. Chris Reynolds put some reflective strips in place to hopefully prevent it happening again.

Churchyard

The benches in the churchyard have seen it become place for local people and visitors to sit, talk, listen to the birds, admire the trees and flowers and reflect etc. Donations have allowed two more benches to be added and another is planned in the new memorial garden which is a work in progress opposite the porch in memory of those who have died from Covid. Nick Linsell continues to care for the churchyard.

There have been various routine maintenance works ably managed by Juliet.

My grateful thanks to all the people who have stewarded our services over the year, dealing calmly and proficiently with the restrictions imposed on us by Covid, whilst providing a warm welcome to all. I would also like to thank those who have acted as sidespeople in the past and found the extraordinary events of the last couple of years have interrupted their role, if they find they are still not ready to resume, we will thank them by name in the next edition of Cross Keys. In the first full PCC meeting that we hold in 2022 we will appoint sidespeople.

My thanks go especially to Juliet for her good-humoured friendship and guidance in my first year as churchwarden.

Geraldine Hedgecock

Other matters:

At the beginning of the year the Church had to close because of Covid. Thankfully by March we were able to open again for private prayer. I was very grateful for all the volunteers who came forward on a daily to basis to clean and then lock up the church.

Your support was very much appreciated as this cleaning continued until July when some of the covid restrictions were lifted and we could reduce the daily cleaning to the stewards cleaning just before the 5.30 service on Saturdays and after the 10.00 on Sundays. We now have a small team who lock up the Church at 4.00pm whenever required and many thanks to this team for their support as well as Neville Chalkley who opens the Church up every morning. I would like to take this opportunity again to say 'thank you' to all involved for your commitment and support over this period which I have really appreciated during my time as Church Warden.

Juliet Mitton

The Churchwardens wish to thank the Rector, PCC and everyone in the parish for their help and support during the year.

4e Safeguarding

All

DBS checks are up-to-date and there are no incidents to report. I am standing down as safeguarding officer and handing over to Carly Taylor this month. I would ask for your help and support in this role

8

by being mindful of any children or adults who may be vulnerable in our Church community and by telling Carly of any concerns you have about them. Safeguarding arrangements are on the front page of the Parish's website.

If you take part in any activity that you think may require you to hold a DBS certificate then please let Carly know.

Daphne Dempster, Parish Safeguarding Office

4f) The Deanery Synod

We are members of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod. The following are members of the elected **Standing Committee**:-

Rural Dean, The Revd James Hollingsworth; Lay Chair, Sharon Philips; Treasurer, Maria Greco; Assistant Rural Dean, The Revd Arwen Folkes; Michelle Boyes, Janet Matthews, The Revd Martin Miller and the Revd Stephen Stukes.

This year both our Rector, Arwen and Assistant Curate, Joe Padfield were elected to serve on the **Diocesan Synod** as House of Clergy reps.

Ian Rothery was warmly thanked for his contributions as Lay Chair for many years.

The Deanery Synod meets 3 x per year and this year meetings were held on zoom initially and at the final meeting in November 34 attended in person and 24 on zoom.

Mission action plans from all the parishes in the Deanery will be considered to form a Deanery Action Plan.

Finance. At each meeting we receive a full financial report – for example at the meeting on 8th November it was reported that we pay about three vicar's worth less than we need. The diocesan Secretary gave us information about the budget. The parish share drop in 2020 had been significant and the expenditure in the budget for 2022 is about £5 million pounds higher than in 2021. For example, the cost of a two year safeguarding exercise comes to an end this year and will mean a drop in the safeguarding budget, but it is hard to keep Parish Ministry costs down to the historic 3%.

The first meeting for 2022 was fixed for 23rd February 2022 and has taken place.

Kay Blackburn and Maggie Chitty, Deanery Synod members representing St. Peter's for the year 2021

4g) Health and Safety.

Covid has continued to feature highly in the work of the H&S Team and updated Risk Assessments have been completed. All these have been based on the national guidance and rules and guidance from the Church of England website.

Work continues for the boiler house steps to be enclosed. New risk assessments have been completed for the pet service, carols by the pond and the ramp in the church.

As we continue to open up after Covid and to provide support for those with individual responsibilities it was agreed that a new committee would be created. This is called the Chapel Rooms, Health & Safety and Safeguarding Committee and has met on 2 occasions since its inception. We aim to meet between PCC dates so that we can feed back or take forward actions that have arisen. We are researching whether it is possible to upload the documents to a central cloud folder to assist with access so that if people are planning to carry out activities or have concerns, they can review whether these have already been covered.

The 2 dead trees in the churchyard, one of which was brought down in high winds had already been identified and reported to Lewes District Council. We continue to push for a resolution to this, the bulging flint wall facing Blatchington Hill and the uneven paving stones from the Council.

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There is still some work to be finalised from the review of the fire extinguishers in the Chapel Rooms and this is being taken forward by the newly formed committee. A H&S and Fire Risk Assessment review was completed on 23/1/22 and the actions are being taken forward by the committee. The Equalities Act review will be completed shortly as we waited until the Nave re-ordering works had been completed.

Debbie Phipps H&S Officer

5) Pastoral Team Report

This report should be read in the context of the ongoing Corona Virus Pandemic. During this year our dedicated pastoral team continued their ministry with sensitivity and care. The telephone tree was used extensively at the beginning of the year, but as restrictions were eased it became less rigid and more flexible. Relationships developed during this period have continued. We were able to open the church for private prayer and a prayer line established in the churchyard was well used. On line services continued to be an invaluable way of enabling people to keep in touch and be included in worship. At the beginning of this year the 'Faith at Home Booklet', put together by a small team, was delivered to 30 people who we thought might appreciate such a resource, and indeed the feedback was very positive.

