

The Parochial Church Council of  
Seer Green and Jordans

Trustees Report and Accounts  
For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

Charity Number 1175583

# Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans: Annual Report for the Charities Commission, 2024

**Charity Number: 1175583**

## **Our Vision**

Our vision at Holy Trinity is to live and share Christ's love.

## **1. Trustees annual report for 2024**

### ***Structure, Governance and Management***

The charity is managed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The governing document is The Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2 January 1957. Lay members of the PCC are proposed and seconded by members of Holy Trinity's Electoral Roll. The vicar is also a member of the PCC. In 2024, one new member was appointed to the PCC. There were 10 to 11 members of the PCC in 2024.

There were 6 meetings of the PCC in 2024, and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held on 19 May 2024 after the 10am Sunday service, with the members of the church. The minutes of the meetings are published on our website to share information with our church community.

### ***Objectives and Activities***

For us, 2024 had a difficult beginning, with Janna Holder, our children and families worker, becoming very unwell. The gestures of support from across the villages were testament to how her Kingdom ministry has been felt throughout this community. The children's work wasn't the same without her, but we muddled through. It is wonderful that she is now back working with us.

Later in January, Olwyn stepped back from her roles as safeguarding officer and chair of the PCC, to enable her to focus on significant family responsibilities. We are profoundly grateful to her for all she has done over the past years in both of those roles. I am now chairing the PCC – for better or worse – and we are thrilled that Anne Wall has agreed to take on Safeguarding on an interim basis. In February we had our "Safeguarding Sunday" where we talked through why we consider safeguarding so important, how we go about it, and how we can all be part of making this community a safe place for vulnerable people.

Amid those new year losses, however, we were delighted to make the appointment of Janelle Stevenson as our administrator. We are very grateful to her for all that she has been doing, including initiating major updates to our website, newsletter and other communication tools, alongside the day-to-day administration of the church's activities. Having drawn the previous format of the Pewsheets to a close, let me take the opportunity to honour Geoffrey Brand, Pam Britton and Nora Bennett for their tireless work on that over the years.

The Pastoral Care team has continued to meet regularly to discuss what we have each been doing to support the vulnerable and isolated in the church community. Much of the team's ministry goes unseen, but I want to recognise Heather Rowe, Jenny Tebboth, Richard Campbell, Janna Holder, Sue Puttergill and Nigel Morgan, for the amazing work they do in caring as Christ would have us care.

Janine Dunnell continues to provide wonderful leadership to two bible study groups, which meet on Wednesday afternoon and evening (the latter being shared with Seer Green Baptist Church). These provide a deeply rewarding way of growing in maturity and confidence in our faith.

In our morning services, we have spent some time following the lectionary, though we have also had sermon series in Colossians and Philipppians. Musically, we have been enjoying having Carys Timpson helping us increase the amount of 'live' organ again, and we wish her well as she moves away for her studies. We have since been joined by organists Dominic Detre and Freddie Stevens, and have also started to work on a clearer list of known hymns. We have also enjoyed pulling together a youth band, which has allowed us the occasional foray into something more contemporary.

For our lead up to Easter, we focussed on the gospel of John, with Tim Chester's "The Glory of the Cross" as our Lent book, and a sermon series looking at the "I AM" sayings in John. On Maundy Thursday, we had a wonderful meal together in the church, re-enacting something of the Passover meal and sharing communion together. Sarah Allen did an extraordinary job in curating a very memorable evening, and we are very grateful to her and her team, including Pam Pennefather, Kate Miller, Rachel Gibson and members of the youth group who acted as servers.

Amid all that is going on, I am delighted that we have been able to expand our team of wardens. Janine continues as the only 'full' warden, and let me say a massive thank you to her for the incredible amount she does to keep the church, and the vicar, going. She continues to be a wonderful support to me, and seems particularly adept at spotting where she needs to shore up my weaknesses! In addition to Janine, Tom Allen is now 'deputy warden', with deputised responsibility for buildings and facilities (roles he was already filling), and Anthony Bargioni is now 'assistant

warden', with particular responsibility for working with me on the spiritual, visionary and community health of the church. That gives us some pretty big leadership guns, and I love the sheer weight of wisdom, expertise and passion that I experience in our meetings. I am profoundly grateful to each of them for all they are bringing to the mission of the church.

If you were looking at how the interior of the building has changed over the year, the two striking differences you would notice first would be the arrangement of the pews and the absence of the pulpit. The pews have been slightly wish-boned to create a warmer, more friendly atmosphere – something we've wanted to try since we had such a positive experience of this layout while meeting in the scout hut. We have also sold a few to create more flexibility in the space. The pulpit, which we were unable to use due to health and safety concerns with it, has made way for a far more flexible front of church, making concerts, child-friendly events, and extended worship bands far easier to accommodate. You may then notice the screen having dropped in height to where the pulpit had been, enabling people to look at it more comfortably from further forward. The eagle-eyed (or -eared) will also notice the new PA speakers, which have given the sound greater clarity and richness.

