THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

England & Wales · Charity number 1176142

Details

Other names	ST PETER'S PCC, ROPLEY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2017-12-06
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Vicarage Lyeway Lane Ropley Alresford Hampshire SO24 0DW
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Activities

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

Activities: Promoting the mission and ministry of the Church of England especially by regular public worship open to all, pastoral work, the provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation, teaching Christianity through sermons, small groups and school assemblies, supporting other charities in the UK and overseas and the provision of space for community meetings, events and other activities.

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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

- Hampshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£215,339	£199,406	-	-
2024-12-31	£177,849	£162,850	-	-
2023-12-31	£123,794	£146,185	-	-
2022-12-31	£420,234	£874,507	-	-
2021-12-31	£479,545	£1,196,462	-	-
2020-12-31	£658,621	£1,121,779	£1,199,898	0

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Amber Rose De La Poer Beresford	Chair	2023-10-17
ALISON JEAN WOOD		2015-04-01
ANDREW BONNER		2019-03-10
Alan Geoffrey Parsonson		2022-01-25
Alison Hilary Benton		2025-05-11
Barbara Pettigree		2021-11-30
Christine Elizabeth Drewienkiewicz		2025-05-11
Dr Elizabeth Alexandra Barley		2025-05-11
Dr Sarah May Earthy		2022-05-08
Greville Keyes Dawson		2024-04-21
JULIA ROSEMARY FLORY		2021-05-23
RONALD CLIVE BEAL		2019-03-10
SUSAN MARGARET THOMAS		2020-09-27
Sally Ann Palmer		2025-05-11
Sarah Theresa Virginia Rees		2026-05-10

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINC

England & Wales - Charity number 1176142

Accounts

St Peter's Church, Ropley



Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2025

St Peter's Church, Ropley
PCC Contents of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2025

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Vicar's Report



Well, what can I say?! I could use a million superlatives to describe the amount of awesome things that took place in St Peter's Ropley in 2025.

God, the Creator of all, is infinitely diverse in the ways he meets us, the way he works in our community, the ways he provides comfort for the grieving, the way he inspires us through music and the way he finds us together in the bonds of peace and love.

We are blessed as a church community to be so connected with the wider community in Ropley and beyond. At different points in the year we have gathered to remember - on the village green for the VE Day tribute in May, around the new war memorial outside St Peter's on Remembrance Sunday and in thanksgiving services across the year for those who have died. At other times, it is for enjoyment and fun - the joy of the Pram Race, a wonderful Leavers service for the Year 6s heading off to secondary school and the merriment of the Ropley King Singers' concerts.



1— Remembrance Sunday 2025



2 — Graveyard Baptism

This part we play in the lives of so many cannot be taken lightly, it is a great privilege that as a Church family we meet people where they're at, whether at very difficult times in their life, very joyful times or just wanting some fellowship and company. Throughout 2025 we have seen 1000s coming in for our festivals, and our events and sharing the story of God at Christmas and Easter with their families. Our quarterly families' Events went from strength to strength, for example at our Crafty mornings many families engaged with Easter and Advent and our Light Party in October was our biggest yet. Our community tea concerts have been joyful occasions where we welcome many to have the opportunity to listen to some music at an affordable price.

Another extraordinary highlight was celebrating the festival of Jane Austen's birthday. We were so excited and grateful to have Peter Gritton compose a piece for the event and be able to invite Perins to join in too.

2025 was peppered with so many extraordinary wonderful moments, our inaugural Supper Club and Christmas Tree Festival to name but a few. Words cannot express the thanks to the team of organisers and volunteers that help with these community and fundraising events.

We have seen extraordinary generosity, at these events but also in our wider Church congregation and community. We saw the paths finally repaired and renewed, a huge thanks go to the Friends of St Peter's, our buildings team and the PCC for the hard work to make this happen. This year our report has a Faith and Generosity section / stewardship, this is about how we manage and steward our finances.

In the autumn we ran an information evening that expressed our financial situation, including our loan. The response to this was mind blowing, we were bowled over by the generosity of so many that helped cut our loan down by more than half! Thank you so much if you are one of the people that donated to the paying off of the loan or to some of our Special projects, including the Youth group.

I have been so blessed by our Youth group. Since the summer, it has gone from strength to strength, details of which are in this report. Thank you to all our team members for making it happen.

While we're on the subject of our children and young people - Minecraft church also continues to be a place that welcomes all and inspires all of us through the imagination of our incredible children and young people as they recreate Bible stories in block form and pray and sing and Explorer church and our links with the school continue to grow, do read on for more!

God has blessed all of us with an opportunity to get to know his generous love for us. Many had the opportunity to learn more and discuss Prayer in our Different Ways to Pray Lent course. We've introduced our new sung communion booklet and a new

quarterly healing Eucharist and shared in worship in many different forms and ways for which I am so grateful.

1 Corinthians chapter 12 says: *And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of administration, forms of leadership, various kinds of languages.*

We have seen some brilliant leadership, teaching and administration this year from our team leaders, our PCC members and countless team members - that's all of you! We have seen new leaders and preachers. We have been working on our structures of health and safety, GDPR and safeguarding, all are continual works in progress but essential for St Peter's to be a safe place, and this is down to the hard work of some brilliant individuals, thank you to you.

I am so privileged to be a part of seeing God working in all of you and your lives.

With all love and peace - **Amber**

Reverend Amber Beresford

Administrative Information

St Peter's Church is situated in Church Street, Ropley. It is part of the Alresford Deanery in the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is:

St Peter's Church, Church Street, Ropley, Hants SO24 0DR.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. The Registered Charity Number is 1176142

Parochial Church Council Members

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

Vicar:

- Reverend Amber Beresford

Churchwardens:

- Mrs Sarah Earthy — until May 2025
- Mrs Susan Thomas
- Mr Greville Dawson — from May 2025

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

- Mr Keith Monkhouse — until May 2025

- Mr Humphrey Carr — until May 2025
- Mrs Christine Drewienkiewicz — from May 2025

Elected Members:

- Dr Elizabeth Barley — GDPR Officer from May 2025
- Mr Ron Beal — Website Manager
- Mr Greville Dawson — until May 2025
- Mrs Sarah Earthy — from May 2025
- Mrs Julia Flory — Minutes Secretary until May 2025
- Mrs Sally Palmer — from May 2025
- Mr Alan Parsonson — Treasurer
- Mrs Barbara Pettegree
- Mrs Deborah Shellard — until May 2025
- Mrs Alison Wood — Electoral Roll Officer to May 2025; PCC Secretary

Co-Opted Members

- Mr Andy Bonner — Church rebuilding co-ordinator
- Ms Anne Carter — (Resigned January 2025)

In addition to the PCC, four other members of the church undertake important roles:

- Mrs Angela Henderson — Benefice Administrator
- Mrs Hilary Waller — Electoral Roll Officer (from May 2025)
- Mr Tim Wettone — Stewardship Officer (from May 2025)
- Mrs Wilma Hainsworth — Safeguarding Officer

As at the 31st December 2025 there were 94 people on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 72 were resident in the parish.

The total Worshipping Community at the end of 2025 was 104.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a charity that is registered with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. Others, who bring particular insight and experience, may be co-opted

onto the PCC or attend occasionally to present reports, for example the Parish Safeguarding Officer. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and, if they so wish, stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC meets regularly throughout the year and has the ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting St Peter's church, including such matters as compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation, canon law, Diocesan policies, safeguarding and creation care. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Sub-committees comprising at least one PCC member and others were set up in 2024 to focus on specific areas of church life including: worship, prayer and discipleship; community; communications; fabric and grounds; stewardship; commercial (events and bookings) and major fundraising. The authority to make significant decisions remains with the full PCC.

In addition to the main body of the PCC there is a Standing Committee comprising the Vicar, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and Secretary. They meet as required and are authorised to decide on issues which may arise between PCC meetings and need to be decided upon immediately. The Standing Committee is responsible to the PCC and decisions made by the Standing Committee are reported to and where necessary ratified at the next PCC meeting.

The full PCC met every two months during 2025 with the Standing Committee generally meeting once between PCC meetings.

Aims and Purposes

First and foremost, St Peter's is a church whose primary aim and mission is to help and guide all in our community to

Discover and Share in the generous love of God

The reach of the PCC extends beyond those actively participating in the church or the Christian community, encompassing all residents within the parish.

The PCC remit described in the report section headed Structure, Governance and Management ensures that St Peter's is effectively administered and maintained, safeguarding its physical resources and financial stability for the benefit of both the present congregation and generations to come.

Importantly, the reach of the PCC is not limited solely to those who are actively involved in church services or form part of the Christian community - the Council's responsibilities encompass all residents living within the parish. By extending its care and oversight to everyone in the local area, the PCC affirms its commitment to serving

the wider community, reflecting the inclusive and welcoming ethos that is central to St Peter's mission.

Working in close partnership with Amber, our Vicar, the PCC addresses matters of general concern and significance throughout the parish. This stewardship is fundamental to advancing the church's mission and ensuring that St Peter's remains both a welcoming and functional venue for worship as well as a hub for community gatherings.

A primary responsibility of the PCC is to promote the Christian Gospel within the St Peter's parish. This task covers the entirety of the church's mission, including pastoral care, evangelistic outreach, social engagement and involvement in ecumenical activities. The PCC is dedicated to cultivating an inclusive approach to ministry that delivers benefits to the broader parish community.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC strives to welcome as many people as possible to worship at St Peter's and to encourage their involvement in the church community. The Council oversees all aspects of worship, providing guidance to ensure that services are supportive, inclusive, and uplifting. Faith is expressed in practice through prayer, the reading of scripture, music, and the celebration of sacraments.

In planning its annual activities, the PCC takes into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, particularly the supplementary advice for charities advancing religion. The Council is committed to enabling everybody to practise their faith as part of the parish community by focusing on the following areas:

Worship and prayer, fostering opportunities to learn about the Gospel and to develop knowledge and trust in Jesus.

Providing pastoral care for all residents within the parish.

Engaging in mission and outreach work to serve the wider community.

Vision and Values

In January, at our first Holy Communion service of 2025, we were blessed with Bishop Philip's presence. He "launched" the publication of St Peter's Vision and Values statements. They relate to our

Welcome to all,

Acceptance of all,

Care for all,

Inspiration from and to all

and the Transformation that that we may all receive.

During the year these Values were described in more detail – Amber preached on each of them over a five-week period between Easter and Pentecost and there have been other times when they have been included in themes in our preaching.

We have been struck by how all those involved with St Peter's, whether regular members of our congregation or not, live out these values. Though we are all different, when it comes to supporting and promoting the life of St Peter's, it seems that we all behave as one. We find this truly inspiring. So many people play their part willingly and joyfully and we are so very grateful to all who commit themselves to making St Peter's the vibrant worshipping community that it is.

Special consideration has been and must continue to be given to our Mission objectives relating to young people, parents and families and those who may be isolated. Examples are the formation of the Ropley Youth Group, Minecraft Church (possibly a first!) and Explorer Church.

There is much more to do of course – we can never sit back and say, "job done". We need to carry on living out our Values and to find new, engaging ways to bring the Word of God to all.

Our Church This Year
Report of The Churchwardens

In 2025 we worked to enhance initiatives started in 2024. We did this to provide even stronger governance and to introduce a greater level of detail to our activities and responsibilities.

The PCC discussed many aspects of the "formal" part of church life, resulting in discussion about our wonderful events, mission initiatives, action relating to data protection, matters of finance and fabric, health & safety, policy development, the upkeep of our wonderful grounds, the bells and more. You name it, we talked about it!

There are individuals on the PCC who are focal points in areas such as finance, copyright law, data protection and so on. Our Safeguarding Officer , Wilma Hainsworth, provides us with an expert overview of all matters relating to safeguarding. The Church Wardens need to have an overview of most aspects of St Peter's operation so that the church and its worship run smoothly.

Elsewhere we've noted that so many do so much for St Peter's. There are innumerable examples of this individual and collective dedication, just some of them being:

- the determination to catalogue and photograph every grave in the churchyard;
- the creation of a simple wooden surface to ensure the cross stands securely –atop the pillar behind the altar;
- the careful stewardship of our finances;
- the provision of beautiful flower arrangements;
- the care taken to keep the churchyard looking its best and to promote Creation;
- a bell-ringing team delighted by having a full peal;
- the generous sharing of expertise and time by local residents;
- the constant vigilance that ensures the smooth and efficient running of the building;
- the dedication shown in keeping everybody informed though our various communication channels;
- the unfailing hospitality provided through coffee, tea and biscuits;
- the provision of an effective sound system;
- the remarkable generosity shown by members of our community in reducing our Diocesan loan;
- the range and quality of our music for worship and the community;
- the creative and professional management of events (who can forget the wonderful Ropley King's Singers events, the Jane Austen Songbook, the Christmas Tree Festival or our fantastic tea concerts!) –
- and the continued commitment to maintaining every aspect of church life with care, skill, and enthusiasm.

Although we are a charity, having all the attendant formal and legal responsibilities that brings, as our leader Amber also has the care of the spiritual life and health of all of us. It's a "24/7" role, even when she is not formally fulfilling her responsibilities. She carries out these duties with love, care and commitment to all of us, both as individuals and the whole community of Ropley - and beyond. Working with her is a joy as the qualities she demonstrates are infectious and inspiring. We feel blessed to be able to be part of her vision and to share in her imagination and devotion to God.

A significant part of what the PCC did in 2025 centred on preparing for the "Archdeacon's Visitation" – the first since lockdown. The Archdeacon or Area Dean will visit us to find out how well we are operating. We have been assured that it will not be an audit! The pre-visit questionnaire lists 73 areas of activity, asking questions relating to where we keep our registers; who holds keys to the building; what policies are in place relating to safeguarding, the environment, data protection; do we have an operational hearing loop etc.

We have nearly completed detailed responses to all the questions, including one which specifically relates to the “Care for Clergy Covenant”. This document asked PCC members to discuss what we already do and can do to help and support Amber and her family and we take this duty very seriously.

There is a sentence in the book “Celtic Morning Prayer” that reads, “We pray that God would send us the workers of his choice rather than our trying to advertise to get people to help us. That is, not to advertise but simply to pray that God will send those of His choice.” Here at St Peter’s we feel that God has sent us those of His choice. Indeed, as Bryce, our wonderful Assistant Priest often says, God will not ask you to do anything you are incapable of doing.

We are so very grateful to all who commit their time and talent to making St. Peter’s the vibrant worshipping community that it is. **— Sue Thomas & Greville Dawson**

Children and young people at St Peter’s

We continue to offer a “stepping stones” model of church for children and young people which provides fellowship and fun at each age and stage! All volunteers undertake DBS checks and safeguarding training.

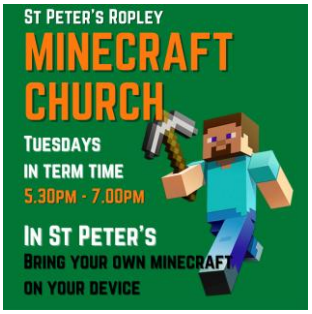
Pre-school

Our community room, stocked with toys, is used throughout the week by parents and carers. The toddler’s music group Mini Crotchets, run by Joya Logan, takes place in St Peter’s on Thursday mornings supported by coffee and biscuits served by members of St Peter’s church community.