During this year I stepped down from my ministry to the care homes and Geraldine Hedgecock took over the organisation of 'prayer and praise'. Other members of the pastoral team take Holy Communion. As the pandemic continues, all the ministry to the Care Homes is exercised within the protocols of the individual care homes and is strictly adhered to as well as the recommended protocols of the Church of England. In the Autumn, at the time of my annual review, I decided that it was time to stand down from the leadership of the pastoral team and Fr Joe took over the lead of the team and has done a magnificent job. We continue to always prayerfully consider how we can reach out pastorally to those in need, and it must be said that many of our parishioners who are not formally part of the team, continue to be remarkably caring and compassionate in a way that we would, of course, hope a Christian Community to be. Thanks to all involved.

Kay Blackburn

Report on The Choir

During these unprecedented times until August no singing was allowed in church. Since then, the choir has guided the music through what has still been a challenging time. Many people have volunteered to help out in the choir and have done St Peters proud. We strengthen the hymns with descants to add colour and unity as a choir to accompany the congregation. Highlights of the year have been with singing the Kontakion and Magnificat. This has been an unusual time and the choir have held together steadfast despite all of what we have endured in our lives. The choir is working on a new mass setting called the Kilcreggan Mass which is a Celtic influenced sound which we are sure everybody will enjoy singing.

Our goals as a choir have been delayed somewhat. However, with the changing times we hope to enrich our services with new and interesting music.

A big thank you to everyone who takes part and enjoys singing with St.Peter's choir.

Coryn Roberts, Organist

Report on East Blatchington Mothers' Union

Our first Meeting after Covid was on 10 August 2021 when we all gathered in Kay's garden for our Mary Sumner Day Service and celebration of tea in the garden, with cakes and a raffle. A beautiful day. This was followed on 14 September by Kay speaking of Angels in Art with slides, which was a stunning presentation. We held a Mothers' Union Eucharist on 18 September with Arwen in Church. In October Geraldine gave a fascinating talk about her time in a Convent and in November Juliet told

us about her time in the Wrens, which was very informative. We all followed the prayers for 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence from 25 November until 10 December, the highlight being the Mothers' Union Global Day Holy Communion Service at St Peter's Church on 27 November led

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by Bishop Will of Lewes. We were joined by Denton and Seaford and other Mothers' Unions in the Lewes District. This began with 3 minutes of silence. It was a beautiful Service followed by tea in the Hall.

On 14 December St Peter's held our Mothers' Union Advent Service in the afternoon, followed by tea, and our neighbouring branches were again invited.

Report on EBB Church Café and Little Fishes

Explore, Believe and Belong are all core aims of the young people's group that started in 2021. Six girls, between 10 & 14 years, initially showed an interest in exploring confirmation and the group was born in June as a way of encouraging them to grow in their faith, in fellowship with each other and to find their place within the Church.

Through a variety of games, activities and worship sessions – in a variety of places including the beach, where Fr. Joe got a soaking, and the Church, where the young people dressed up in the vestments – the group has grown stronger and bonded together. Parents joined us for some sessions, sharing and learning alongside their children.

The group meets once a month, after school, and then aims to join in with the Saturday evening Mass. A favourite session was held in September when we made, and ate, bread together. A plaited roll was kept for the Saturday Mass which became a teaching Eucharist just prior to their confirmation. It was so lovely to have the congregation, young and old, gathered around the altar. In October five of the young people were confirmed, by Bishop Will, and another chose to be received into communion before confirmation.

Having kept the group intentionally small while preparing them for confirmation everyone agreed they wanted to open the doors, gently, to welcome others in to share what they had. By the time of our Christmas party two more had joined us. The young people are excited about what the future holds, particularly as the Parish looks to employ a Children, Youth and Family worker.

Little Fishes

Little Fishes is a new initiative to reach out to the youngest members of the Church – those who have been brought for baptism both at St. Peter's and St. Andrew's. The hope is that it will be a fun, God space for young children and might also provide their parents with some ideas and encouragement of how to nurture the faith in their children.

We met for the first time in November, on a Sunday afternoon, for a Stay and Play welcome session with toys, songs and stories. We intend to meet on the 2nd Sunday afternoon of each month but unfortunately Covid 19 restrictions prevented us meeting in December.

Two wonderful discoveries were made in our first Little Fishes. The first being the joy of youngsters from our Café Church group helping out – and being adored by the little ones – and the second the wonder of using bubbles for our prayers! Please pray for the young families who are often a hidden part of our church family.

Anne Collison

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Peter's Church, Belgrave Road, Seaford and live-streamed on Sunday 18th April 2021 at 2.00pm

There were 17 attendees in church and 8 who joined via Zoom

Revd Arwen Folkes welcomed all attendees and opened with a prayer.

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Apologies were received from Fr. Trevor Smyth, Barbara Prendergast, Christa Ovenden and Moira MacMillan.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2020 were approved with no matters arising.

3. Nomination and election of Churchwardens.

Nick Linsell is stepping down and the rector said how grateful we all are for the time and commitment he has given over ten years. Nine years of 'ordinary' time is an achievement, but this final year of pandemic has seen an increase in decisions and paperwork.