A café idea has also been percolating, though it crystalised for us at a meeting in June: we gathered members of the church and representatives of the local community, to consider how the church (in particular, the church building) can serve the needs of the community and draw them through the doors, with the ultimate aim that we can gently provide opportunities for people to discover Jesus. The discussion all seemed to point the direction of this café, and I'm so grateful to Tom Allen, Sarah Allen, Janna and others for the seriousness with which they have put this into action.

All this is, in my mind, about Jesus. I recognise that, in some ways, changes are really hard – for some, they constitute a change to something that has been a stable part of life for a long time; the loss of something that felt deeply familiar and homely. But hopefully, these changes also represent a commitment to being ready for a future that is different from the past. It turns out that the Church in the UK is actually growing – in fact attendance has increased by 50% in the past six years. As Paul Williams (chief executive of the Bible Society) put it, "Far from being on a slippery slope to extinction, the Church is alive and growing, and making a positive difference to individuals and society."<sup>1</sup> We want to be ready to play our part in that growth.

We have seen signs of this new church growth in our own context: Among men in the village, Anthony and Tom started a monthly men's breakfast, and it has been great to see that group grow in strength. Meanwhile, Whisky Wednesdays continues – a

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/research/quiet-revival>

group of 8-12 of mostly young(ish) dads gather in the vicarage garden about once a month, to chat and laugh together. The group has somewhat lost its loyalty to both Whisky and Wednesdays, even if the community around it remains strong.

It has been wonderful to see Teen Spirit, our group for older teens, going through the Alpha course. In September we had the privilege of baptising Ethan, and then in October, Ethan, Harri and Richard all went forward for Confirmation. I'm so grateful to the tireless work of Sarah Allen in leading Teen Spirit.

During the autumn, Janna also got going on a 'seeker small group' for younger teens, alongside colleagues at Seer Green Baptist Church. It has been great to see them engaging seriously with issues of faith, and we pray that it leads them to Jesus, and to his people. We also experimented with a 5.30 service, and there is potential there, even if the lack of communication around it gave it a fairly soft start.

November also saw a concert in the church, with Miriam Jones (my not-so-secret weapon) and two other singer-songwriters (Gareth Davies Jones and Rob Halligan) performing 'in the round'. It was a great success at drawing non-members into the church and giving them a really positive experience. The pink lights in the windows were also noted by many who didn't get to the concert! We look forward to doing many more such events.

Then in December, we had our usual full set of services and events over Christmas – it is always a privilege to get those opportunities to talk about Jesus to so many.

### ***Financial Review***

#### **Receipts.**

Planned giving has increased from £38,913 in 2023 to £42,966 in 2024. This includes those who give regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme. It also includes receipts in respect of restricted funds.

Our general collections were lower in 2024 as compared with previous years although we did receive some significant donations as well as a grant of £1,920 which covered professional fees paid during the year in respect of plans relating to the building. The contactless device allocated to us by the Diocese as part of their Digital Giving Rollout remains a popular way of making one off donations.

We received a full year of rental payments for use of the Parish Church Hall which makes a significant contribution to our overall running costs.

Our total income for the 2024 year including receipts for restricted funds amounted to £93,732 as compared with £88,682 in the previous year.

## **Payments**

Total payments for the year including restricted fund payments amounted to £80,209 as compared with £88,273 in the previous year. Although the overall expenditure was lower than the previous year significant repair costs were incurred for the Parish Hall and the Church building (included in church running costs in the accounts) particularly in respect of roof repairs.

The most significant reduction in expenditure for 2024 as compared with 2023 is in respect of Parish Share payments (Diocesan quota). This is down from £41,742 in 2023 to £27,659 for 2024. The trustees made the decision for 2024 that the payments made for Parish Share should represent what they consider to be a fair contribution based on the Church's circumstances as opposed to the amount calculated by the diocesan based on their own formula.

Payments to charities during the year of £4,929 was higher than the amount shown in the accounts as received for this purpose. This is due to timing differences in paying over sums to the charities and reclaiming Gift Aid on donations.

Other payments were largely in line with our budgeted projection.

## **Outcomes**

At the end of 2024 we recorded an overall surplus of receipts over payment of £13,523. This is after allowing for reduction in restricted funds of £1,120. This was due to careful management of our expenditure and an increased level of income. For further details of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities please see the attached accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024.

## ***RESTRICTED FUNDS***

Details of movements in restricted funds are shown in the attached notes to the accounts.

### ***Building (Friends of Holy Trinity)***

As detailed in the notes to the accounts only part of the expenditure on maintaining the church building and churchyard could be funded in 2024 from the restricted Church Building Fund. This fund stood at just £90 at 31 December 2024 and income to the fund is unlikely to cover all repair and maintenance costs in the future. Additional costs will have to be met from general (unrestricted) funds.