Ropley CofE Primary School

Amber takes collective worship at Ropley Primary School once a week and pupils, staff and families have come into St Peter’s for special services, performances and celebrations throughout the year. As usual, we presented year 6 leavers with Bibles at the end of the summer term with our prayers and good wishes for the transition to secondary school.

Minecraft church



Minecraft church meets every Tuesday evening in term time. A parent described Minecraft Church as “making God accessible and engaging to the youngsters” while another spoke of “a wonderful term at Minecraft church”. We have had a stable year with high retention and engagement among Minecraft church attendees. This year we’ve journeyed on build missions around the 'I am' statements of Jesus, Paul’s mission and the story of

David. A major innovation has been the inclusion of Duplo Church activity to engage younger mission builders (and a few older ones too) with special thanks to Julia Morgan for leading on this. The new fast WiFi also promises to be a game changer allowing more devices to get online at the same time so unlocking further growth potential. Minecraft church is interesting in terms of who is attending. By way of example, on 10th February we had 37 people attend, of whom 22 were primary school age and younger (3 girls and 19 boys) and 15 were adults (11 women and 4 men). Most children and adults attending Minecraft Church (around 80%) are new to church. This is a perhaps our own experience of the "quiet revival" which has evidenced an increased interest in the Bible across the UK across all generations but most notably in the younger ones.

Events and activities for families



3 — Craft at Easter

Our Crafty Easter and Crafty Advent Saturday mornings have been as popular as ever, as was the Light Party on 2nd November. It was wonderful to see so many at the Christingle service on Christmas Eve. For families who attend regular services, there is Explorer Church in the coffee room providing age-appropriate learning and activities for part of the service.

Ropley Youth Group for ages 11-18 started in 2025 meets every term time Sunday evening for games, activities, craft and pizza. Highlights in 2025 included sock hockey inside the church, tie-dye outside the church, a games evening, murder mystery and the transformation of St Peter's into an escape room.

Youth Alpha and Confirmation Classes – six young people have been confirmed following two youth alpha courses at St Peter's. Youth alpha offers an opportunity to talk about Jesus and faith and ask questions.

Sarah Earthy & Toby Beresford

Ropley CE Primary School

2025 was a wonderful year for our relationship with Ropley Primary School. We saw many wonderful performances take place in the church, and we were blessed to be able to use the Church space for dance PE lessons for years four and five as well. We

were blessed to welcome many of the children in for services at Easter, Year 6 Leavers, Harvest and Christmas.

At Ropley Primary, at the start of the new academic year, we launched our new Christian values, working closely with the staff and School leadership. Our new Christian Ropley School values are, love, courage, and community. Each of these values has three Bible stories that the children will learn and be able to recall.

I continue to visit the school every week for collective worship and I hope one day we will be able to have a team that brings that collective worship to the pupils, for example perhaps a Bible story telling group.

The PCC continue to provide two foundation governors on the governing body, this year we were sad to see Sue Packenham-Walsh step down as governor, she has played a vital role in Church and School links and has been a brilliant and hard working member of the governing body. We have also seen Isobel Pinder take up one of the foundational governor's roles, after Kerriann stepped down last year. We are very blessed to have Isobel bring her knowledge and insights to this role.



4 — Kelly Betteridge, Bishop of Basingstoke with Ropley Schoolchildren

We are so grateful for our School and Mr Mills and all the teachers' care and dedication to the children of Ropley, Bishop's Sutton and surrounding villages. Ropley Church of England Primary is the most incredible place for our future generations to learn and grow. Finally, huge thanks go to all the children who have taught us and bless us with much wisdom, imagination and inspiration over the last year.

Report by Revd. Amber Beresford

Deanery Synod

This year at Deanery Synod we have had an interesting set of speakers. We had Steel's Funeral Directors in to speak about the various changes in culture at funerals and the upsurge in unattended cremations. We also had our own benefice LLM Gillian Gray Knight speak about rural chaplaincy, combined with Sam Scott speaking about rural poverty and food poverty generally in this generation.

We continue as a Deanery to support Kihebo Diocese in Rwanda, and our Ropley Primary School children are looking to be penfriends with a school in that diocese.

A huge thanks goes to Christine Drewienkiewicz who has taken up the role off Deanery Synod Representative, after the wonderful Keith Monkhouse and Humphrey Carr stepped down last year. Keith and Humphrey served diligently for many years and supported the church at a Deanery level. Now the baton has been fully handed over Christine, who has been a great addition to discussions and will continue reporting back to the PCC about what happens at Deanery Synod.

Discussions continue in Alresford Deanery about working together as vicars and parishes to support one another in ministry. As Assistant Area Dean, I am blessed to be able to be part of discussions to see how every parish and vicar in the deanery can be part of supporting ministry as a whole.

Revd. Amber Beresford

Faith and Generosity

Some sections of this Annual Report refer to “stewardship,” a term that on occasion will lead to discussion focused mainly on financial giving. In 2025, however, the Diocese introduced a broader mission initiative: “Faith and Generosity”.

To help the PCC understand this development, Rev. Georgi Thompson Leask, the newly appointed Diocesan Faith and Generosity Adviser, attended its September meeting. Tim Wettone, our Stewardship Lead, was also in attendance.

Georgi explained that the Diocesan approach to giving is now framed more widely around Faith and Generosity, recognising that generosity in its broadest sense is a key expression of Christian discipleship.

Of course financial giving remains an important way in which St. Peter’s work is supported, but the new initiative encourages a fuller understanding of generosity — including the offering of time, skills, money, service and active participation in the life of the Church and its community.

Sue Thomas & Greville Dawson

Safeguarding Report

As Parish Safeguarding Officer, (PSO) I would like to start this report with Safeguarding matters pertaining to the National Church, as these have had far-reaching consequences for all members during 2025.

After initially resisting calls to step down on national safeguarding issues, Archbishop Justin Welby GCVO resigned as Archbishop of Canterbury and left this role on his 69th birthday, 6th January, 2025. He stated that the Makin Review exposed the long-maintained conspiracy of silence about the heinous abuses of John Smyth QC. He stated that it was very clear that he must take personal and institutional responsibility for the long and retraumatising period between 2013- 2024.

On 2nd October 2025, HM The King approved the nomination of the Bishop of London, the Rt. Revd & Rt. Hon. Dame Sarah Mullally. She will be the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury and she will be the first woman to hold this office. Her Confirmation of Election will be in January 2026 with a Service of Installation taking place at Canterbury Cathedral in March 2026.

Alas, Synod continues to struggle with Professor Jay's sound recommendations in placing operational safeguarding as an independent body. Synod has taken the first small step in allowing scrutiny to be outsourced.

I'm delighted to say, that on matters locally, St. Peter's Church, Ropley goes from strength to strength in promoting and maintaining safe practice and it strives to provide a safe environment for all who participate in Church life.

As PSO, I attend meetings of the PCC, deliver a report and I am readily available to deal with any concerns. The safeguarding records had a recent audit undertaken by the 2 Wardens. The Vicar, the Revd. Amber, and I work closely together and we take guidance, when appropriate, from the Diocesan team.

The Vicar and the PCC actively promote youth work, youth mission and youth activities and all adult volunteers are closely vetted and have undertaken safeguarding training. Certification from The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has been appropriately complied with. The talented volunteers in this area display a variety of skills, including technological mastery, and are greatly valued.

In relation to CofE safeguarding training, very good news on that front, 48 (yes forty-eight) members of our congregation, spanning across all groups and activities, have successfully completed the official CofE safeguarding courses. I give warm thanks to all those who participated in this. DBS certification requirements to specific volunteer roles are appropriately compliant.

Risk Assessments (RA) on Church activities and events are well under way and are being implemented. Two additional policy documents have been specifically highlighted this year for safe practice, 1) The Volunteers Code of Conduct (The CofE Code of Safer Working Practice) and 2) the Lone Worker's Policy. Both policies are in circulation for volunteers and are used within activities and events.

There was a recent national data breach which affected 7 members of our congregation. A cyber-attack resulted in information taken from DBS application forms being compromised. This breach was officially reported by the Warden and myself to the Commissioner's Office. In response to the breach, The National Church funded the Credit and Web Monitoring Service, for one year's subscription, for those affected.

There was one safeguarding concern officially recorded. Our RAs have been tightened up and the Family Room is now exclusively restricted to young children under the age of 5 and their parents/guardians during Church Services. Clear routes to raise concern are known and are clearly covered in the safeguarding training. Of course, not every concern reaches the threshold of vulnerability and the Vicar and myself deal with any issues in a sensitive and sensible manner.

Safeguarding Sunday in November was duly promoted in Church with a short update on safeguarding matters and a prayer, including the words…

> "We pray for all those who have suffered hurt and harm within the family of the wider Church,
>
> For those who feel trapped… grant them a way of escape,
>
> For those in pain, bring comfort and healing,
>
> For those who seek justice, may they have courage and strength.
>
> As a National Church, we are one body and if one part suffers, every part suffers with it."

I give heartfelt thanks to members of the congregation who have supported me in carrying out this role, as PSO, in my own style.

Wilma Hainsworth, Parish Safeguarding Officer - January 2026

Music In St Peter's

St Peter's resounded with music in 2025. We have one resident choir – St Peter's Choir. Our local community choir, The Ropley King's Singers also rehearses and performs in the church. Also as part of the St Peter's Events programme, we have been treated to many and varied concerts including the Pilgrims' School Chamber Choir, a Jane Austen concert, Come and Sing Messiah and two Community Tea concerts featuring oboe, violin and cor anglais. It has been wonderful to work with Peter Gritton and Joya Logan,

fabulous performers and enablers of the music life of the church and who have provided musical inspiration and much support during the year.



5 — Peter Gritton Conducting

St Peter's choir numbers around 25 singers. We have two short Friday evening choir practices and sing at one Sunday service in the month. The choir has steadily grown in numbers and in skill. We have confident singers in all parts (although could always do with more tenors!) and have tackled a variety of anthems both accompanied and unaccompanied. The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at Christmas attracted even more singers with around 40 taking part.

The Ropley King's Singers, the community choir, is invited to sing in two concerts a year – summer and Christmas. The summer concert was based around Purcell's "Come Ye Sons of Art Away" followed by lighter summer fare and interspersed with readings. In the Christmas concert, we celebrated the birthday of John Rutter amongst other sacred pieces and once again there were lighter pieces and humorous readings from members of the choir.

Huge thanks to Alison Wood, Sue Thomas and Alan Parsonson, who help with the day-to-day running of both of the choirs and provide valuable advice on all matters both musical and non-musical and also to St Peter's Music and Events team, led by Jules Flory, who organise and run our fantastic concert series.

Alison Benton, Organist and Director of Music

Website

The Benefice website ropleybenefice.church provides the primary online information resource for St Peter's and the rest of the Benefice. It complements other online resources such as our Events website (*stpetersropleyvenue.org.uk*), the Benefice Google Calendar which lists all services, and Facebook, all of which are linked from the website.

The website contains a comprehensive History section with extensive image galleries from before, during and after the fire as well as images capturing the rebuilding. The image galleries were extensively revised during 2025 to provide greater ease of use and add many photos taken during PCC visits during the rebuilding which extend the galleries significantly.

Ron Beal

Events and Lettings

Events



6 — One of our Fantastic Concerts



7 — The Christmas Tree Festival

Events & Lettings continue to be a major source of income for St Peter's. In 2025 we raised over £16K from Events.

The Events Team is working to more of an official rhythm and taking care to offer a variety of events attracting all members of our community. They are also aware of the balance between availability of our busy St Peter's, energy of the Team, and the loyalty of our supporters.

Our website continues to work well for us, and we now have a membership of nearly 500 recipients. We use this as a booking tool as well as to advertise upcoming events and send out periodic newsletters. For the most part, this seems to be a popular and easy way of booking and many of our events are sell outs!

2025 continued to offer the popular Tea and RKS Concerts and our first "Supperclub" and "Come and Sing". The largest event of the year was the inaugural Christmas Tree Festival. Whilst this involved a great deal of preparation, it attracted sponsors and visitors over three days and had a great community atmosphere. One offs were a visit from the Pilgrims' School Chamber Choir and the Jane Austen Songbook.

Thanks must go to all the volunteers and PCC who turn up to assist us with stacking chairs, laying out tables, building stages, sweeping floors, cleaning loos, scrubbing kitchen and generally moving furniture. We could not do it without you all.

Lettings

Most of our lettings are now repeats or come by word of mouth. As St Peter's becomes busier from regular use, there is a limit as to what we can offer so we do not initiate any advertising on this front. However, the Lettings for 2025 did bring in a total of over £5,000. As this area has grown, discussion has started around the management of Lettings which will be pursued in 2026.

Jules Flory

Our Church Building



8 — This is how the bells go in...

It's difficult to believe that we are into our fourth year since the reopening of the church, but it is good to see St Peter's being used for so many different activities. Time and use take their toll on all things, and the church is no exception. The maintenance team have been kept busy this year with the increasing amount of repairs and replacements, as have the garden team with keeping the graveyard cut, the addition of some hedges and the trimming back of others. With our changing climate keeping the new hedges watered was a major task in the earlier part of the summer so, a little too late for all of the watering unfortunately, we installed a tap at the lower end of the graveyard.

Aside from the continuing maintenance a few large milestones were also achieved in 2025. The bells finally returned to St Peter's. One bell is still being recast but

there is a hired one in its place, so the full peal of six bells is there.



9 — Our Newly Resurfaced Paths

The graveyard also saw a major upgrade to the paths around the church with all of them being resurfaced and edged. Whilst that was being done, we also supplied power to the gates so that we could replace the lights that had been there. The incoming power was also changed from the dual split phase that was installed when the church was rebuilt to a single phase which resulted in a considerable saving in standing charges.

In all, the ongoing maintenance of the church and graveyard is a significant undertaking, and the time and support given by the many volunteers is greatly appreciated.

Andy Bonner

Report from the Gardening Team

The Churchyard gardeners are currently five in number with two more having expressed an interest in joining the team. We meet on Tuesday Mornings (weather permitting) from10:00 – 12:30.



10 — A well-earned tea break

2025 has been a busy year for us, keeping the grass under control in the 2.3-acre churchyard, together with planting trees and hedging plants made possible following a grant from East Hants District Council. The drought earlier in the year challenged us as we had to transport water by hand from the church to the hedging plants and trees. Purchasing a hose was very much appreciated.

The paths have been given a new tarmac surface, lighting added and a tap installed for the use of people tending graves and the Gardening Team. This has proved to be a welcome addition — with thanks to Quentin Sandell, Andy Bonner and Gavin Henderson. The Bramble hedge along the border of the current burial and cremated remains plot has been removed and replaced with further hedging plants. This will allow easier access for disabled — with thanks to Ian Hainsworth.

Training for new volunteers will be ongoing in Safeguarding, Health and Safety, appropriate use of personal protective equipment and the Church's policy on lone working.

- Tasks for the future include:
- Making good the surface of the parking area and thanks to Alex and Alex for their hard work in moving the scalpings into potholes.
- An online diary, recording the flora and fauna seen in the churchyard.
- Care of hedging plants, replacing those that did not survive the winter.
- Tidy and re seed the area of the original site of the Box Tomb.