Although handing the churchwarden role to another, Nick has kindly offered to continue supporting us with the building and fabric work.

She extended her thanks again to him and to his wife Margaret and presented him with a card with gift inside and some plants for the garden.

Addressing the meeting, Nick said how the last 10 years had seen ups and downs, mainly ups but the Pandemic being a down. The best 'up' being the appointment of our present rector. He expressed his thanks for all the great support he has had mentioning in particular; Neville Chalkley, George Rix and Kay Blackburn.

It has been lovely to be with friends and to continue to be so.

Nominations:

Juliet Mitton was proposed by Daphne Dempster and seconded by Linda Stratfield.

Geraldine Hedgecock was proposed by Valerie Skues and seconded by Beryl Henfield.

Both were duly elected.

Arwen welcomed them and thanked them for being prepared to stand.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies were received from Fr. Trevor Smyth, Barbara Prendergast, Christa Ovenden and Moira MacMillan.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2020 were approved.

3. No matters were arising from those minutes.

4. To receive from the Parochial Church Council and be free to discuss:-

4a) A report on the numbers entered on the Electoral Roll

Since the numbers presented in the written report for 2020 there have been 8 additions and 5 removals giving us an increase to 111, it is wonderful to see an increase. This means that under the Church Representation Rules the number of representatives who can stand for election for the PCC continues at the increased figure of 12 people.

Mrs Debbie Phipps Electoral Roll Officer.

There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted

The rector thanked Debbie, she welcomed those who have joined, we pray with for those who we have lost.

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4b) An Annual Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish in general, including the report from the Chair of the PCC

Everything that has been achieved is amazing, we have done the best we can in difficult circumstances and Arwen expressed her thanks. As a registered charity we have demonstrated that we meet our charitable purpose.

Arwen Folkes Rector

Geraldine Hedgecock PCC Secretary

There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted

4c) The independently examined Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020 and the Treasurer's report.

A copy of the report has been available on the website and Chris hoped people had had a look. He has nothing to add except to say that he tries to keep reports as short and simple as possible. Any questions please contact him and he will do his best to answer. It is remarkable that we ended the year the same as we started with a shortfall of approximately £1,500 and this is in great part thanks to generous extra donations received, thank you.

There were good profits from long-term investments, but we have to bear in mind that this income is restricted funds and so how we can spend it is limited. The month-by-month income is un-restricted and more useful.

We look ahead to a brighter future if we keep away a 3rd wave of Covid and we can start to raise funds and break even.

Chris Reynolds Treasurer

Question: Sylvia Wardle said that people have made donations and not received an acknowledgement, not necessarily seeking thanks but confirmation.

Arwen expressed profound apologies and said she will look at improving the process undergone to ensure this is rectified. Chris gave assurances that he keeps a note.

The rector thanked Chris, we are a lot less anxious than we might have been. She pointed out that we are in a far stronger position than many parishes for which we are very grateful.

The report was unanimously accepted

4d) Report on the fabric, good and ornaments of the Church of the Parish.

Nave re-ordering to allow access for wheelchairs, as this will involve the removal of 3 pews and further disruption this work has been suspended whilst we are restricted by Covid regulations.

Boiler Room Steps. Planning notice has been put up and quotations received. Nick has met the Planning Officer for Lewes District Council who will take the proposal forward. PCC need to agree on preferred quotation at their next meeting.

Porch Area Drainage, Polegate Roofing have made a temporary repair to the gutter, we need to assess if this has worked when we next have heavy rainfall before taking more permanent action as we don't want to spend money unless it is necessary.

Chapel Rooms Roof. A problem has arisen since the written report and it is mainly with the flat roof where water is seeping into the internal wall in the main hall. My thoughts are we concentrate on

getting the flat roof re-felted first and defer any work on the pitched roof and monitor any further decay before making any further commitments.

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Church Lighting. The electrician has submitted a quotation for changing to LED lighting which would be a big saving in time, there are 2 scaffolding options. This needs to be discussed with the PCC. Due to the restriction on numbers in the church we may have to go with using a scaffold tower rather than full scaffolding.

Church Boiler. At the time of writing the boiler services have just been carried out. The church boiler has a leak in the heat exchanger and it is recommended that the boiler needs replacing as soon as possible. It is still in use but will continue to leak and will in the near future have to be turned off. The plumber will send a report to be passed on to the PCC and architect. The Boiler is 10 years old, further details will follow.

Nick Linsell, Churchwarden

Question: Valerie Skues suggested an area of remembrance be created in the church grounds for those lost in the pandemic, with the area that has been cleared of trees in mind.

Nick thought this was a good idea and Arwen said it would be taken to the standing committee.

Valerie also thought it appropriate that mention was made of Helen Lander, we remember the anniversary of her death this week and it was her legacy that allowed us to buy the Chapel Rooms.

Arwen said the two new benches have been a real addition to the church yard. The corner one was donated in memory of Rod Partlett by his family and the single one was donated by Lindi Curtis who sadly passed away on 8th April this year. She thanked Nick. *There were no further questions and the report was unanimously accepted*

4e) A report on Safeguarding. Since the submitted report nothing new has happened. The Diocese are reviewing essential training requirements and we are waiting to hear on this. We have fully complied with the Past Cases Review 2 being run in all Church of England Diocese.

Daphne Dempster, Safeguarding Officer

There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted

4f) A report on the proceedings of the Lewes and Seaford Deanery Synod.

There were no meetings between the last APCM and the end of 2020.