The Trustees Report was approved by the Trustees on 5 May 2025 and signed by the chair of the meeting, Reverend Jeremy Carr

## **2. Charity Information**

### ***Trustees:***

Reverend Jeremy Carr (Vicar)

Audrey Hardy (Treasurer)

Janna Holder (Children and Families Minister)

Anne Wall (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Linda West (Licensed Lay Minister)

Janine Dunnell (Churchwarden)

Tom Allen (Deputy Churchwarden)

Anthony Bargioni (Assistant Churchwarden)

Janice Barrett

Susan Puttergill

Sam Barclay (from May 2024)

### ***Registered Address:***

Holy Trinity Church

Orchard Road

Seer Green

Bucks

HP9 2YA

### ***Bankers:***

Lloyds Bank

P.O. Box 1000

Andover

BX1 1LT

***Bankers (continued):***

CCLA

One Angel Lane

London

EC4R 3AB

***Contact Details:***

Web: [holytrinitysgj.org](http://holytrinitysgj.org)

Email: [holytrinitysgj@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitysgj@gmail.com)





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

The Parochial Church Council of Seer Green and Jordans

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1175583

Set out on pages

9 to 12

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Date:

5th May 2025

Name:

David Jordan

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

Dell Lees, Seer Green

Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF SEER GREEN AND JORDANS**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<u>Incoming resources from donors</u>				
Planned giving	41178	1788	42966	38913
Collections and other giving	3130		3130	4438
Tax recovered	9942	297	10239	11013
	54250	2085	56335	54364
<u>Other voluntary incoming resources</u>				
Legacies & donations	6450		6450	5075
Donations to charities	3824		3824	5466
Fund raising events		583	583	795
Grants	1920		1920	
	12194	583	12777	11336
<u>Income from charitable and ancillary trading</u>				
Sale of magazine and advertising	6585		6585	5660
Contribution for use of Church Hall	16571		16571	15815
Fees	369		369	863
	23525		23525	22338
<u>Income from investments</u>				
Bank Interest	1057	38	1095	644
	1057	38	1095	644
Transfer choir fund	787	-787		
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	91813	1919	93732	88682
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<u>Charities and mission agencies</u>	3849	1080	4929	5898
<u>Activities directly related to the work of the church</u>				
Diocesan quota	27659		27659	41742
Salaries,wages and honorarium	11113		11113	12250
Clergy expenses	401		401	820
Mission and outreach	5652		5652	2294
Cost of services	2761		2761	2392
Church running expenses	6251	1959	8210	11872
Production of magazine	6529		6529	6422
Church hall running costs	6605		6605	2675
Cost of AV, sound system and wifi	4225		4225	1675
Professional fees	1920		1920	
	73116	1959	75075	82142
<u>Bank Charges</u>	205		205	233
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	77170	3039	80209	88273
<b>Excess/(Deficit)of Receipts over Payments</b>	14643	(1120)	13523	409
Bank current and deposit accounts at 1 January	25295	1393	26688	26279
Bank current and deposit accounts at 31 December	39938	273	40211	26688

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF SEER GREEN AND JORDANS

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	General Fund	Choir Fund	Building Fund	Kisiizi Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b><u>Monetary Assets</u></b>						
Bank current account	8162				8162	5363
Bank deposit account	31776		90	183	32049	21325
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>39938</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>40211</b>	<b>26688</b>
<b><u>Debtors and Prepayments</u></b>						
Income Tax Claim	716		16	13	745	787
Prepayment for school bibles	390				390	
<b>Total Debtors &amp; Prepayments</b>	<b>1106</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1135</b>	<b>787</b>
<b><u>Liabilities and Accruals</u></b>						
Pre-paid magazine income	2005				2005	1920
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2005</b>				<b>2005</b>	<b>1920</b>
<b><u>Net Assets</u></b>	<b>39039</b>		<b>106</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>39341</b>	<b>25555</b>

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Rev Jeremy Carr  
5th May 2025

Mrs Audrey Hardy (Treasurer)  
5th May 2025

## THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF SEER GREEN AND JORDANS

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.

#### **Funds**

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC.

The Buildings Fund (Friends of Holy Trinity) is a restricted Fund to be used for the general upkeep, maintenance and improvement of the church buildings. Consequently, all payments in respect of repairs, maintenance, additions and enhancements of the church buildings are settled from this fund as far as possible. In 2024 a total of £3050 was spent on repairs and upkeep of the church and churchyard, of which £1959 was paid from the Buildings Fund and £1091 from General Funds.

The movements in restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance c/fwd
Buildings Fund	460	1589	1959		90
					-
Kisizii Fund	146	1117	1080		183
Choir Fund	787			(*787)	-
Total	1393	2706	3039	(*787)	273

\*As the Church no longer has a choir and is unlikely to do so in the foreseeable future a decision was taken to use the amount of £787 within the fund to offset part of the cost of the new PA system used for music.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of other Church groups that owe an affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Subject to the above, receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

#### **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

- Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal
- Land and buildings held on behalf of the PCC
- Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1000

Closing bank balances as shown in the receipts and payments account.

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

- Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC

- Creditors for goods or services where the supply has been received and invoiced by 31 December 2024.

**Payments to Trustees**

No payments were made to trustees (members of the PCC) during the year for their work as trustees.

During the year, payments totalling £6747 (2023-£8740) were made to Janna Holder a trustee which included materials supplied in connection with her work as Children and Families Minister at Holy Trinity.

During the year, payments totalling £4872 (2023 £2294) were made to Jeremy Carr a trustee for extra ministry hours worked.