Sincere thanks to all who have given of their time and out in all weathers, working in St Peters Churchyard to provide a place where the bereaved may visit the graves of their loved ones.

New members are welcome.

Barbara Pettegree

Creation Care

In our 2024 annual report, we affirmed St Peter's commitment to pursuing sustainable and climate-friendly operations as part of our responsibility to care for creation. Creation Care goes beyond being a simple initiative. It encourages us to be thankful "for this small earth of sea and land, for this small space on which we stand". It is a guiding principle that encourages us not only to improve our stewardship of the planet – God's creation, but also to equip ourselves with practical tools to influence both our own behaviours and those of others. By highlighting straightforward actions, we aim to make meaningful contributions towards environmental sustainability.

Throughout 2025, we focused on strengthening St Peter's position in this area of our mission. We undertook a review of our practices to determine what actions we could

and should be taking. One significant outcome was the PCC's approval of our Environment Policy. This document now serves as a foundation for our ongoing efforts.

In response to recommendations from the Energy Audit conducted in May 2024, we implemented a practical measure by insulating previously unlagged hot water pipes in the plant room. While this action involved minimal cost and resulted in only modest reductions to our carbon footprint, it demonstrated our determination to take whatever steps we can to reduce the environmental impact of our operations.

We sought input from the Diocesan Communications Team, sharing our ideas and receiving positive suggestions for further progress. In addition, our participation in Diocesan seminars on Creation Care provided us with valuable insights and inspiration for future initiatives.

Towards the end of the year, we embraced a recommendation from a questionnaire submitted to A Rocha, which was part of our application for our Bronze "Eco Church" award. We agreed to participate in the "Toilet Twinning" scheme with Uganda and South Sudan. This initiative involves twinning our two toilets by funding projects that help communities build basic toilets, access clean water and learn about hygiene - a vital combination that saves lives.

In the coming year, we are committed to taking further practical steps to implement some of the initiatives we have been considering, building on the progress made so far and continuing our journey towards greater environmental stewardship.

Greville Dawson

Flower Arranging in St Peter's



11 — a spectacular arrangement

The St Peter's Flower Ladies have had a busy year! We are a group of eight and have arranged flowers in St. Peter's every week with the exception of Advent and Lent. At Easter, Harvest and Christmas we enjoy all joining together to make the Church look magnificent, usually decorating both porches and the windowsills!

Increasingly we are being asked to provide flowers for weddings, funerals and special events in St. Peter's, which is an enormous compliment. We are all volunteers and any profit arising from what we do goes to St. Peter's.

We were delighted to be a sponsor for one of the Christmas Trees in the Christmas Tree Festival held in December using the theme of The Flower Fairies

following a Thank-You card which we were given from one of the children attending Explorer Church.

We gather together for a coffee morning through the year to discuss ideas and future plans. We are committed to reducing our use of floral foam ('Oasis'), because of its environmental impact and all recently attended a demonstration on alternatives to foam, which the Ropley Horticultural Society arranged in the Coffee Room. We will look to develop these techniques further as time goes on.

Christine Drewienkiewicz and Jill Shakespeare

Tower Report for 2025



12 — Wow, that bell is bigger than me!

What a year! We have our bells back, well we have five with a loaned bell. With the grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund we were able to start the re-hanging. The ringers had hoped to have the bells on show in church and have a dedication service, but it did not happen due to a number of reasons. On a Thursday evening the workmen stayed late so we could have a four-bell practice. It started well, then the fourth bell sounded strange. No one was sure what the problem was. It turned out that it was cracked. It is due to be re-cast this year thanks to the generosity of a lot of people. We have a bell on loan in its place.

Before we had any bells back we advertised for people to learn to ring. A number came forward and started to learn at Old Alresford and Cheriton. Learning to handle a bell

takes time, one cannot just pull a rope. There are ten regular ringers. We could do with some more willing to learn or even come back to ringing.



13 — Everybody welcome to have a go!

All adults are very welcome to become bell ringers – and all children over 10 who meet the necessary height requirement. For more information contact Rodney Skinner or email Ropley bellringers: ropley@bellringing.co.uk

The Alresford deanery have regular learners practices which people can go to.

Last July the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild of Bell ringers held the A.G.M. here to much acclaim. We have had a number of open days for locals to come and see what we do and even have a go.

I would also like to thank the P.C.C. of Bishops Sutton for the use of their bells during the time we had none. It helped to keep the band together. We go and ring for their Evensong, which we are thanked for.

Lastly, we must thank Roger Booth from Alresford for all the hard work he has done in getting the grant, helping to teach and many other things. Without his help the bells would not be back.

Rodney Skinner

Treasurers Report 2024

I am pleased to present this year's Treasurer's Report, reflecting a period of steady financial stewardship, generous personal commitment from our congregation and parishioners, and focus on long term sustainability. The past year has brought both challenges and opportunities, and I am grateful for the dedication, and practical support that have enabled us to maintain a healthy financial position while continuing the mission and ministry of our parish.

Income and Giving

Our overall income into the Unrestricted funds this year has remained strong at £86,843 (net of Event Costs) with 72% of this funding coming from personal giving, as follows:

- Parish Giving Scheme £32,344
- Monthly Donations £6,515
- Collections £7,852
- Other Donations £2,351
- Gift Aid £11,817

This level of support is a testament to the commitment of our church family. At a time when many parishes face declining attendance and reduced giving, our congregation has demonstrated extraordinary generosity.

Alongside regular giving, we have also benefited from lettings and fundraising events. These additional sources represent a valuable source of our total income and provide supplementary support and help diversify our financial base while, at the same time, ensuring the building is used for a wide range of community gatherings.

Expenditure and Financial Management

Our expenditure has remained broadly in line with expectations. Core costs—such as the Common Mission Fund, utilities, insurance, and routine maintenance—will continue to rise, reflecting wider economic pressures. Despite this, careful budgeting and prudent decision making have ensured that we remained within our overall planned spending limits in the year.

The PCC has monitored expenditure closely, seeking value for money in all areas and ensuring that every pound spent contributes meaningfully to the life and mission of the parish. We have also continued to prioritise essential works particularly in relation to the fabric of and the equipment in our church building.

Loan Reduction

One of the most significant developments in the year has been the significant reduction of our outstanding loan. In addition to realising £12,500 of investments, we have seen unprecedented generosity from parishioners who between them donated £57,700 specifically for repayment of our loan with the Diocese. With Gift Aid and regular monthly repayment instalments we have repaid £104,000 of loan capital to reduce the loan balance outstanding to £75,638. This has enabled our monthly instalments to be reduced to a much more manageable level.

Reserves and Reserve Policy

Our reserve policy has been maintained throughout the year, ensuring that we hold an appropriate level of unrestricted reserves to provide financial stability and resilience. These reserves act as a safeguard against unexpected costs or fluctuations in income and are an essential part of responsible financial governance.

In addition to our general reserves, we continue to hold designated reserves for ongoing restoration and fabric work.

Restoration and Fabric Projects

This year has seen continued progress in our long term restoration efforts. While some projects have been small and preventative, others have required more substantial investment. The footpaths have been completely re-surfaced and the Bell Restoration project is nearing completion with both being funded from existing resources together with some generous individual donations and grants.

Looking ahead, we anticipate costs will arise to ensure that our equipment and facilities remain welcoming and safe for all who use them. The existence of dedicated reserves gives us confidence that we can approach these projects responsibly and sustainably.

Looking Forward

As we move into the coming year, our financial priorities remain clear: to sustain our ministry, care for our building, and continue reducing our loan while maintaining a stable reserve position. Achieving this will require continued generosity, careful stewardship, and a shared commitment to the life of our parish.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who contributes financially and practically to the work of our church. Your support enables us not only to meet our obligations but also to grow in mission and service. I am also grateful to the PCC and all who assist with counting, banking, support, and administration. Their diligence and dedication make this work possible.

I am confident that in 2026 we can build on the progress so far and continue to strengthen the financial foundations of our parish for the future.

Alan Parsonson

Approved By The Parochial Church Council & Signed On Their Behalf By PCC Chair

Rev'd Amber Beresford
PCC Chair
Date: 10 May 2026

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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 charity 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.

L Chapman ACA

Dated:

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	134,313	40,012	**174,325**	*150,561*
Charitable activities	3	39,726	0	**39,726**	*26,119*
Investment income	4	0	1,288	**1,288**	*1,169*
Total income and endowments		174,039	41,300	**215,339**	*177,849*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	95,773	7,503	**103,276**	*86,245*
Church restorations	6	0	84,123	**84,123**	*76,437*
Total expenditure		95,773	91,626	**187,399**	*162,682*
Net gains/(losses) on investments		0	(833)	**(833)**	*689*
Net income/(expenditure)		78,266	(51,159)	**27,107**	*15,856*
Transfers between funds	7	12,500	(12,500)	**0**	*0*
Net movement in funds		90,766	(63,659)	**27,107**	*15,856*
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2025		(101,298)	124,209	**22,911**	*7,055*
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2025		(10,532)	60,550	**50,018**	*22,911*

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The equivalent statement for the previous year is shown in Note 16.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Fixed Assets					
Investments	8	0	17,408	**17,408**	*23,897*
Current Assets					
Debtors	9	2,334	12,960	**15,294**	*18,721*
Cash at bank and in hand		68,360	36,166	**104,526**	*168,816*
		70,694	49,126	**119,820**	*187,537*
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	15,921	5,984	**21,905**	*28,888*
Net current assets		54,773	43,142	**97,915**	*158,649*
Total assets less current liabilities		54,773	60,550	**115,323**	*182,546*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	65,305	0	**65,305**	*159,635*
Net assets		(10,532)	60,550	**50,018**	*22,911*
Funds	12				
Unrestricted funds				**(10,532)**	*(101,298)*
Restricted funds				**60,550**	*124,209*
Total funds				**50,018**	*22,911*

The financial statements were approved by the PCC on 2026 and signed on its behalf by:-

Rev A Beresford - Trustee

1 **Accounting policies**

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

There are no material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to the sufficient cash balances held at the year end.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered or receivable subject to conditions, which have not been met at the year end date, are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure or income.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in Note 14 of the financial statements.

Income and endowments from:

2 **Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Planned giving (including Gift Day)	64,215	1,465	**65,680**	*8,043*
Golden giving	0	461	**461**	*783*
Collections at services	7,852	0	**7,852**	*5,970*
Parish giving scheme	32,344	0	**32,344**	*30,445*
Youth club	1,259	0	**1,259**	*0*
Gift aid recovered (including Gift Day)	26,242	2,421	**28,663**	*15,389*
Bells and paths donations	0	10,541	**10,541**	*0*
Other donations (including contactless)	2,351	1,438	**3,789**	*4,724*
Flower donations	0	580	**580**	*1,354*
Grants:-				
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (VAT)	0	7,104	**7,104**	*10,655*
Friends of St Peter's Church, Ropley	0	2,300	**2,300**	*6,010*
Alresford Pigs Association	0	750	**750**	*800*
Alton Rotary	0	1,000	**1,000**	*0*
Ropley Society	0	500	**500**	*0*
WDBF	0	500	**500**	*0*
Benefact Trust	0	2,000	**2,000**	*0*
Winchester Bell Ringers	0	2,300	**2,300**	*0*
National Lottery Heritage Fund	0	6,229	**6,229**	*56,058*
Portsmouth Guild of Bell Ringers	0	0	**0**	*10,000*
Commonwealth War Graves	50	0	**50**	*50*
Other income	0	423	**423**	*280*
	134,313	40,012	**174,325**	*150,561*

3 **Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Events	30,326	0	**30,326**	*16,853*
Lettings	6,396	0	**6,396**	*4,433*
PCC's share of fees for weddings, funerals etc	3,004	0	**3,004**	*4,833*
	39,726	0	**39,726**	*26,119*

4 **Investment income**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Deposit account interest	0	664	**664**	671
Dividends received	0	624	**624**	480
Other interest received	0	0	**0**	18
	0	1,288	**1,288**	1,169

Expenditure on:

5 **Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Common Mission Fund	30,557	0	**30,557**	*26,246*
Church running expenses:-				
Insurance	3,802	0	**3,802**	*3,663*
Electricity	7,437	0	**7,437**	*2,310*
Gas	5,980	0	**5,980**	*5,363*
Water	101	0	**101**	*0*
Telephone and broadband	636	0	**636**	*575*
Maintenance	8,153	0	**8,153**	*9,758*
Printing and stationery	841	0	**841**	*253*
Administrator	9,040	0	**9,040**	*6,418*
Upkeep of services	3,181	0	**3,181**	*1,442*
Kids church	150	0	**150**	*598*
Events costs	15,071	0	**15,071**	*8,586*
Letting costs	190	0	**190**	*0*
Miscellaneous expenses:	115	0	**115**	*1,220*
Cleaning	2,880	0	**2,880**	*2,730*
Music costs	0	99	**99**	*0*
Garden costs:-				
Flowers	0	441	**441**	*1,065*
Maintenance	0	234	**234**	*644*
Petrol	0	366	**366**	*282*
War memorial	0	1,013	**1,013**	*0*
Repair and removal of box tomb	0	2,840	**2,840**	*0*
Move headstones	0	936	**936**	*0*
Other	0	1,574	**1,574**	*0*
Shed	0	0	**0**	*9,582*
Charitable giving:-				
Royal British Legion	478	0	**478**	*489*
Children's Society	373	0	**373**	*0*
The Ropley Fund	80	0	**80**	*80*
Independent examiner's fees	100	0	**100**	*100*
Loan interest	6,608	0	**6,608**	*4,841*
	95,773	7,503	**103,276**	*86,245*

6 **Church restorations**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Church restorations	0	3,229	**3,229**	*1,002*
Bells restorations	0	45,211	**45,211**	*74,114*
Footpaths	0	33,099	**33,099**	*1,200*
Other church repairs and maintenance	0	2,584	**2,584**	*121*
	0	84,123	**84,123**	*76,437*

7 **Transfer between funds**

During the year, some of the restricted funds were deemed to be unnecessary to maintain, as the original purposes could no longer be served, or there were surplus funds in them. As a result, these funds were transferred to Unrestricted Funds and used to reduce the WDBF loan.

8 **Fixed assets - Listed Investments**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Market value				
At 1 January 2025	0	23,897	**23,897**	*23,040*
Dividends received	0	624	**624**	*480*
Dividends transferred to bank account	0	(280)	**(280)**	*(312)*
Funds withdrawn	0	(6,000)	**(6,000)**	*0*
Net loss/gain on investments	0	(833)	**(833)**	*689*
At 31 December 2025	0	17,408	**17,408**	*23,897*

9 **Debtors**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**2025 £**	*2024 £*
Grant recoverable (VAT)	0	1,330	**1,330**	*4,135*
Other Grants recoverable	0	8,229	**8,229**	*0*
Gift aid recoverable	834	1,409	**2,243**	*303*
Prepayments and accrued income	1,500	1,992	**3,492**	*14,283*
	2,334	12,960	**15,294**	*18,721*

10 **Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**2025**	*2024*
	£	£	**£**	*£*
Trade creditors	905	277	**1,182**	*1,916*
Loan from WDBF (see note below)	10,333	0	**10,333**	*20,070*
Accruals and deferred income	4,683	5,707	**10,390**	*6,902*
	15,921	5,984	**21,905**	*28,888*

A loan of £200,000 was previously received from the Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance (WDBF) on which no interest was initially payable. Repayments began in July 2024 and it is repayable over 96 months at a variable interest rate currently of 4.3% per annum. During 2025, substantial additional gifts were made to the church, mainly at a Gift Day, and these funds were used as additional payments to reduce the loan.The amount repayable over the next 12 months is shown here with the balance shown below in Note 11.