Kay Blackburn, Deanery Synod representative

Arwen added that this year the vicar of St. Leonards, Revd James Hollingsworth has been appointed as Rural Dean and she as Assistant Rural Dean. A chair and secretary are presently being sought. Maggie Chitty continues to represent our PCC as well as Kay.

4g) A report on Health and Safety.

There is little to add to the written report. It has been her busiest year with the necessary compliances with the Church of England and Chichester Diocese Covid H&S risk assessments.

Debbie Phipps, H&S Officer

Arwen thanked Debbie for her oversight of safety, help and guidance over the many forms that had to be completed.

There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted

5. A report on the Pastoral Team.

Kay Blackburn was attending on Zoom and had submitted a written report, Arwen presented this on

her behalf. She thanked everyone for all the work undertaken with special mention of the phone network and the prolific delivery of items. She thanked Kay for her oversight.

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There were no questions and the report was unanimously accepted

Owing to the pandemic there are no activities to report from:

- The Choir
- The Mother's Union
- The East Blatchington Lectures

6. To elect up to 2 representatives to the Deanery Synod. We are entitled to have a total of 4 representatives and so there are two vacancies, there were no candidates. Arwen invited any that might be interested to let us know.

7. To elect up to 3 representatives of the Laity to the Parochial Church Council. Christine Cooke was nominated by Valerie Skues and seconded by Debbie Phipps. Debbie Phipps was nominated by Geraldine Hedgecock and seconded by George Rix. Christina Bacon was nominated by Sylvia Wardle and seconded by Daphne Dempster. All were duly elected.

8. To appoint an independent examiner to the accounts. Proposal was made that Michele Spencer continue in this role and she was duly elected.

9. To consider any other matters of the Parochial or general church interest and Rector's address

Given that it has only been six months since our last APCM, I am not going to take up too much of your time this afternoon. It is clear, from the reports that we have received at this meeting that this past year has been an extraordinary one and I stand here hugely grateful for the generosity, patience and kindness that we have experienced as a church. It has been bumpy and we have done our best to ride through the bumps and rise to the challenges that have been presented to us. We have learnt much, we have evolved a little, and we have discovered much about what makes us tick and what we have to offer.

This address comes as we stand at this rather interesting crossing in the life of this parish. We have moved out of crisis and into a period of trying to adjust into whatever lies ahead of us. There is recovery and rebuilding ahead of us, there are works that we need to do on our building, there is the integration of existing and new faces in our church community, and there are God given opportunities and challenges for us to embrace. There is a careful process ahead of us that will require all the fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, ... but particularly faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The prayer life that we have established over this past year is incredible and will be the thing that sustains us as we move forward.

Change is always hard at the best of times, but a change that has been imposed on us without notice or autonomy is even harder. So, as the PCC gets to grips with all that lies ahead, as we let go of what has been lost, find again the things we love, and welcome the things that God has brought into our vision, I pray that we will do all of this gently and with kindness, patience and peace.

No fireworks in this Rector's address, just a steady hand and a humble walk into the future that God

is setting before us. The report put before the PCC have shown the way in which everyone has pulled together over this past year and shown extraordinary and necessary faith and compassion. My particular thanks must be with Nick, Juliet, Julia as the churchwardens, Chris and Geraldine as treasurer and secretary, with Kay and the pastoral team for their telephone support and deliveries, with the

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delivering, cleaning, serving and stewarding teams. I warmly welcome and thank those who have stepped forward to newly contribute to the life of this church.

I am full of immense gratitude for the generous support shown by so many of you over this past year and I am confident that we will emerge stronger as we recover our common life and embrace the future that God has ordained for us. Please continue to keep this church and this parish in your prayers.

Our parish has received a civic award for our role in Seaford Voluntary Emergency Team which served the town during the pandemic.

Revd Arwen Folkes

AOB

Valerie Skues thanked Arwen for her leadership, dedication and courage and all who have supported her. There was applause in response.

The rector closed with The Grace.

East Blatchington PCC
The Treasurer's 2021 Financial Report

This year saw a little more normality returning to church life, particularly from July onwards. Total income was 14% higher than the previous year at £98,521 but still well below pre-Covid levels seen in 2019 (£103,179).

Running costs have been well controlled but there has been a need to expend quite considerable sums on Repairs & Replacements (£13,748 – including a new boiler, LED lighting and repairs to the stone work and this figure includes the associated Architects Fees.

An investment into new chairs for the Nave (£2,911) has been made, the payment is showing as a Payment in Advance within the accounts as the new chairs had not been delivered before the year end.

There is an overall shortfall in the year between income and outgoings of £9,277 (shortfall £11,742 - 2020).

The value of our stock market investments has increased during the year by £49,235 thus producing an overall surplus of £39,957

Income

Planned giving continues to be the mainstay of our support and is up again by another 5% to £42,641. Further tax relief income relating to the period of £7,951 (Planned Giving and Gift Aid) will be received in the new year. Total income tax recovered was slightly up at £12,075. In the second part of the year we could re-instate some fundraising activities, the Craft Fair raised £1,300, Book sales £442, Plant Sale £1,230 and other small donations £50, making a total of £3,022 (£1,498 -2020). Six months of Chapel rooms lettings brought in £5,795 (£5,141 -2020) and we also received a legacy of £4,578 (recorded within Voluntary Income).

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £107,798. It was necessary to spend considerable sums on Repairs & Replacements. The large spend items were a New boiler in Church £4,299: Repairs to Stonework £2,263: New LED lighting in Church for efficiency and economy reasons £3,378: New chairs for Nave £2,911: Associated architects and faculty fees £3,808.

There has been a good control of the costs that are within our remit, but some of the above has meant Church running expenses were £15,891 (£11,767) and Upkeep of Services £8,288 (£5,060) and Cost of Hall trading slightly up at £7,138 (£6,494)

Reserves

We started the year with £108,219 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £20,000 to fund R & R activity but we have received £10,341 in interest and income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2021 these deposits stood at £98,560.

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. On 1st January 2021 the book value was £344,212. Despite the difficult economic climate this figure had risen to £393,446 on 31st December 2021.

Conclusion

The PCC is truly grateful for the wonderful financial support it has received from across the parish with donations big and small, but our efforts to carry out all our regular activities and achieve a surplus have once again been thwarted by the pandemic. The shortfall is less than in the previous year which is encouraging, and we have absorbed the loss. We are working on a reserves policy, and as it can be seen the PCC is in a stable financial position to carry out its mission objectives.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

| | Notes | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.20 £ |
|---|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 66,648 | 5,832 | 72,479 | 66,631 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 3,022 | 0 | 3,022 | 1,498 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 23 | 10,318 | 10,341 | 10,482 |
| Church activities | 2d | 12,680 | 0 | 12,679 | 7,451 |
| Other income | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total income and endowments | | 82,372 | 16,149 | 98,521 | 86,062 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 99,560 | 5,105 | 104,664 | 94,976 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 644 | 0 | 644 | 0 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 2,490 | 0 | 2,490 | 2,828 |
| Total expenditure | | 102,693 | 5,105 | 107,798 | 97,804 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year | | -20,321 | 11,044 | -9,277 | -11,742 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | 0 | 49,235 | 49,235 | 20,428 |
| | | -20,321 | 60,279 | 39,957 | 8,686 |
| (Net) Funds Vired During Year | | -6,753 | 6,753 | 0 | |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2021 | 6 | 74418 | 649087 | 723505 | 714819 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2021 | | 47343 | 716120 | 763463 | 723505 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2021</u> £ | <u>2020</u> £ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 249,121 | 249,005 |
| Investment | 5(b) | 393,446 | 344,212 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors (Inc. Payment in Advance) | 8 | 8,070 | 4,409 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 24,832 | 44,809 |
| Short term deposits Restricted | | 73,728 | 63,410 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 19,835 | 22,676 |
| Cash in hand | | 14 | 16 |
| | | <u>126,479</u> | <u>135,320</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-5,585</u> | <u>-5,032</u> |
| Net current assets | | 120,896 | 130,288 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>763,463</u></u> | <u><u>723,505</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 47343 | 74,418 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 716120 | 649,087 |
| | | <u><u>763463</u></u> | <u><u>723,505</u></u> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on22nd April 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Arwen Folkes
Chairman

A Folkes

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Act 2016 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is being held within the Restricted Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|--|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |
| Electronic Equipment | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.20 £ |
|--|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | 42,641 | 0 | 42,641 | 40,450 |
| i Collections at all services | | 3,688 | 999 | 4,687 | 2,600 |
| Gift days | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grants | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 |
| Sundry donations and appeals | 6 | 8,493 | 4,583 | 13,076 | 10,728 |
| Income tax recoverable | | 11,825 | 250 | 12,075 | 11,853 |
| | | <u>66,648</u> | <u>5,832</u> | <u>72,481</u> | <u>66,631</u> |
| i | <i>includes restricted collection of £630 for ex-PCC member from congregation</i> | | | | |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | |
| Fairs, bazaars and other fund-raising events | | 3,022 | 0 | 3,022 | 1,498 |
| | | <u>3,022</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>3,022</u> | <u>1,498</u> |
| c Investments income | | | | | |
| Interest & dividends | | 23 | 10,318 | 10,341 | 10,482 |
| | | <u>23</u> | <u>10,318</u> | <u>10,341</u> | <u>10,482</u> |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | |
| Church hall lettings etc | | 6,591 | 0 | 6,591 | 5,141 |
| Fees from weddings etc | | 6,089 | 0 | 6,089 | 2,310 |
| Parish magazine | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chichester Trip | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | <u>12,680</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>12,680</u> | <u>7,451</u> |
| Total income & Endowments | | <u>82,372</u> | <u>16,149</u> | <u>98,524</u> | <u>86,062</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.21 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.20 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Home | 0 | 369 | 369 | 260 |
| | <u>0</u> | <u>369</u> | <u>369</u> | <u>260</u> |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 47,736 | 0 | 47,736 | 47,736 |
| i other clergy costs * | 5,750 | 0 | 5,750 | 4,340 |
| Church running expenses | 15,835 | 56 | 15,891 | 11,767) |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 495) |
| Church maintenance | 11,106 | 189 | 11,295 | 12,680 |
| Upkeep of services | 8,288 | 0 | 8,288 | 5,060 |
| ii Upkeep of churchyard | 1,720 | 630 | 2,350 | 1,786 |
| Church hall running costs | 7,138 | 0 | 7,138 | 6,496 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Depreciation | 1,987 | 3,861 | 5,848 | 4,357 |
| | <u>99,560</u> | <u>5,105</u> | <u>104,665</u> | <u>94,976</u> |
| i <i>after council tax repaid from St Andrews</i> | | | | |
| ii <i>restricted payment of £630 to ex-PCC member (from congregation's collection)</i> | | | | |
| b Costs of generating funds | 644 | 0 | 644 | 0 |
| | <u>644</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>644</u> | <u>0</u> |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| Independent examination fee | 2,490 | 0 | 2,490 | 1,828 |
| SVET Grant - for Covid relief | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 |
| | <u>2,490</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>2,490</u> | <u>2,828</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>102,693</u> | <u>5,105</u> | <u>107,798</u> | <u>97,804</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Staff Costs | 2021 | 2020 |
| a | Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The PCC did not employ any staff during 2021. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services.