11 **Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**2025**	*2024*
	£	£	**£**	*£*
Loan from WDBF (see Note 10)	65,305	0	**65,305**	*159,635*

12 **Analysis of Funds - Current year**

	Funds brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers in/out	Funds carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	(101,298)	174,039	95,773	12,500	(10,532)
Restricted funds					
Appeal fund	32,838	3,633	29,468	(3,321)	3,682
Building fund	53,681	36,598	55,587	(3,364)	31,328
Church fabric fund	1,002	46	0	(1,048)	0
Music fund	7,651	407	0	(2,500)	5,558
Rosemary Bray memorial fund	2,169	98	0	(2,267)	0
Garden society fund	26,868	518	7,404	0	19,982
	124,209	41,300	92,459	(12,500)	60,550
Total funds	**22,911**	**215,339**	**188,232**	**0**	**50,018**

13 **Analysis of Funds - Previous year**

	Funds brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers in/out £	Funds carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	(119,546)	85,032	73,822	7,038	(101,298)
Restricted funds					
Appeal fund	32,210	3,916	850	(2,438)	32,838
Building fund	50,570	84,148	76,437	(4,600)	53,681
Church fabric fund	952	50	0	0	1,002
Music fund (previously Organ fund)	7,265	386	0	0	7,651
Rosemary Bray memorial fund	2,060	109	0	0	2,169
Garden society fund	33,544	5,065	11,741	0	26,868
	126,601	93,674	89,028	(7,038)	124,209
Total funds	**7,055**	**178,706**	**162,850**	**0**	**22,911**

14 **Purposes of funds**

Appeal Fund: This represents monies that are ring fenced for building related costs, and a small amount reserved for church music related costs.

Building fund: This represents funds for the restoration and rebuilding of the church.

Church fabric fund: This fund was closed during the year and used to reduce the WDBF loan.

Music fund: This fund is to develop the music facilities of the church. A recognised surplus of £2,500 was used to reduce the WDBF loan.

Rosemary Bray memorial fund: This fund was closed during the year and used to reduce the WDBF loan.

Garden society fund: The PCC is responsible for keeping the church grounds in good order. The funds for this activity are held in separate accounts and will be used solely for the original purposes of the society.

15 **Trustees**

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for either of the two years.

16 **Statement of Financial Activities - Previous year**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	58,895	91,666	**150,561**	*66,673*
Charitable activities	26,119	0	**26,119**	*54,136*
Investment income	18	1,151	**1,169**	*1,018*
Total income and endowments	85,032	92,817	**177,849**	*121,827*
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	73,822	12,591	**86,413**	*90,389*
Church restorations	0	76,437	**76,437**	*56,113*
Total expenditure	73,822	89,028	**162,850**	*146,502*
Net gains on investments	0	857	**857**	*2,284*
Net income/(expenditure)	11,210	4,646	**15,856**	*(22,391)*
Transfers between funds	7,038	(7,038)	**0**	*(1)*
Net movement in funds	18,248	(2,392)	**15,856**	*(22,392)*
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2024	(119,546)	126,601	**7,055**	*29,447*
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2024	(101,298)	124,209	**22,911**	*7,055*

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINC

England & Wales - Charity number 1176142

Accounts

Registered Charity No: 1176142

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF

ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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 charity 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.

L Chapman ACA

Dated: 31 March 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	58,895	91,666	**150,561**	*66,673*
Charitable activities	3	26,119	0	**26,119**	*54,136*
Investment income	4	18	1,151	**1,169**	*1,018*
Total income and endowments		85,032	92,817	**177,849**	*121,827*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	73,822	12,591	**86,413**	*90,389*
Church restorations	6	0	76,437	**76,437**	*56,113*
Total expenditure		73,822	89,028	**162,850**	*146,502*
Net gains on investments		0	857	**857**	*2,284*
Net income/(expenditure)		11,210	4,646	**15,856**	*(22,391)*
Transfers between funds	7	7,038	(7,038)	**0**	*(1)*
Net movement in funds		18,248	(2,392)	**15,856**	*(22,392)*
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2024		(119,546)	126,601	**7,055**	*29,447*
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2024		(101,298)	124,209	**22,911**	*7,055*

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The equivalent statement for the previous year is shown in Note 17.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Fixed Assets					
Investments	8	0	23,897	**23,897**	*23,040*
Current Assets					
Debtors	9	1,678	17,043	**18,721**	*132,092*
Cash at bank and in hand		77,745	91,071	**168,816**	*152,333*
		79,423	108,114	**187,537**	*284,425*
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	21,086	7,802	**28,888**	*100,410*
Net current assets		58,337	100,312	**158,649**	*184,015*
Total assets less current liabilities		58,337	124,209	**182,546**	*207,055*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	159,635	0	**159,635**	*200,000*
Net assets		(101,298)	124,209	**22,911**	*7,055*
Funds	12				
Unrestricted funds				**(101,298)**	*(119,546)*
Restricted funds				**124,209**	*126,601*
Total funds				**22,911**	*7,055*

The financial statements were approved by the PCC on 30 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:-

Rev A Beresford - Trustee

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINCHESTER

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

1 **Accounting policies**

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

There are no material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to the sufficient cash balance held as at 31st December 2024.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in Note 14 of the financial statements.

Income and endowments from:

2 **Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Planned giving	5,103	2,940	**8,043**	*4,448*
Golden giving	783	0	**783**	*0*
Collections at services	5,970	0	**5,970**	*7,059*
Parish giving scheme	30,445	0	**30,445**	*30,049*
Gift aid recovered	12,140	3,249	**15,389**	*10,622*
Other donations (including contactless)	4,124	600	**4,724**	*6,948*
Flower donations	0	1,354	**1,354**	*415*
Grants:-				
National Lottery Heritage Fund	0	56,058	**56,058**	*0*
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (VAT)	0	10,655	**10,655**	*0*
Portsmouth Guild of Bellringers	0	10,000	**10,000**	*0*
Friends of St Peter's Church, Ropley	0	6,010	**6,010**	*0*
Alresford Pigs Association	0	800	**800**	*0*
Alton and Petersfield Open Day	0	0	**0**	*3,625*
BP Energy	0	0	**0**	*1,000*
Winchester Bell Ringers	0	0	**0**	*683*
Guildford Bell Ringers	0	0	**0**	*578*
Commonwealth War Graves	50	0	**50**	*50*
Other income	280	0	**280**	*1,196*
	58,895	91,666	**150,561**	*66,673*

3 **Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Events	16,853	0	**16,853**	*26,206*
Lettings	4,433	0	**4,433**	*3,350*
PCC's share of fees for weddings, funerals etc	4,833	0	**4,833**	*6,853*
Sale of painting	0	0	**0**	*9,000*
Refund due to cancelled stained glass window	0	0	**0**	*6,687*
Other income	0	0	**0**	*2,040*
	26,119	0	**26,119**	*54,136*

4 **Investment income**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Deposit account interest	0	671	**671**	394
Dividends received	0	480	**480**	624
Other interest received	18	0	**18**	0
	18	1,151	**1,169**	1,018

Expenditure on:

5 **Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Common Mission Fund	26,246	0	**26,246**	*29,623*
Church running expenses:-				
Insurance	3,663	0	**3,663**	*3,872*
Electricity (less refund of £3,959)	2,310	0	**2,310**	*8,400*
Gas	5,363	0	**5,363**	*7,660*
Water	0	0	**0**	*250*
Telephone and broadband	575	0	**575**	*0*
Maintenance	8,908	850	**9,758**	*4,620*
Printing and stationery	253	0	**253**	*641*
Administrator	6,418	0	**6,418**	*0*
Upkeep of services	1,442	0	**1,442**	*1,831*
Kids church	598	0	**598**	*0*
Events costs	8,586	0	**8,586**	*11,368*
Miscellaneous expenses:	1,220	0	**1,220**	*8,574*
Cleaning	2,730	0	**2,730**	*2,192*
Garden costs:-				
Shed	0	9,582	**9,582**	*0*
Flowers	0	1,065	**1,065**	*24*
Maintenance	0	644	**644**	*0*
Petrol	0	282	**282**	*0*
Charitable giving:-				
Royal British Legion	489	0	**489**	*441*
The Ropley Fund	80	0	**80**	*0*
The Children's Society	0	0	**0**	*348*
Macmillan Cancer Support	0	0	**0**	*105*
The Bishop of Winchester's Ordination Fund	0	0	**0**	*533*
Trussell Trust	0	0	**0**	*280*
Jerusalem Trust refund (see note below)	0	0	**0**	*7,000*
Independent examiner's fees	100	0	**100**	*2,310*
Loan interest	4,841	0	**4,841**	*0*
Dividends reinvested	0	168	**168**	*317*
	73,822	12,591	**86,413**	*90,389*

The refund to the Jerusalem Trust in 2023 was due to the cancellation of the stained glass window, for which the grant was originally received.

6 **Church restorations**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Church restorations	0	1,002	**1,002**	*38,378*
Bells restoration	0	74,114	**74,114**	*0*
Footpaths	0	1,200	**1,200**	*0*
Car park expenses	0	0	**0**	*10,460*
Other church repairs and maintenance	0	121	**121**	*7,275*
	0	76,437	**76,437**	*56,113*

7 **Transfer between funds**

This represeentes £5,000 transferred from the Building Account as a contribution towards the WDBF loan repayment, £400 transferred from the Appeal Account to the Building Account as a contribution towards the cost of the footpaths, and £2,038 from the Appeal Account from Events that belong in the General Fund.

8 **Fixed assets - Listed Investments**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
Market value				
At 1 January 2024	0	23,040	**23,040**	*20,756*
Dividends received	0	480	**480**	*624*
Dividends transferred to bank account	0	(312)	**(312)**	*(307)*
Dividends reinvested	0	(168)	**(168)**	*(317)*
Revaluations	0	857	**857**	*2,284*
At 31 December 2024	0	23,897	**23,897**	*23,040*

9 **Debtors**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**2024 £**	*2023 £*
Grant receivable from WDBF	0	0	**0**	*114,500*
Grant recoverable (VAT)	0	4,135	**4,135**	*16,941*
Gift aid recoverable	178	125	**303**	*0*
Outstanding funeral fee	0	0	**0**	*493*
Prepayments and accrued income	1,500	12,783	**14,283**	*158*
	1,678	17,043	**18,721**	*132,092*

10 **Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**2024**	*2023*
	£	£	**£**	*£*
Trade creditors	916	1,000	**1,916**	*97,637*
Loan from WDBF (see note below)	20,070	0	**20,070**	*0*
Accruals and deferred income	100	6,802	**6,902**	*2,773*
	21,086	7,802	**28,888**	*100,410*

A loan of £200,000 was previously received from the Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance (WDBF) on which no interest was initially payable. Repayments began in July 2024 and it is repayable over 96 months at a variable interest rate currently of 4.7% per annum. The amount repayable over the next 12 months is shown here with the balance shown below in Note 11.

11 **Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**2024**	*2023*
	£	£	**£**	*£*
Loan from WDBF (see Note 10)	159,635	0	**159,635**	*200,000*

12 **Analysis of Funds - Current year**

	Funds brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers in/out	Funds carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	(119,546)	85,032	73,822	7,038	(101,298)
Restricted funds					
Appeal fund	32,210	3,916	850	(2,438)	32,838
Building fund	50,570	84,148	76,437	(4,600)	53,681
Church fabric fund	952	50	0	0	1,002
Music fund (previously Organ fund)	7,265	386	0	0	7,651
Rosemary Bray memorial fund	2,060	109	0	0	2,169
Garden society fund	33,544	5,065	11,741	0	26,868
	126,601	93,674	89,028	(7,038)	124,209
Total funds	**7,055**	**178,706**	**162,850**	**0**	**22,911**

13 **Analysis of Funds - Previous year**

	Funds brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers in/out £	Funds carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	95,423	74,364	76,819	(212,514)	(119,546)
Restricted funds					
Appeal fund	11,073	40,228	32,701	13,610	32,210
Building fund	(118,894)	5,052	33,933	198,345	50,570
Church fabric fund	922	30	0	0	952
Music fund (previously Organ fund)	7,040	225	0	0	7,265
Rosemary Bray memorial fund	1,996	64	0	0	2,060
Garden society fund	31,887	4,148	3,049	558	33,544
	(65,976)	49,747	69,683	212,513	126,601
Total funds	**29,447**	**124,111**	**146,502**	**(1)**	**7,055**

14 **Purposes of funds**

Appeal Fund: This represents monies received prior to 2023 which is ring-fenced for building related costs, and a small amount reserved for church music related costs, the total at the year end being £31,642. The remainder is income from donations and events which will be transferred to the General account to meet ongoing expenses.

Building fund: This represents funds for the restoration and rebuilding of the church.

Church fabric fund: This fund is for the maintenance and upkeep of the church building and income is normally received from donations or specific events raising monies for the fabric of the church and not just general funds.

Music fund (prev. Organ fund): This originated from fundraising many years ago to refurbish the organ. A surplus was achieved and was held to maintain the old organ. However, this was destroyed in the fire. It is now held towards the replacement of the current organ. In addition, in July 2023, the PCC decided to rename this as the Music fund, to incorporate costs of developing the music facilities of the church.

Rosemary Bray memorial fund: This represents monies raised and used to make kneelers for the church, from which a surplus remained after the work was completed. It is not expected that new kneelers will ever be made.

Garden society fund: The PCC is responsible for keeping the church grounds in good order. The funds for this activity are held in separate accounts and will be used solely for the original purposes of the society.

15 **Trustees**

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for either of the two years.

16 **Commitments**

In July 2023, the PCC entered into a contract for the restoration of the bells, payable in three instalments. Two instalments have been paid in 2024 but the final payment of £23,885, excluding VAT which is recoverable, is due on completion of the work. This is anticipated in March 2025. Against this, the PCC has been promised a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund of £6,229, payable on completion of the work on the bells.

17 **Statement of Financial Activities - Previous year**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2023 £**	*Total 2022 £*
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	60,279	29,868	**90,147**	*415,920*
Charitable activities	14,085	16,884	**30,969**	*4,155*
Investment income	0	394	**394**	*159*
Total income and endowments	74,364	47,146	**121,510**	*420,234*
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	76,471	(15,002)	**61,469**	*30,668*
Church restorations	348	84,368	**84,716**	*843,839*
Total expenditure	76,819	69,366	**146,185**	*874,507*
Net gains on investments	0	2,284	**2,284**	*739*
Net income/(expenditure)	(2,455)	(19,936)	**(22,391)**	*(453,534)*
Transfers between funds	(212,514)	212,513	**(1)**	*0*
Net movement in funds	(214,969)	192,577	**(22,392)**	*(453,534)*
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2023	95,423	(65,976)	**29,447**	*482,981*
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2023	(119,546)	126,601	**7,055**	*29,447*

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINC

England & Wales - Charity number 1176142

Accounts

St Peter's Church, Ropley



Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2023

St Peter's Church, Ropley PCC

Contents of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2023

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Reverend Amber Beresford and family

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023 — Vicar's Report

For the five months that I have been Vicar here at St Peters Ropley, I have seen the most incredible set of teams work tirelessly, with passion and enthusiasm to create and strengthen community as well as share this most beautiful resource of the church building.

Arriving at this point in St Peter's journey, having had just 18 months in the new building, I have loved to see this part of the body of Christ discovering again what it means to be a church family with and in the resource of a building.

St Peter's has a special part in the community, working alongside the school, the shop, the parish hall and coffee rooms, and all who make Ropley life the joy it is. I am so blessed to be able to arrive at this exciting time to join in the work that has already started, leading St Peter's more deeply into our call as a church, to love and serve all the people in our parish, and to lead God's people to worship and love Him.

I am also excited about our areas of growth, our incredible choir and music, our community events, our children's ministry in school, with Crafty events and on Sunday, all our services and the way our lettings team have welcomed a variety of groups of incredible people into the church.

This has taken many individuals, each called and prompted to serve, with all their unique strengths, to work together to create the most beautiful community. On behalf of all that have been blessed by St Peter's, well done and thank you to each person.

My hopes for the next year are to build the foundations for continued growth, in depth of faith, in love of people and in using our resources well. I hope to see the pastoral care and outreach that already goes on develop so that more can reach out to love their neighbour and seek those in need.

As we welcome more families and a variety of different people, we discover more about what being a church family looks like in 21st century Hampshire, enabling ***everyone*** *to experience the home of God's love and to know how that encounter changes the world.*

If anything in this Annual Report has prompted you to want to join in with anything here at St Peter's, or start something you have felt was missing, do get in touch with myself or one of our churchwardens.

Every Blessing,

Amber.

Reverend Amber Beresford

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Peter's Church is situated in Church Street, Ropley. It is part of the Alresford Deanery in the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Lyeway Lane, Ropley, Alresford, Hants. SO24 0DW

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission Registered Charity Number 1176142

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Vicar:

Rev'd Clare Welham (to May, 2023); Rev'd Amber Beresford (from October, 2023)

Churchwardens:

Mrs Barbara Pettegree, Mrs Sarah Earthy

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mr Keith Monkhouse, Mr Humphrey Carr

Elected Members:

Mr Ron Beal	Website Manager
Mr Humphrey Carr	Parish Stewardship Promoter
Mrs Julia Flory	Minutes Secretary
Mr Alan Parsonson	Treasurer
Mrs Deborah Shellard	
Mrs Susan Thomas	Safeguarding Officer, Trainee Churchwarden
Mrs Alison Wood	Electoral Roll Officer, PCC Secretary

Co-Opted Members

Mr Andy Bonner	Church rebuilding co-ordinator
Ms Anne Carter	

As at the 31st December 2023 there were 95 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 82 were resident in the parish.

The total Worshipping Community at the end of 2023 was 77.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working together with the incumbent in promoting the Christian Church throughout the parish of St Peter's. This includes the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church and churchyard of St Peter's, Church Street, Ropley.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to welcoming as many people as possible to worship in our church and to become part of our Christian community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship and offers guidance on how our services can become a place of welcome, support and encouragement. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

OUR CHURCH THIS YEAR
Report of The Churchwardens

2023 has been another remarkable year in the life of St. Peter's Ropley. We have got used to our beautifully restored building with its incredible potential and occasional quirks. We have welcomed new members and been there with those saying goodbye.

Our wonderful vicar Rev Clare Welham, who did such remarkable things reuniting our church community and leading the rebuild of St Peter's with wisdom, perseverance and humour, moved in May 2023 to become Priest-in-Charge at Liss. After a 5-month interregnum (not long in CofE terms), the Rev Amber Beresford was licensed in October 2023 as the new Vicar of the Benefice of Bishop's Sutton, Ropley and West Tisted.

We are so blessed to have Amber, her husband, Toby, and their three children join us. Looking forward and building on the work that Clare begun, Amber has continued the close links with Ropley CofE Primary School and 2024 will see the start of Children's Church during the main service and a monthly more informal Café Church. The hope is to open out worship, teaching and fellowship to all ages so that the church will thrive.

We are grateful to everyone who supported us during the interregnum, remembering especially the Bishop of Basingstoke, the rural dean Rev David Chattell, Rev Bryce Fletcher and visiting clergy, together with those from our own congregation who helped with readings, led intercessions, took services and shared reflections.

At the end of August, we celebrated the first anniversary of St Peter's being open; a very joyous occasion and wonderful to see the church so full. Over the year we have been delighted with the flexibility of the building as we hosted varied events, both sacred and secular. Memorable concerts (acoustics tried and tested); a magnificent Flower Festival and Songs of Praise to celebrate the King's Coronation; an opera evening; games mornings; Ropley School Easter, Harvest and Christmas Services, and a visiting Art Group who transformed the space into a studio for 2 days.



Christingle Crib Service

The first church wedding in St Peter's for nine years took place in October and we have come together as a community for celebrations and commemorations throughout the Church calendar. We know that many local people and visitors, including those walking the Pilgrim's Way and St Swithun's Way, come into the church during the week for quiet reflection, to enjoy the space or to play with the toys in the community room.

Sincere thanks to Alison Benton for assembling a choir for the King's Coronation that has remained together and sings monthly at a service of Holy Communion; to Christine Drewienkiewicz and Jill Shakesepare for co-ordinating the flower festival and the amazing events team led by Jules Flory and Anne Carter.

St Peter's 2.3 acres of churchyard have been kept tidy by a small team - Quentin Sandell, Pete Whatley, Sue Grace and Stephen Broadbent - who have battled against walking around the village to collect mowers that have been kindly stored in people's sheds and garages. Special thanks to Jonathan and Jules Flory, who have stored the ride-on mower for so long.

The good news is that the sheds are now in situ and nearing completion, thus enabling the gardening equipment to be stored on site. Volunteers to help keep the grass down conserving certain areas would be most welcome!

As visitors will realise, the restoration of St Peter's is not quite finished. Thanks to generous donations from individuals and groups, fund-raising efforts and a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NHLF), we are now able to go ahead with repair of the bells damaged in the 2014 fire. Special thanks must go to Roger Booth for masterminding our application to the NHLAF. We hope that the bells will return to St Peter's in the late summer/early autumn of 2024. Our other major fundraising project currently is for resurfacing of the footpaths, long overdue, and the installation of some low-level lighting.

The PCC would like to thank all who make our weekly worship and special events such a success. So many people give their time, energy, enthusiasm and talents. Particular thanks go to Barbara Pettegree, who is stepping down as Church Warden at the 2024 APCM. Barbara took on the role two and a half years ago to fill an unexpected vacancy and has brought so much warmth, insight, kindness and humour; becoming an expert on the Diocesan faculty application process, providing pastoral care and looking after us all.

Thanks also to:

- our sides people Roy and Shirley Wyeth, Jason Clements, Roger Wood and Liz Wheeler, who provide such a warm welcome to regulars and visitors alike;
- the Flower Team for their beautiful weekly displays;
- Alison Lester, Alison Benton and John Bate for planning music for services and playing the organ;
- our readers and intercessors;
- the refreshments team led by Alison Wood;
- Julian and Debbie Shellard, who lead the Benefice Prayer Group to pray for people in the villages, taking a road or lane at a time, and for anyone who requests prayer or for whom prayer is requested;
- Andy Bonner for continuing to oversee the management of the building; and to
- all those who have moved chairs, tables, screens and children's toys many times over the year.



Mrs Hughes donating our splendid new Christening, Marriages and Deaths Book together with other Donors

We face 2024 secure in the knowledge that God has remarkable things in store for us as a church and excited about the challenges and joys that lie ahead.

ROPLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL (Report by Alison Wood)

Kerriann Mclackland and the Rev'd Clare Welham represented the PCC as our foundation Governors. With Rev'd Clare's move to Liss in May, 2023, Sue Pakenham-Walsh agreed to serve as the second Foundation Governor. We are very grateful to them all for fulfilling this role with such dedication and commitment.

Revd Clare and Rev'd Amber visited the school weekly for collective worship on a range of weekly themes. We are very grateful to the Rural Dean, Rev'd David Chattell, for taking services at the school during the 5 months when we were without a Vicar.



Bishop David opening "Norma's Garden" with Tim Day

The annual Year 6 Leavers Service in Winchester Cathedral took place and it was a pleasure to see how well the year 6 group represented their school. Once again, Ropley Leavers were presented with a bible donated by St Peter's Church.

Since the reopening of St Peter's in August, 2022, the links between the Church and School have gone from strength to strength. The chidren really enjoy being back in their village church. Several collective worship services have been held in the church, as well as special services, such as the Harvest Festival and the Nativity and Christmas services, which were attended by parents as well as pupils and teachers.

DEANERY SYNOD (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

1. Church Finances.

There is continuing consideration of church finances. During 2023 the Deanery discussed:

- The need to keep Deanery contributions to the Diocese for each parish representative on the Deanery Synod up to date. It was agreed that a benefice representative would be sought to ensure that this is achieved.
- How can we help struggling parishes.
- How can we reverse the trend to future budget deficits.
- Are there areas of Parish Support which could be improved.
- Are there areas which are not currently supported.
- The need for greater transparency was a theme discussed in all groups.
- A suggestion to share more information with the general public and be more honest about the state of the Church's finances.
- The mismatch between Electoral Roll numbers and people actually attending church services was highlighted. More assistance with completion of the Worshipping Community figures is needed.
- The declining wealth and age of those who make up the Roll was becoming more of an issue.
- The positive impact of digital giving.
- The proposed clergy stipend increase was supported, and the meeting recognised that this would mean an increase in CMF.

2. Deanery Synod Link with Nyaruguru Diocese , Rwanda.

A vote was taken with our Parishes voting in favour as decided at the previous PCC meetings. In all, 12 parishes voted in favour and 4 (Old Alresford, New Alresford, Bighton and Ovington and Itchen Stoke) voted against. Motion passed. A sub-committee is to be formed to coordinate activities.

STEWARDSHIP AND PARISH GIVING SCHEME (Report by Humphrey Carr)

While we are still actively fundraising to renew the church footpaths, with lighting at ground level, we must not overlook the need, which is almost our duty, to make our payment to the Common Mission Fund (CMF), which has been set at just over £26,000 for 2024, slightly less than for 2023.

To remind you, the CMF is what we are asked to pay to the Diocese as our contribution towards Clergy housing, stipends and pensions, and the running costs of the Church in the Diocese. 78% of Diocesan income comes from the parishes.

26 members of the congregation donated regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme in 2023 (two less than last year), but with Gift Aid this regular giving contributed an amazing £36,675. The collections at the Sunday services raised £7,059.

Unfortunately we cannot rest on our laurels, as the cost of running the church building (heating, insurance, lighting, cleaning, and maintenance) continue to increase.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT (From Sue Thomas, Safeguarding Officer)

We have not had any safeguarding issues identified in the last year.

All PCC members have been DBS approved and have undertaken the Basic and Foundation Levels of the Diocesan Safeguarding Training Course and are now working through the Domestic Abuse Awareness Course.

We have zero tolerance to any form of abuse. The PCC has approved the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy which is displayed in St Peter's and on our website.

WEBSITE (Report by Ron Beal)

The Benefice website (*currently stpetersropley.org.uk*) provides the primary online information resource for St Peter's and the rest of the Benefice. It complements other online resources such as our Events website (*stpetersropleyvenue.org.uk*), the Benefice Google Calendar which lists all services, and Facebook, all of which are linked from the website.

The website contains a comprehensive History section with extensive image galleries from before, during and after the fire as well as images capturing the rebuilding.

As St Peter's is now fully open and in normal use for worship, the Benefice website is gradually reducing the focus on St Peter's to better balance the coverage of the other Benefice churches — St Nicholas, Bishop's Sutton and St Mary Magdalene, West Tisted.

EVENTS AND LETTINGS
(Report by Julia Flory and Anne Carter)

2023 has been the first full year for the Commercial side of St Peter's, which is proving to be a very popular venue, so we have divided it into two areas: -

1. Fundraising & Community Events
2. Lettings

Fundraisers for 2023 included: -

- Musical Performances by the Winchester Cathedral Chamber Choir, The Winchester Camerata and Two Shoes and a Pineapple.
- The Coronation Flower Festival over three days.
- An evening of Opera and a talk on St Peter's by the Architect, John Alexander.

Community events have included Community Choir Concerts, A Bell Ringing Day and services and Performances with Ropley School.

The Letting of St Peter's has picked up speed and we have been visited by Ecclesiastical Away Days & Meetings, events for the FROGS (Friends of Ropley School), and regular Art & Yoga groups.

All of these were organised in conjunction with the Church and made for a very full diary at St Peter's. Preparation for events has involved a lot of furniture moving and we thank all those who have been involved.

We have also developed policies and procedures to ensure people are kept safe that meet the needs of ecclesiastical standards and insurance requirements.

With the help of Katie Yates Website Design, the Events website has worked successfully continually adapting and updating therefore carrying the load of the bookings and communication processes.

Details and pictures of our 2023 year can be found on the website.
https://www.stpetersropleyvenue.org.uk/past-events-1

OUR CHURCH BUILDING
(Report by Andy Bonner)

It has been truly great to see how the new church building has been so heavily used over the past year, not only for church services but for exciting events like opera, concerts, handbell ringing, school events and choir recitals. The new space, facilities and winter warmth have made the church popular with all visitors, from people walking the St Swithin's Way to children playing in the community room.

Whilst the building is open and fully working 2023 saw small amounts of work continue. Fixing some of the small snags that only become obvious with use, continuing with the restoration work, and embarking on the first round of annual maintenance.

A building like St Peter's now is requires a lot of safety and functionality checks and repairs to remain both functional and safe. A full programme of maintenance is now in place. Part of that maintenance is the Quinquennial Inspection that is conducted by an architect to make sure that every aspect of the building is up to standard. The Inspection last year concluded that the church itself is in good condition but there are a few items that require attention. The main ones of these being outside of the building where two of the tombs need repair and the footpaths are in serious need to resurfacing. Fundraising continues for these.

In the graveyard work started early in the year on planting the area where the building's services are to make a wildflower area which will be good for local wildlife. Plans were also put in place for new hedges and trees and an area for sheds to store the smaller maintenance equipment.

Towards the end of the year we were granted money from the Heritage Lottery to help restore the bells. This enabled work to be started and the schedule for this is that the bells will be in place by late summer of 2024. Also, due to the generosity of a local landowner, we now have planning permission to establish a car park on the field to the north of the graveyard to service both the village and the church.

TREASURERS REPORT 2023 (by Alan Parsonson)

Once again, the PCC is grateful for the extreme generosity of individuals, grant awarding bodies and various local societies for their financial support of the PCC.

General Account (Unrestricted Funds):

In 2023, the PCC agreed to re-commence its contribution towards the Diocesan Common Mission Fund, which was £27,578. In addition, for the first half of the year, it was necessary to continue to "dry out" the church giving rise to LPG costs being £7,600 throughout the year.

The total "Running Costs" for the building, including utilities, insurance, maintenance, etc., came in at £28,786 – equivalent to £78.86 per day. Amongst other issues, the PCC has, moving forward, a focus on managing this cost.