b Payments to PCC members

Payments made to professional gardener, Nick Linsell (PCC member and Churchwarden -who stepped down in April 2021), for upkeep of the churchyard totalled £330 (2020 £1599) during the year. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other member which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £1098 (2020 £930)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|---------------|
| 5 (a) | Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
| | Cost as at 1st January 2021 | 228417 | 36530 | 5480 | 1473 | 6476 | 278376 |
| | Additions | | | | | 5964 | 5964 |
| | Cost as at 31st December 2021 | <u>228417</u> | <u>36530</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>1473</u> | <u>12440</u> | <u>284341</u> |
| | Depreciation as at 1st January 2021 | | 23000 | 4110 | 368 | 1893 | 29372 |
| | Charge for the year | | 1000 | 1370 | 368 | 3110 | 5848 |
| | Depreciation as at 31st December 2021 | <u>0</u> | <u>24000</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>736</u> | <u>5003</u> | <u>35220</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2021 | <u>228417</u> | <u>12530</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>737</u> | <u>7438</u> | <u>249121</u> |
| | Net book value at 31st December 2020 | <u>228417</u> | <u>13530</u> | <u>1370</u> | <u>1105</u> | <u>4583</u> | <u>249005</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5 (b) | Investments | Investment | Property | Total |
| | Market value 1st January 2021 | 329,476 | 14,736 | 344,212 |
| | Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | 47,133 | 2,102 | 49,235 |
| | Market value 31st December 2021 | <u>376,609</u> | <u>16,838</u> | <u>393,446</u> |

During 2007 two investments were purchased, £200,000 in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund.

The PCC are content with the current performance of the investments during the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Included within this amount are legacies of £4,737, which were spent at the Trustee's discretion during the year, on capital items.

| 7 Analysis of Net assets by fund | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2021 TOTAL | 2020 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | 6,334 | 242,787 | 249,121 | 249,005 |
| Investments | | 393,446 | 393,446 | 344,212 |
| Current Assets | 46,594 | 79,886 | 126,481 | 135,320 |
| Current Liabilities | (5,585) | | (5,585) | (5,032) |
| | <u>47,343</u> | <u>716,120</u> | <u>763,463</u> | <u>723,505</u> |

8 Debtors

| | | | | 2020 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Church hall letting fees due | 288 | 0 | 288 | 0 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 4,621 | 250.00 | 4,871 | 4,409 |
| Sundry debtors & Payments in Advance * | 0 | 2,911 | 2,911 | 0 |
| <i>(*Note inc money paid for new chairs yet to be received)</i> | <u>4,909</u> | <u>3,161</u> | <u>8,070</u> | <u>4,409</u> |

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | | | | 2020 |
|--|--------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 4,462 | 0 | 4,462 | 5,032 |
| Sundry Creditors - Dignity Funerals | 1,123 | 0 | 1,123 | 0 |
| | <u>5,585</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>5,585</u> | <u>5,032</u> |

Independent examiner’s report to the PCC of St Peter’s, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter’s, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter’s, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (‘the Act’).

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

Independent examiner’s statement

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

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

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

Signed: *M Spencer* 25/04/22
Name: Michele Spencer

Professional qualifications: FAIA, CTA,

Address: M I Spencer Ltd
70 Victoria Road
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 6BU

Accounts

**PARISH OF EAST BLATCHINGTON,
SEAFORD**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

Registered Charity number 1173506

for the year ended 31 December 2020

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Church of St. Peter, Blatchington Hill, Seaford

Rector
Revd Arwen Folkes, The Rectory,
86 Belgrave Road, Seaford BN25 2HE

Independent
examiner :-
M I Spencer Ltd, 70 Victoria Road, Polegate
East Sussex BN26 6BU

Bankers :-
Santander, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Note: whilst enrolled members are free to discuss the annual report and financial statements at the annual parochial church meeting on 18th April 2021 it would be very much appreciated if any questions on the financial statements could be sent in writing to the Treasurer, Mr C Reynolds, 4 Dutchess Drive, Seaford, E Sussex, BN25 2XL as soon as possible before the meeting.

The Treasurer's 2020 Financial Report

Regrettably the Lockdowns and Tier measures introduced by the Government to control the spread of the Covid-19 virus have resulted in a very considerable reduction in our normal fund raising activities. Income has fallen drastically whilst our running costs have increased. We have spent a little more on cleaning and on investing in technical equipment to enable the streaming of services.