2023 saw total donations, collections and Parish Giving scheme increase by 31% over 2022 to £47,057, representing 63% of total income.

Throughout the year activity to hire the building to 3rd Parties raised £2,778.

The account balance fell by £14,192 to £81,769 over the year, leaving the PCC with sufficient funds to meet its Reserves policy.

Appeal Account (Restricted Funds):

In addition to monthly donations, a programme of events organised by members of the Church have raised £15,410 over the year. These funds have been reserved for ongoing works, e.g. Footpaths and Car Park, but it has been agreed that moneys raised in the Appeal Account from 1st January 2024 will be allocated to the General Account to help meet anticipated increased costs.

At the end of the year the account bank balance was £29,836.

In addition, there are 4 various CCLA investment funds totalling £12,650.

Building Account (Restricted Funds):

Payments in respect of the building works in 2023 amounted to £95,268 leaving a residual payment due to the builders of £82,033. In addition, £4,070 was spent on repairs to one bell.

At the end of the year the balance in the account was £16,765 which was 100% in respect of amounts ring-fenced for the restoration of the bells. In this regard, a Lottery Heritage Grant, together with other grants and donations has enabled the cost of the Bell restoration project to be fully funded.

The PCC are still entitled to a further Grant of £114,500 from the Diocese.

Garden Fund:

The PCC agreed that the Garden Fund will hold 2 ring-fenced amounts for moneys raised for the War Memorial and a facility for the "Flower Fund", respectively.

Over the year the work of the Garden Society cost £2,732, of which £2,600 was for essential tree work.

The end of year bank balance was £10,504, of which £1,013 is for the War Memorial and £451 is for Flowers. In addition, there are 2 CCLA investment funds for the Garden Society totalling £23,040.

Reserves Policy:

The PCC's Reserves Policy is to maintain sufficient funds in the Unrestricted Funds equivalent to cover six months' running costs and that the Restricted Funds, net of CCLA funds established for specific purposes, have sufficient funds available to meet known financial commitments.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a Registered Charity with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC meet regularly throughout the year and have the ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including such matters as compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation and child protection.

In addition to the main body of the PCC there is a Standing Committee comprising of the Vicar, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and Secretary. They meet as required and are authorised to decide on issues which may arise between PCC meetings and need to be decided upon immediately. The Standing Committee is responsible to the PCC and reports back to it regularly.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

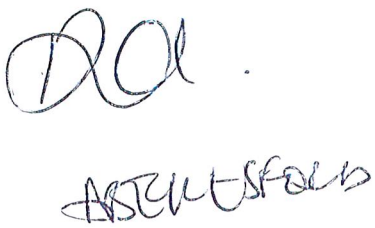
The full PCC met almost monthly throughout 2023 because of the number of issues that needed decisions to be taken quickly. Normally the PCC meets every two months.

APPROVED BY THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL & SIGNED ON THEIR BEHALF BY PCC CHAIR

Rev'd Amber Beresford

PCC Chair

Date: 21st April 2024



St Peter's Church
Rebuilt to be a place of community and belonging



Coronation Flower Festival (Julia)



Rev'd Clare admires the flowers



Re-opening Anniversary, Bishop David



Art Group



Handbell Ringing Workshop



Christmas Card Sorting



Ropley Kings Singers — Advent Concert





Opera Evening with London Festival Opera



Ride and Stride Participants Welcomed

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Principal address
Mr Alan G Parsonson
Myrtle Farm
Petersfield Road
Ropley
Hampshire
SO24 0EE

Trustees

Independent Examiner
Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
The Engine House
77 Station Road
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU32 3FQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Amber Beresford - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2023.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.



David Sanders BA (Hons) FCA BFP

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
The Engine House
77 Station Road
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU32 3FQ

Date: .....

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	60,279	29,868	90,147	415,920
Charitable activities					
Garden Society		-	-	-	569
Other trading activities	3	14,085	16,884	30,969	3,586
Investment income	4	-	2,678	2,678	159
Total		74,364	49,430	123,794	420,234
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Church activities		76,471	(15,002)	61,469	30,668
Church restorations		348	84,368	84,716	841,241
Garden Society		-	-	-	2,598
Total		76,819	69,366	146,185	874,507
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	739
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(2,455)	(19,936)	(22,391)	(453,534)
Transfers between funds	14	(212,514)	212,513	(1)	-
Net movement in funds		(214,969)	192,577	(22,392)	(453,534)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		95,423	(65,976)	29,447	482,981
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		(119,546)	126,601	7,055	29,447

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	9	-	23,040	23,040	20,756
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	1,457	131,442	132,899	143,287
Cash at bank		81,770	69,756	151,526	239,849
		83,227	201,198	284,425	383,136
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,773)	(97,637)	(100,410)	(174,445)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		80,454	103,561	184,015	208,691
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		80,454	126,601	207,055	229,447
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(200,000)	-	(200,000)	(200,000)
NET ASSETS		(119,546)	126,601	7,055	29,447
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				(119,546)	95,423
Restricted funds				126,601	(65,976)
TOTAL FUNDS				7,055	29,447

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ..... and were signed on its behalf by:

21/4/2024

.....
Amber Beresford - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. There are no material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to the sufficient cash balance held as at 31st December 2023.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Planned Giving	3,323	1,125	4,448	3,100
Collections at services	7,059	-	7,059	6,964
Parish giving scheme	36,675	-	36,675	26,905
Gift aid recovered	3,058	938	3,996	6,045
Grants	1,000	-	1,000	252,000
Donations	5,764	1,599	7,363	3,582
Special collections	-	-	-	900
Ropley Church appeal	-	-	-	55,188
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
Introduce Garden Society	-	-	-	57,176
Events	3,350	26,206	29,556	4,010
	60,279	29,868	90,147	415,920

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
BF Energy Grant	1,000	-
Other grants	-	252,000
	1,000	252,000

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Other	7,232	16,884	24,116	-
Fees	6,853	-	6,853	3,586
	14,085	16,884	30,969	3,586

continued...

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Investment income	-	2,284	2,284	-
Deposit account interest	-	394	394	159
	-	2,678	2,678	159

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Church activities	57,800	1,359	2,310	61,469
Church restorations	84,368	348	-	84,716
	142,168	1,707	2,310	146,185

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governanc costs £
Church activities	2,310

Governance costs comprise Independent Examiner's fees of £2,310 (2022: £2,100).

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2023 nor for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2023 nor for the year ended 31st December 2022.

continued...

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	48,172	367,748	415,920
Charitable activities			
Garden Society	-	569	569
Other trading activities	3,236	350	3,586
Investment income	-	159	159
Total	51,408	368,826	420,234
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Church activities	29,394	1,274	30,668
Church restorations	-	841,241	841,241
Garden Society	-	2,598	2,598
Total	29,394	845,113	874,507
Net gains on investments	-	739	739
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	22,014	(475,548)	(453,534)
Transfers between funds	(6,375)	6,375	-
Net movement in funds	15,639	(469,173)	(453,534)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	79,784	403,197	482,981
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	95,423	(65,976)	29,447

continued...

9. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investmen £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st January 2023	20,756
Revaluations	2,284
At 31st December 2023	23,040
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2023	23,040
At 31st December 2022	20,756

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31st December 2023 is represented by:

	Listed investmen £
Valuation in 2023	23,040

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	132,899	143,287

continued...

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	100,410	174,445

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	200,000	200,000

13. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Other loans	200,000	200,000

A loan of £200,000 has been received from the Diocese of Winchester Board of Finance. No interest or repayment is expected on this loan until mid 2024 at which point the interest rate and repayment schedule will be agreed with the Diocese of Winchester Board of Finance.

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	95,423	(2,455)	(212,514)	(119,546)
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	11,073	7,527	13,610	32,210
Building fund	(118,894)	(28,881)	198,345	50,570
Church Fabric fund	922	30	-	952
Organ fund	7,040	225	-	7,265
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,996	64	-	2,060
Garden Society fund	31,887	1,099	558	33,544
	(65,976)	(19,936)	212,513	126,601
TOTAL FUNDS	29,447	(22,391)	(1)	7,055

continued...

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	74,364	(76,819)	(2,455)
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	40,228	(32,701)	7,527
Building fund	5,052	(33,933)	(28,881)
Church Fabric fund	30	-	30
Organ fund	225	-	225
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	64	-	64
Garden Society fund	3,831	(2,732)	1,099
	49,430	(69,366)	(19,936)
TOTAL FUNDS	123,794	(146,185)	(22,391)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	79,784	22,014	(6,375)	95,423
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	2,866	45,112	(36,905)	11,073
Tower fund	540	-	(540)	-
Building fund	389,963	(576,677)	67,820	(118,894)
Church Fabric fund	910	12	-	922
Organ fund	6,948	92	-	7,040
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,970	26	-	1,996
Garden Society fund	-	55,887	(24,000)	31,887
	403,197	(475,548)	6,375	(65,976)
TOTAL FUNDS	482,981	(453,534)	-	29,447

continued...

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	51,408	(29,394)	-	22,014
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	58,286	(13,174)	-	45,112
Building fund	252,664	(829,341)	-	(576,677)
Church Fabric fund	12	-	-	12
Organ fund	92	-	-	92
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	26	-	-	26
Garden Society fund	57,746	(2,598)	739	55,887
	368,826	(845,113)	739	(475,548)
TOTAL FUNDS	420,234	(874,507)	739	(453,534)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	79,784	19,559	(218,889)	(119,546)
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	2,866	52,639	(23,295)	32,210
Tower fund	540	-	(540)	-
Building fund	389,963	(605,558)	266,165	50,570
Church Fabric fund	910	42	-	952
Organ fund	6,948	317	-	7,265
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,970	90	-	2,060
Garden Society fund	-	56,986	(23,442)	33,544
	403,197	(495,484)	218,888	126,601
TOTAL FUNDS	482,981	(475,925)	(1)	7,055

continued...

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	125,772	(106,213)	-	19,559
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	98,514	(45,875)	-	52,639
Building fund	257,716	(863,274)	-	(605,558)
Church Fabric fund	42	-	-	42
Organ fund	317	-	-	317
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	90	-	-	90
Garden Society fund	61,577	(5,330)	739	56,986
	418,256	(914,479)	739	(495,484)
TOTAL FUNDS	544,028	(1,020,692)	739	(475,925)

Appeal Fund: These accounts represent monies received towards the rebuilding of the church. The sources of funds include personal donations, grants, fundraising events and Gift Aid reclaimed.

Building Fund: These funds are for the restoration and re-building of the church. A grant of £114,500 is available from the Dioceses but hasn't been drawn yet.

Fabric Fund: These funds are for the maintenance and upkeep of the church building and income is normally received from donations or specific events raising monies for the fabric of the church and not just general funds.

Organ Fund: This originates from fundraising many years ago to refurbish the organ. The success of the fundraising raised more money than required to undertake the refurbishment so the balance remaining was being used to maintain the old organ, which was subsequently destroyed in the fire.

Rosemary Bray Fund: This fund represent monies raised and used to make kneelers for the church. Again there was a surplus left after all the work was completed. It is not expected that new kneelers will be made when the church is renovated.

Garden Society Fund: The responsibilities of the, previously independent, Garden Society (charged with keeping the church grounds in good order) was transferred to the PCC. The funds for this activity are held in separate accounts and will be used solely for the original purposes of the society.

continued...

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Donations and legacies				
Planned Giving	3,323	1,125	4,448	3,100
Collections at services	7,059	-	7,059	6,964
Parish giving scheme	36,675	-	36,675	26,905
Gift aid recovered	3,058	938	3,996	6,045
Grants	1,000	-	1,000	252,000
Donations	5,764	1,599	7,363	3,582
Special collections	-	-	-	900
Ropley Church appeal	-	-	-	55,188
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
Introduce Garden Society	-	-	-	57,176
Events	3,350	26,206	29,556	4,010
	60,279	29,868	90,147	415,920
Other trading activities				
Other	7,232	16,884	24,116	-
Fees	6,853	-	6,853	3,586
	14,085	16,884	30,969	3,586
Investment income				
Investment income	-	2,284	2,284	-
Deposit account interest	-	394	394	159
	-	2,678	2,678	159
Charitable activities				
Garden Society	-	-	-	569
Total incoming resources	74,364	49,430	123,794	420,234

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities				
Printing and stationery	-	-	-	518
Diocesan fees	29,623	-	29,623	965
Church running expenses	24,166	-	24,166	13,937
Cost of services	1,807	24	1,831	788
Church repairs & maintenance	4,620	2,655	7,275	-
Event costs	572	10,796	11,368	1,803
Miscellaneous expenses	12,014	53	12,067	9,662
Garden Society	-	-	-	2,598
Car park expenses	-	10,460	10,460	-
Trust refund	-	7,000	7,000	-
Church restorations	-	38,378	38,378	841,241
Mission giving & donations	1,707	-	1,707	847
	74,509	69,366	143,875	872,359
Support costs				
Governance costs				
Independent examination	2,310	-	2,310	2,148
Total resources expended	76,819	69,366	146,185	874,507
Net (expenditure)/income	(2,455)	(19,936)	(22,391)	(454,273)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINC

England & Wales - Charity number 1176142

Accounts

St Peter's Church, Ropley

St Peter's Church
ROPLEY

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2022

St Peter's Church, Ropley PCC

Contents of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2022



1- The Revd. Clare Welham with Bishop David Williams and Mrs Annabelle Boyes MBE DL, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire — St Peter's is Open!

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Notes to the Financial Statements	22
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	31

ANNUAL REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Peter's Church is situated in Church Street, Ropley. It is part of the Alresford Deanery in the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Lyeway Lane, Ropley, Alresford, Hants. SO24 0DW

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission Registered Charity Number 1176142

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Vicar:

Rev'd Clare Welham	(Clare was inducted as our Vicar on 22nd Feb 2022, prior to that she was Priest in Charge)

Churchwardens:

Mrs Norma Day	(until May, 2022 APCM)
Mrs Barbara Pettegree	
Mrs Sarah Earthy	(from May, 2022 APCM)

Representative on the Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee:

Mr Keith Monkhouse

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mr Keith Monkhouse

Mr Humphrey Carr

Elected Members:

Mr Ron Beal	Website Manager
Mr Humphrey Carr	Parish Stewardship Promoter
Mrs Julia Flory	Minutes Secretary
Mr Keith Monkhouse	Acting Treasurer (until 26th January 2022)
Mr Alan Parsonson	Treasurer (from 26th January 2022)
Mr Nigel Plowright	Grants Administrator

Mrs Deborah Shellard	(from APCM, May 2022)
Mrs Susan Thomas	Safeguarding Officer
Mrs Elizabeth Wheeler	
Mrs Alison Wood	Electoral Roll Officer, Secretary
Co-Opted Members	
Mr Andy Bonner	Church rebuilding co-ordinator

As at the 31st December 2022 there were 92 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 81 were resident in the parish.

The total Worshipping Community at the end of 2022 was 71

AIMS AND PURPOSES

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St Peter's, Church Street, Ropley.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Peter's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

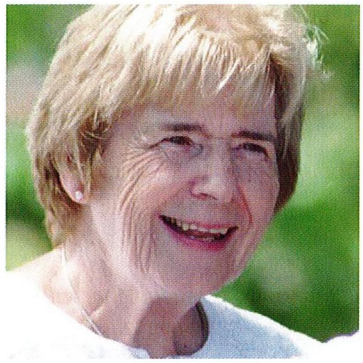
When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

OUR CHURCH THIS YEAR

2022 has been the most remarkable year in the life of St. Peter's Ropley. It began with services continuing as they had for the previous eight years in the Ropley Parish Hall. Covid restrictions were at last gradually removed and on-line worship came to a natural end at Easter. Numbers built back towards pre-pandemic levels for our Easter Celebrations and as the end of the building project came into sight we were able to begin to plan for new activities and the furnishing of the building. The end was in sight!

On the 26th August 2022 the building opened its doors in a weekend of celebrations including an opening reception, a family fun day and a first Sunday Eucharist where the new church building was filled to bursting and people spilled out into the summer sunshine. Many hundreds of visitors including village residents past and present visited the church during the open week that followed as our church family provided refreshments and enjoyed every moment of showing our new church to the world. A huge thank you to all those who organised drinks, canapés and endless cakes for the celebrations, in particular to Jules Flory and Alison Wood for their management of huge teams of volunteers. As the building came to life, the true impact and beauty of John Alexander's design was revealed. We are hugely grateful for his vision, tenacity and hard work on our behalf. In the reopening as throughout the build, the support and wisdom of Andy Bonner was invaluable, his quiet and unflappable presence ensured that everything ran smoothly and effectively and we remain so grateful for his commitment to this project.



Very sadly, just before the church was due to open, our Churchwarden Emeritus, Norma Day, died from the cancer that she had been so bravely fighting for much of the previous year. It is impossible to put into words what Norma did for our Church and Village and of course, for the rebuild project itself, opening without her there was incredibly difficult. We know that she was watching in delight at the impact of the ceiling without any tiebars! And above all at the community room filled with happily playing children. The first service that was held in the week following the reopening was Norma's funeral. Once again the church was filled to capacity with those who knew and loved her and whose lives she had impacted in so many different ways.

Every week from the reopening in August to the end of the year brought new excitements; from the ability to welcome the school in for collective worship, to children enjoying crafts after school and at our new '40 minutes at 4' service, to the first Harvest Lunch, with an almost working new kitchen! Then came Christmas. The tone for the season was set as, on an incredibly wet night, the church was filled to capacity once again with mulled wine, mince pies and Community Carols. A huge thank you to Jonathan Dawson for his playing and to Lesley Morgan, Sue Pakenham-Walsh and the

Friends of St. Peter's for their provision of much appreciated refreshments. Incredible congregations continued across the Christmas Season with over 80 excited children bringing their grown ups to pack the Church on Christmas Eve where the wonderful story was retold and Christingles made and eaten. Midnight Mass made a very well received return and overall our Christmas attendance was over double our most successful pre pandemic year's total.

The whole PCC would like to thank all those who make our weekly worship and special events alike such a success in particular our Wardens for 2022, Sarah Earthy and Barbara; our sides people Roy and Shirley Wyeth, and Jason Clements, now also joined by Roger Wood, who offer such a warm welcome to regulars and visitors alike; the flower team for their remarkable contribution to the reopening and their beautiful weekly displays; John Bate, Alison Lester, Jonathan Dawson and Paul Shepherd for their organ playing, Rodney Skinner for ensuring the correct flag is always flying and to our gardening team who continued mowing despite the absence of a mowing shed and who have transformed the churchyard area around the building from a neglected building site to a place of beauty once again.

We face 2023 secure in the knowledge that God has remarkable things in store for us as a church and excited about the challenges and joys that lie ahead.



2- Still plenty to do before re-opening! (02 March 2022)

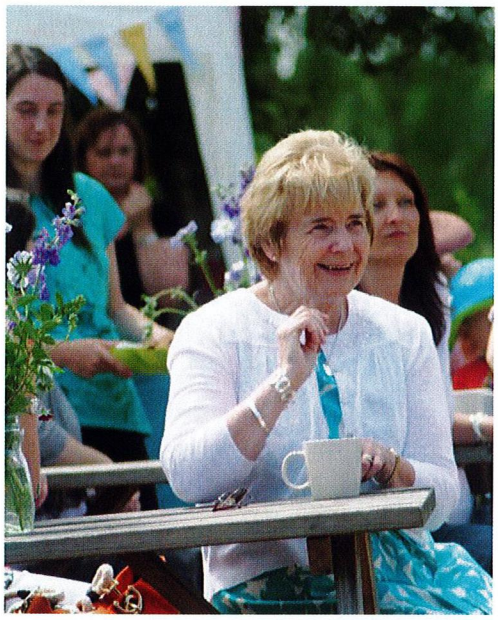
FRIDAY COFFEE & CHAT
(Report by Sue Thomas, Sarah Earthy & Alison Lester)

Coffee and a Chat is going well in the Coffee Rooms, with several new habitues coming on a regular basis.

More people are gradually becoming involved in hosting duties, and there have been several offerings of home-made cakes and biscuits to tempt us.

The sessions run from 10.30-12 every Friday morning and are joyous times of laughter and companionship.

ROPLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
(Report by Rev'd Clare Welham)



Norma Day (until her death in August 2022) and Kerriann Mclackland have represented the PCC as our foundation Governors and we are very grateful to them for fulfilling this role with such dedication and commitment. Revd Clare has continued as an ex officio Governor and visits the school weekly for collective worship on a range of weekly themes. The annual Year 6 Leavers Service in Winchester Cathedral was able to go ahead for the first time since the covid lockdowns began and it was a pleasure to see how well the year 6 group represented their school. Once again, Ropley Leavers were presented with a bible donated by St Peter's Church.

In the term following the reopening of the new church building, the links between Church and School have gone from strength to strength. Every class was given a tour and a chance to explore the new building and several collective worship services have been held in the building during the autumn term as well as the first full Harvest Festival attended by parents as well as pupils and teachers. The school also visited our Advent Prayer Space and children had the opportunity to think about the meaning of Christmas and the different ways in which we could get ready. The school held both their KS1 Nativity and KS2 Christmas Service in the church and it was wonderful to see them welcome their grown ups into what has truly become their church.

DEANERY SYNOD (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

Bishop of Winchester

The new Bishop of Winchester still has not been selected. This is likely to take place by the autumn this year.

Diocesan Presentation

Dean Catherine Ogle of Winchester Cathedral gave a talk on their future relationship with the Parishes at the October meeting. The priorities for the Cathedral have been updated for 2022: Renew - a green and sustainable cathedral where all are welcome; Inspire - a creative cathedral which uses the arts, heritage, and technology to deepen worship; Unite - one cathedral that celebrates diversity and promotes justice. The Cathedral is for everyone, not just a select few. It was fairly obvious that the Diocese wished to get closer to rural parishes. She also invited Parishes to let her know of the qualities they considered necessary in the new Bishop. The length of time it was taking to select a Bishop was remarked upon eliciting the comment that a time of healing was necessary.

Lango

Following the ceasing of our link with Lango it has been proposed that the Diocese should examine the possibility of teaming up with a new Diocese in Rwanda.called Nyaruguru. Alex Green, Churchwarden of Bramdean, UIB, presented a talk about the opportunity for this deanery to partner with the diocese. Briefly, the Nyaruguru Diocese is a new Diocese just south of the Kigeme Diocese with which Lyndhurst has established a partnership for 20 years. There are a variety of options for the partnership apart from the financial relationship we had with Lango. These include individual parishes within Alresford Deanery linking with individual parishes within Nyaruguru Diocese. There is another visit planned in February and it was suggested that a small team headed by David Chattell should join Mark Collinson, Director of Ministry, for Winchester Diocese, and Jeff Williams, Director of Education. The aim would be to gather more a concrete understanding of how the relationship would (I prefer – could) develop. It was agreed that any relationship needed a core group of committed people who would share the vision. There was a concern about the cost of getting people to Rwanda, as it was felt that the Deanery should fund this. The meeting voted on the following proposal: To accept the Diocesan offer of exploring a partnership with Nyaruguru Diocese in Rwanda. 21 voted in favour, 4 abstentions. It was agreed that: Deanery Reps will report back to their PCCs to gauge their support for looking further into this relationship. Chapter will discuss next steps.

STEWARDSHIP AND PARISH GIVING SCHEME (Report by Humphrey Carr)

Following completion of the new church building, there has been considerable individual giving for specific projects in Phase 2, such as the purchase of chairs, for which there were donations of £9,020 from parishioners, plus a very generous grant of £2,556 from the Alresford Pigs Association.

There have also been more people attending services in the new church, resulting in an increase in Collection revenue to nearly £7 ,000. In addition, the number now donating regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme has risen from 25 to 28, contributing £26,905, including Gift Aid.

While these receipts are significantly greater than recent years, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. We have been falling well short of our Common Mission Fund contributions (what we pay to the Diocese to fund the running of the Church, including Clergy stipends, housing and pensions), and the burden of our shortfall has had to be carried by other parishes in the Diocese. Now that we are a fully functioning church, the PCC has agreed that we should meet the full amount required of us of £27,577 for 2023.

As I mentioned in my report last year, we will also have ongoing additional expenses in the future, which we have not had to pay since the church fire, and these include heating, lighting, cleaning and maintenance of the church, so the pressure is still on to increase our income.

And finally, you may be interested to note that there is an updated Legacy Pamphlet available in the church. New pictures and new data for the amendment of wills.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT (From Sue Thomas, Safeguarding Officer)

We have not had any safeguarding issues identified in the last year.

All PCC members have been DBS approved and have undertaken the Basic and Foundation Levels of the Diocesan Safeguarding Training Course, and are now working through the Domestic Abuse Awareness Course.

We have zero tolerance to any form of abuse. The PCC has approved the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy which is displayed in St Peter's and on our website.

WEBSITE (Report by Ron Beal)

The St Peter's website — stpetersropley.org.uk — provides the primary online information resource for St Peter's and the rest of the Benefice. It complements other online resources such as our Benefice Google Calendar which lists all services and Facebook, both of which are linked from the website.

The website contains a comprehensive History section with extensive image galleries from before, during and after the fire as well as images capturing the rebuilding. The image galleries were reorganised during 2022 to make viewing their content easier, particularly via mobile phones and tablets.

The Friends of St Peter's Church standalone website has been incorporated into the stpetersropley.org.uk website to avoid confusion and reduce administration.

As St Peter's has now re-opened and in full use for worship, the intention going forward is to spread the focus of the website wider to better cover the other Benefice churches — St Nicholas, Bishop's Sutton and St Mary Magdalene, West Tisted.

FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, ROPLEY & FUNDRAISING (Report by Sue Pakenham-Walsh, Lesley Morgan and Julia Flory)

Friends of St Peter's Church, Ropley

The PCC greatly appreciates and values the support and fund-raising efforts of the Friends of St Peter's Church for over forty years.

The Friends were able to undertake a range of much enjoyed in-person fund-raising events in 2022, which raised over £4,600. As well as the usual Soup and Pudding Lunches and cake sales, the events included:

- the Summer Drinks Party
- Italian Wine and Food Tasting
- Community Carol Singing in St Peter's

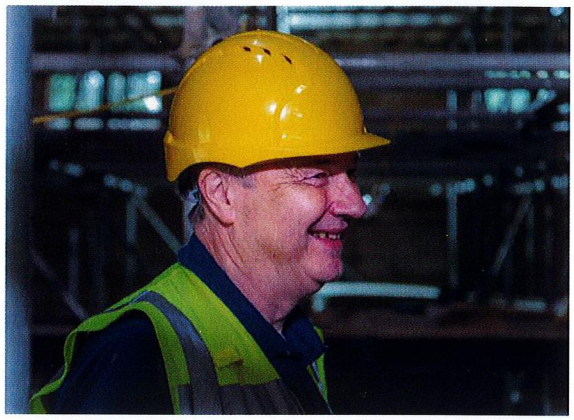
The Development Group

The Development Group was set up in mid-2018 to work on behalf of the PCC to seek more substantial donations and grants from individuals and organisations and to hold major fund-raising events. The Group was extremely successful in raising large amounts of money for the rebuilding of St Peter's over the last 4 years and the PCC is very grateful to them.

The Events Team

With the re-opening of St Peter's in August, the focus for fundraising has changed. An Events Team has been set up to organise fundraising events in the church, including the use of the church for business meetings and business events. A very successful Ceilidh was held in December and a full programme of events is already planned for 2023. The PCC is very grateful to Jules Flory, Georgie Nichol and Kate Cook for taking on this major initiative.

ST PETER'S CHURCH RESTORATION (Report by Andy Bonner)



3 - Andy Bonner

After seven years of reporting to the APCM, and in the Annual Report, on how plans for the rebuild, and then progress on the rebuild is going, it is amazing to be able to enter a report about moving in, St Peter's reopening and using the building for the first time in eight years.

It wasn't an easy build to complete with the design having to comply to the restrictions relating to a listed building, the changes in material supply after Brexit and all of the delays brought about by the covid pandemic, but we got there.

Certainly there are still a few snagging fixes being worked on but the vision that was developed after the village meetings back in early 2015 has been made real by the hard work and dedication of Alexander Design, Reside and all of the teams of people working on it. Not forgetting, of course, everyone involved in the fundraising and all of those who generously donated.

All of the work and donations have given us a modern, multi-use, church with kitchen and toilet facilities, underfloor heating, wifi, an integrated sound system with hearing loop and everything that is needed to make St Peter's a real village asset, with space for over two hundred people. Donations of items such as the organ have added to the seating and other furniture with which we have equipped the church.

There is still some way to go to the final completion of everything that was in the original plan. We still need to return the bells to the tower and install the final parts of the lighting and stained glass. Outside of the church we also have to consider the pathways and the graveyard in general. Fundraising continues.

It has been superb to see so many people coming to St Peter's after the opening evening and making the church the vibrant busy place that we had all hoped that it would, once again, become.



4 - Our joyful re-opening (photo by kind permission of Gordon Brown)



5 - A fundraising Cèilidh using our wonderful space

TREASURERS REPORT 2022 (by Alan Parsonson)

Once again, the Committee are grateful for the extreme generosity of individuals and various local societies for their financial support of the PCC.

General Account (Unrestricted Funds):

Since the Church opened for services there has been an increase in the collections, with collections, donations and Parish Giving Scheme accounting for £38,519 (70%) of total income. An initiative to hold fund raising Events in the Church has already begun and further events are already planned for 2023.

During the year, the PCC became responsible for the accounts for the Garden Fund requiring a temporary loan of £1,796 to fund expenses whilst awaiting Bank authorities and £2,500 was used to temporarily support the Building account. Both of these amounts were reimbursed in the year.

Having opened the Church, and coincident with utility inflation, the account has seen significant increases in utility and insurance costs now comprising c. 50% of total costs.

Of the balance of £95,961 at the end of the year amounts of £489.32 and £381.22 are reserved for contribution to Bell repairs and Trinity Winchester, respectively.

Appeal Account (Restricted Funds):

During the year, £22,500 was transferred to the Building account.

Income has, once again, been by way of donations and Gift Aid, including over £11,000 for the specific purpose of buying new chairs, of which £2,556 was gifted by Alresford PIGS and £350 by the Ropley Society. At the end of the year £2,311, out of the total balance of £10,804, is ring-fenced for more chairs.