Income from Church activities was £86,062 (£103,179 -2019) with expenditure £97,804 (£91,088). We therefore have an overall deficit of £11,742 (£12,091 surplus)

Income

Total income is down 16% but there have been bright spots. Planned Giving £40,450 is 2% up and has been the mainstay of our income. Donations and appeals raised an impressive £10,728, as against £151 in the previous year. Our fund -raising activities such as the Blatchington Lectures, Open Gardens, Plant sales, and Fetes were all curtailed and Chapel Rooms lettings fell by 42% to £5,141 (£8,944 in 2019) Wedding fees etc. were 65% less at £2,310

Expenditure

The major reason for the increase has been the need to spend £12,680 (£4,428) on Church maintenance, particularly on the roof and stonework to prevent water ingress. Church running expenses were 13% higher at £11,767, but there have been savings elsewhere, upkeep of services was 7% less at £5,060 and Church Hall running costs 6% down at £6,496. There has also been a 24% reduction in costs for the upkeep of the Churchyard

Reserves

We started the year with £117,737 on Deposit with CCLA. It has been necessary to withdraw £20,000 to fund daily activity but we have received £10,482 in interest and income from stock market investments, so at 31 December 2019 these reserves stood at £108,219.

Longer Term Investments

These are stock market funds managed on our behalf by CCLA. On 1st January 2020 the book value was £323,783. Despite the difficult economic climate this figure has risen to £344,212 on 31st December 2020

Conclusion

Whilst the operating deficit is a very disappointing outcome, we have absorbed the loss and overall the PCC remains well funded.

Statement of Financial Activities

| | Notes | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.20 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.19 £ |
|---|-------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Income and Endowments | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2a | 65,306 | 1,325 | 66,631 | 70,995 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2b | 1,498 | 0 | 1,498 | 5,369 |
| Income from investments | 2c | 273 | 10,209 | 10,482 | 10,647 |
| Church activities | 2d | 7,451 | 0 | 7,451 | 16,169 |
| Other income | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total income and endowments | | 74,528 | 11,534 | 86,062 | 103,179 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Church activities | 3a | 92,346 | 2,630 | 94,976 | 88,795 |
| Costs of generating funds | 3b | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 |
| Other resources expended | 3c | 1,828 | 1,000 | 2,828 | 2,218 |
| Total expenditure | | 94,174 | 3,630 | 97,804 | 91,088 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year | | -19,646 | 7,904 | -11,742 | 12,091 |
| Other recognised gains /losses | 1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gains/(losses) on investment income | 5b | 0 | 20,428 | 20,428 | 48,159 |
| | | -19,646 | 28,332 | 8,686 | 60,250 |
| Total funds b/fwd at 1st January 2020 | 6 | 94,064 | 620,755 | 714,819 | 654,569 |
| Total funds c/fwd at 31st December 2020 | | 74,418 | 649,087 | 723,505 | 714,819 |

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2020

| | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2020</u> £ | <u>2019</u> £ |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Fixed Assets</u> | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 5(a) | 249,005 | 246,512 |
| Investment | 5(b) | 344,212 | 323,783 |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | | |
| Debtors | 8 | 4,409 | 4,030 |
| Short term deposits Unrestricted | | 44,809 | 64,536 |
| Short term deposits Restricted | | 63,410 | 53,201 |
| Cash at bank St Peters | | 22,676 | 27,452 |
| Cash in hand | | 16 | 17 |
| | | <u>135,320</u> | <u>149,237</u> |
| Creditors due within one year | 9 | <u>-5,032</u> | <u>-4,713</u> |
| Net current assets | | 130,288 | 144,524 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u><u>723,505</u></u> | <u><u>714,819</u></u> |
| <u>Funds</u> | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 7 | 74,418 | 94,064 |
| Restricted Funds | 7 | 649,087 | 620,755 |
| | | <u><u>723,505</u></u> | <u><u>714,819</u></u> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 31st March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. Arwen Folkes
Chairman

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Act 2016 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 update of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities [SORP (FRS102)]

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purpose or projects.

Restricted funds -

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c Income and Endowments

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
2. and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Voluntary Income

Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA

Collections and Planned Giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest entitlements are included in the accounts when receivable

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their fair value at the time of the gift.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December each year.

The Recognised Gain from the sale of St Johns in 2007 is being held within the Restricted Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to be met for entitlement to the grant which remain within control of the PCC.

Church Activities

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

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

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

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 31st December 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1st January 1991 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see depreciation note below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

| | |
|---|--|
| Organ | write off at the rate of £1000 per annum |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Moveable Furnishings | 25% straight line basis |

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties (discounted for monetary inflation since their capitalisation) is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out each year and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f Current Assets

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

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

g Loans

A £1000 loan was made to the Parochial CC of Seaford to support the Covid relief effort to the local community. This loan was repaid in full in December 2020, prior to the end of the financial year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

2 Income and Endowments

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.20 £ | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.19 £ | |
|--|------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| a Voluntary income | | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | 40,450 | 0 | 40,450 | 39,924 | |
| Collections at all services | | 2,325 | 275 | 2,600 | 6,282 | |
| Gift days | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Grants | | 0 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 517 | |
| Sundry donations and appeals | 6 | 10,678 | 50 | 10,728 | 13,004 | |
| Income tax recoverable | | 11,853 | 0 | 11,853 | 11,266 | |
| | | <u>65,306</u> | <u>1,325</u> | <u>66,631</u> | <u>70,994</u> | 65306.00 |
| b Activities for generating funds | | | | | | |
| Fairs, bazaars and other fund-raising events | | 1,498 | 0 | 1,498 | 5,369 | |
| | | <u>1,498</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1,498</u> | <u>5,369</u> | |
| c Investments income | | | | | | |
| Interest & dividends | | 273 | 10,209 | 10,482 | 10,647 | |
| | | <u>273</u> | <u>10,209</u> | <u>10,482</u> | <u>10,647</u> | |
| d Income from Church Activities | | | | | | |
| Church hall lettings etc | | 5,141 | 0 | 5,141 | 8,944 | |
| Fees from weddings etc | | 2,310 | 0 | 2,310 | 6,645 | |
| Parish magazine | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Chichester Trip | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 580 | |
| | | <u>7,451</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>7,451</u> | <u>16,169</u> | |
| Total income & Endowments | | <u>74,528</u> | <u>11,534</u> | <u>86,062</u> | <u>103,179</u> | |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 Expenditure

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.20 | TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.19 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a Church Activities | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | | | |
| Overseas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 600 |
| Home | 0 | 260 | 260 | 1,740 |
| | <u>0</u> | <u>260</u> | <u>260</u> | <u>2,340</u> |
| Ministry costs | | | | |
| Diocesan parish contribution | 47,736 | 0 | 47,736 | 46,344 |
| other clergy costs | 4,340 | 0 | 4,340 | 4,339 |
| Church running expenses | 11,767 | 0 | 11,767 | 10,192) |
| Wedding & Funeral Expenses | 495 | 0 | 495 | 3,011) |
| Church maintenance | 12,680 | 0 | 12,680 | 4,428 |
| Upkeep of services | 5,060 | 0 | 5,060 | 5,444 |
| Upkeep of churchyard | 1,786 | 0 | 1,786 | 2,360 |
| Church hall running costs | 6,496 | 0 | 6,496 | 6,951 |
| Church hall Major repairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Depreciation | 1,987 | 2,370 | 4,357 | 2,645 |
| Chichester Trip | 0 | 0 | 0 | 580 |
| Messy Church | 0 | 0 | 0 | 161 |
| | <u>92,346</u> | <u>2,630</u> | <u>94,976</u> | <u>88,795</u> |
| b Costs of generating funds | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 |
| | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>75</u> |
| c Other resources expended | | | | |
| Independent examination fee | 1,828 | 0 | 1,828 | 2,218 |
| SVET Grant - for Covid relief | 0 | 1,000 | 1,000 | |
| | <u>1,828</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>2,828</u> | <u>2,218</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>94,174</u> | <u>3,630</u> | <u>97,804</u> | <u>91,088</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Staff Costs | 2020 | 2019 |
| a | Wages and Salaries | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The PCC did not employ any staff during 2020. Self-employed organists, cleaners and gardeners were hired to supply these services.

b **Payments to PCC members**

Payments made to professional gardener, Churchwarden Nick Linsell, for upkeep of the churchyard totalled £1599 (2019 £2110) during the year. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other member which were not in the nature of reimbursed expenses. Total of expenses reimbursed to PCC members during the year was £930 (2019 £497)

| 5 (a) Tangible fixed assets | UR & R Freehold land and buildings | R Organ | R Plant & Equipment | UR Electrical Equipment | UR & R Fixtures & Fittings | Total |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|---|---------------|
| Cost as at 1st January 2020 | 228417 | 36530 | 5480 | | 1098 | 271525 |
| Additions | | | | 1473 | 5378 | 6850 |
| Cost as at 31st December 2020 | <u>228417</u> | <u>36530</u> | <u>5480</u> | <u>1473</u> | <u>6476</u> | <u>278376</u> |
| Depreciation as at 1st January 2020 | | 22000 | 2740 | | 275 | 25015 |
| Charge for the year | | 1000 | 1370 | 368 | 1619 | 4357 |
| Depreciation as at 31st December 2020 | <u>0</u> | <u>23000</u> | <u>4110</u> | <u>368</u> | <u>1893</u> | <u>29372</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2020 | <u>228417</u> | <u>13530</u> | <u>1370</u> | <u>1105</u> | <u>4583</u> | <u>249005</u> |
| Net book value at 31st December 2019 | <u>228417</u> | <u>14530</u> | <u>2740</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>824</u> | <u>246511</u> |

The freehold land and buildings comprise the Chapel Rooms. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property was £228,417.

| 5 (b) Investments | Investment | Property | Total |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Market value 1st January 2020 | 308,277 | 15,507 | 323,784 |
| Purchases at Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revaluation Gain/(Loss) | 21,199 | -771 | 20,428 |
| Market value 31st December 2020 | <u>329,476</u> | <u>14,736</u> | <u>344,212</u> |

During 2007 two investments were purchased, £200,000 in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares and £20,000 in the CBF Church of England Property Fund.

The PCC are content with the current performance of the investments during the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

6 Sundry Donations and Appeals

Included within this amount are legacies of £4,500, which were spent at the Trustee's discretion during the year, on capital items.

7 Analysis of Net assets by fund

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | TOTAL |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | 8,321 | 240,684 | 249,005 |
| Investments | | 344,212 | 344,212 |
| Current Assets | 71129 | 64,191 | 135,320 |
| Current Liabilities | (5,032) | | (5,032) |
| | <u>74,418</u> | <u>649,087</u> | <u>723,505</u> |

8 Debtors

| | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Church hall letting fees due | 0 | 54 |
| PGS & tax refunds due from HMRC | 4409 | 3859 |
| Sundry debtors | 0 | 117 |
| | <u>4409</u> | <u>4030</u> |

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Accruals for utilities and other costs | 5032 | 4713 |
| Sundry Creditors | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>5032</u> | <u>4713</u> |

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Peter's, East Blatchington (the PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed:

Name: Michele Spencer

Professional qualifications: FAIA, CTA,

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