Building Account (Restricted Funds):

At long last the building works have been completed and most of the payments due have been paid. A residual payment of c.£181,000, in respect of building works, architectural fees, etc., is due in 2023 and, thanks to the generosity of Winchester Diocese, adequate funds are available to meet this future commitment.

During the year, it was necessary to secure a £200,000 loan from the diocese, the repayment terms of which will be set in 2024 once we have more clarity of our cash flow. Further, £24,000 was transferred from the Garden Fund in respect of works carried out during the rebuild which would have normally been covered by that fund.

Garden Fund:

During the year the responsibilities of the Garden Society were transferred to the PCC and the funds will be restricted for the original purposes of the Society. As mentioned above, £24,000 was transferred to the Building account.

Reserves Policy:

The PCC's Reserves Policy is to maintain sufficient funds in the Unrestricted Funds equivalent to cover six months' running costs and that the Restricted Funds, net of CCLA funds established for specific purposes, have sufficient funds available to meet known financial commitments

VOLUNTEERS (Report by Barbara Pettegree)

A year ago, we were looking forward and working towards the completion and reopening of St Peter's Church with very little idea of what was to come. In August 2022, we were handed the keys to the building and this seemed to symbolise the amazing space we had been given, to worship God and to serve the wider community. This only became possible because of the tireless effort of many, church goers and not. The whole community and beyond, rolled their sleeves up and contributed, financially and with tasks, necessary to begin to equip the building and turn it into a useable space.

As the church opened its doors over the August bank holiday weekend, visitors were greeted by magnificent flower arrangements, in the porches, windowsills and nave, all thanks to our team of flower arrangers who continue, providing wonderful displays Sunday by Sunday

Then there are the coffee makers, enjoying the new catering facilities, encouraging people to stay a while and chat after the Sunday service.

Getting the two acres of churchyard tidy was an enormous challenge as fencing enclosing the church had made it impossible to cut grass or weed around graves. Garden machinery had to be stored in local peoples garages and sheds as the original shed had been a casualty of the fire. In spite of all these difficulties, the Gardening Team did a magnificent job and the churchyard became a place where people could enjoy the tranquillity.

To name individuals and organisations would be impossible, running the risk of leaving out even more. A huge 'thank you' to every single person, young and old who contributed to make St Peters the building and the community it is growing into. The church belongs to us all and we look forward to welcoming you in.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a Registered Charity with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC meet regularly throughout the year and have the ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including such matters as compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation and child protection. In addition to the main body of the PCC there is a standing committee comprising of Vicar, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary and currently the rebuilding coordinator. They meet as required and are authorised to decide on issues which may arise between PCC meetings but they are responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met about every two months. Given the considerable amount of work in dealing with the church renovation issues the standing committee met on a number of occasions to consult with the architect, the Diocese and other professionals to discuss issues relating to planning and faculty permissions and to receive reports on the progress of the rebuilding program. Reports of these meetings are relayed to the full PCC at subsequent meetings.

APPROVED BY THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL & SIGNED ON THEIR BEHALF BY PCC CHAIR

C. Welh 14/5/23

Rev'd Clare Welham

PCC Chair

Date: 25th April 2022

St Peter's Church — Rebuilt to be a place of community and belonging



6 - Photo by kind permission of David Quick



7 - Photo by kind permission of Gordon Brown



8 - Photo by kind permission of Rodney Skinner



9 - Photo by kind permission of Gordon Brown



10 - John Alexander & Andy Bonner discuss the build



11 - Dave Standen, Site Manager



12 - Eldon Jeandron, Site Manager



13 - John Alexander updates the PCC on progress

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2022.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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.

David Sanders BA (Hons) FCA BFP
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
The Engine House
77 Station Road
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU32 3FQ

Date: 25/04/2023

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	48,172	367,748	415,920	476,152
Charitable activities					
Garden Society		-	569	569	-
Other trading activities	3	3,236	350	3,586	3,161
Investment income	4	-	159	159	232
Total		51,408	368,826	420,234	479,545
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Church activities		29,394	1,274	30,668	21,871
Church restorations		-	841,241	841,241	1,174,591
Garden Society		-	2,598	2,598	-
Total		29,394	845,113	874,507	1,196,462
Net gains on investments		-	739	739	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		22,014	(475,548)	(453,534)	(716,917)
Transfers between funds	14	(6,375)	6,375	-	-
Net movement in funds		15,639	(469,173)	(453,534)	(716,917)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		79,784	403,197	482,981	1,199,898
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		95,423	(65,976)	29,447	482,981

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	9	-	20,756	20,756	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	903	142,384	143,287	285
Cash at bank		97,454	142,395	239,849	483,872
		98,357	284,779	383,136	484,157
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,934)	(171,511)	(174,445)	(1,176)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		95,423	113,268	208,691	482,981
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		95,423	134,024	229,447	482,981
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	-	(200,000)	(200,000)	-
NET ASSETS		95,423	(65,976)	29,447	482,981
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				95,423	79,784
Restricted funds				(65,976)	403,197
TOTAL FUNDS				29,447	482,981

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ..... and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Clare Welham - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. There are no material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to the sufficient cash balance held as at 31st December 2022.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Planned giving	3,100	-	3,100	1,320
Collections at services	6,964	-	6,964	1,535
Parish giving scheme	26,905	-	26,905	16,345
Gift aid recovered	6,045	-	6,045	12,823
Grants	-	252,000	252,000	203,721
Donations	2,916	666	3,582	42,534
Carried forward	45,930	252,666	298,596	278,278

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Brought forward	45,930	252,666	298,596	278,278
Special collections	900	-	900	655
Ropley Church appeal	-	55,188	55,188	181,878
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
Miscellaneous income	-	-	-	39
Grants	-	-	-	15,252
Introduce Garden Society	-	57,176	57,176	-
Events	1,292	2,718	4,010	-
	48,172	367,748	415,920	476,152

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	203,721
Other grants	252,000	-
	252,000	203,721

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Fees	3,236	350	3,586	3,161

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Deposit account interest	-	159	159	232

continued...

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Grant funding of activities	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Church activities	27,673	847	2,148	30,668
Church restorations	841,241	-	-	841,241
Garden Society	2,598	-	-	2,598
	871,512	847	2,148	874,507

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Church activities	2,148

Governance costs comprise Independent Examiner's fees of £2,148 (2021: £1,164).

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	35,303	440,849	476,152
Other trading activities	3,161	-	3,161
Investment income	-	232	232
Total	38,464	441,081	479,545
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Church activities	21,819	52	21,871
Church restorations	-	1,174,591	1,174,591
Total	21,819	1,174,643	1,196,462
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	16,645	(733,562)	(716,917)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898

continued...

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	79,784	403,197	482,981

9. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
Additions	20,017
Revaluations	739
At 31st December 2022	20,756
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2022	20,756
At 31st December 2021	-

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Cost or valuation at 31st December 2022 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2022	739
Cost	20,017
	20,756

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments and accrued income	143,287	285

continued...

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	174,445	1,176

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	200,000	-

13. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Other loans	200,000	-

A loan of £200,000 has been received from the Diocese of Winchester. No interest or repayment is expected on this loan until October 2024 as which point the interest rate and repayment schedule will be agreed with the Diocese of Winchester.

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	79,784	22,014	(6,375)	95,423
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	2,866	45,112	(36,905)	11,073
Tower fund	540	-	(540)	-
Building fund	389,963	(576,677)	67,820	(118,894)
Church Fabric fund	910	12	-	922
Organ fund	6,948	92	-	7,040
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,970	26	-	1,996
Garden Society fund	-	55,887	(24,000)	31,887
	403,197	(475,548)	6,375	(65,976)
TOTAL FUNDS	482,981	(453,534)	-	29,447

continued...

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	51,408	(29,394)	-	22,014
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	58,286	(13,174)	-	45,112
Building fund	252,664	(829,341)	-	(576,677)
Church Fabric fund	12	-	-	12
Organ fund	92	-	-	92
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	26	-	-	26
Garden Society fund	57,746	(2,598)	739	55,887
	368,826	(845,113)	739	(475,548)
TOTAL FUNDS	420,234	(874,507)	739	(453,534)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	63,139	16,645	-	79,784
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	755,564	182,052	(934,750)	2,866
Tower fund	540	-	-	540
Building fund	370,831	(915,618)	934,750	389,963
Church Fabric fund	910	-	-	910
Organ fund	6,945	3	-	6,948
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,969	1	-	1,970
	1,136,759	(733,562)	-	403,197
TOTAL FUNDS	1,199,898	(716,917)	-	482,981

continued...

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	38,464	(21,819)	16,645
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	182,104	(52)	182,052
Building fund	258,973	(1,174,591)	(915,618)
Organ fund	3	-	3
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1	-	1
	441,081	(1,174,643)	(733,562)
TOTAL FUNDS	479,545	(1,196,462)	(716,917)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	63,139	38,659	(6,375)	95,423
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	755,564	227,164	(971,655)	11,073
Tower fund	540	-	(540)	-
Building fund	370,831	(1,492,295)	1,002,570	(118,894)
Church Fabric fund	910	12	-	922
Organ fund	6,945	95	-	7,040
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,969	27	-	1,996
Garden Society fund	-	55,887	(24,000)	31,887
	1,136,759	(1,209,110)	6,375	(65,976)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,199,898	(1,170,451)	-	29,447

continued...

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	89,872	(51,213)	-	38,659
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	240,390	(13,226)	-	227,164
Building fund	511,637	(2,003,932)	-	(1,492,295)
Church Fabric fund	12	-	-	12
Organ fund	95	-	-	95
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	27	-	-	27
Garden Society fund	57,746	(2,598)	739	55,887
	809,907	(2,019,756)	739	(1,209,110)
TOTAL FUNDS	899,779	(2,070,969)	739	(1,170,451)

Appeal Fund: These accounts represent monies received towards the rebuilding of the church. The sources of funds include personal donations, grants, fundraising events and Gift Aid reclaimed.

Tower Fund: During the year what was previously called the Tower Fund has been absorbed in the Building Fund and, as at the end of the year, £14,375 is set aside for the repair and reinstallation of the Bells.

Building Fund: During the year a loan facility of £274,500 plus a grant facility of £252,000 has been secured to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet the currently known costs relating to Phase 1 of the rebuild of St Peter's Church plus an amount to help fund some Phase 2 expenses. As at the end of the year £200,000 loan and £137,500 grant have been drawn down. The repayment terms of any loans taken will be agreed in 2024 with a potential repayment term of 8 years.

Fabric Fund: These funds are for the maintenance and upkeep of the church building and income is normally received from donations or specific events raising monies for the fabric of the church and not just general funds.

Organ Fund: This originates from fundraising many years ago to refurbish the organ. The success of the fundraising raised more money than required to undertake the refurbishment so the balance remaining was being used to maintain the old organ, which was subsequently destroyed in the fire.

Rosemary Bray Fund: This fund represent monies raised and used to make kneelers for the church. Again there was a surplus left after all the work was completed. It is not expected that new kneelers will be made when the church is renovated.

Garden Society Fund: The responsibilities of the, previously independent, Garden Society (charged with keeping the church grounds in good order) was transferred to the PCC. The funds for this activity are held in separate accounts and will be used solely for the original purposes of the society. As a result of works carried out during the rebuild falling within the Society's remit, £24,000 was remitted to the Building Fund.

continued...

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Donations and legacies				
Planned giving	3,100	-	3,100	1,320
Collections at services	6,964	-	6,964	1,535
Parish giving scheme	26,905	-	26,905	16,345
Gift aid recovered	6,045	-	6,045	12,823
Grants	-	252,000	252,000	203,721
Donations	2,916	666	3,582	42,534
Special collections	900	-	900	655
Ropley Church appeal	-	55,188	55,188	181,878
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
Miscellaneous income	-	-	-	39
Grants	-	-	-	15,252
Introduce Garden Society	-	57,176	57,176	-
Events	1,292	2,718	4,010	-
	48,172	367,748	415,920	476,152
Other trading activities				
Fees	3,236	350	3,586	3,161
Investment income				
Deposit account interest	-	159	159	232
Charitable activities				
Garden Society	-	569	569	-
Total incoming resources	51,408	368,826	420,234	479,545
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities				
Printing and stationery	518	-	518	262
Diocesan parish share	-	-	-	10,115
Diocesan fees	965	-	965	443
Church running expenses	13,937	-	13,937	8,667
Cost of services	788	-	788	596
Parochial expenses	-	-	-	240
Event costs	1,663	140	1,803	-
Miscellaneous expenses	8,528	1,134	9,662	45
Garden Society	-	2,598	2,598	-
Church restorations	-	841,241	841,241	1,174,591
Mission giving & donations	847	-	847	339
	27,246	845,113	872,359	1,195,298

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Support costs				
Governance costs				
Independent examination	2,148	-	2,148	1,164
Total resources expended	29,394	845,113	874,507	1,196,462
Net (expenditure)/income	22,014	(476,287)	(454,273)	(716,917)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINC

England & Wales - Charity number 1176142

Accounts

St Peter's Church, Ropley

St Peter's Church
ROPLEY

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2021

St Peter's Church, Ropley PCC

Contents of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2021

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ANNUAL REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Peter's Church is situated in Church Street, Ropley. It is part of the Alresford Deanery in the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Lyeway Lane, Ropley, Alresford, Hants. SO24 0DW

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission Registered Charity Number 1176142

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Priest-in-charge:

Rev'd Clare Welham

Churchwardens:

Mrs Norma Day	Health & Safety Officer
Mrs Jane Plowright	(To November, 2021)
Mrs Barbara Pettegree	(From PCC meeting on 30.11.2021)

Representative on the Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee: Mr Keith Monkhouse

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mr Keith Monkhouse
Mr Humphrey Carr

Elected Members:

Mr Ron Beal	Website Manager
Mr Humphrey Carr	Parish Stewardship Promoter
Mrs Julia Flory	Minutes Secretary (from APCM, May, 2021)
Mr Ken Ingle	Treasurer & Vice Chair (to July, 2021)
Mr Keith Monkhouse	Acting Treasurer (from September, 2021)
Mr Nigel Plowright	Grants Administrator (to September, 2021)
Mrs Julie Rugg	Secretary (to APCM, May, 2021)
Mr Rodney Skinner	
Mrs Susan Thomas	Safeguarding Officer
Mrs Elizabeth Wheeler	From APCM, May, 2021
Mrs Alison Wood	Electoral Roll Officer, Secretary (from APCM, 2021)

Co-Opted Members

Mr Andy Bonner	Church rebuilding co-ordinator

As at the 31st December 2021 there were 97 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 88 were resident in the parish.

The total Worshipping Community at the end of 2021 was 57.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St Peter's, Church Street, Ropley.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Peter's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we rebuild and maintain the fabric of St Peter's Church and the planning and preparation for this has been underway since the fire in 2014 which virtually destroyed the church building. During this year work continued on the rebuild which we hope will be completed by mid 2022. We will then be able to focus on phase two projects, such as the restoration of the bells, over the coming years.

The PCC have the ultimate responsibility for the project but are supported by the specialist professionals, the Diocese and other relevant bodies as required. The progress of the rebuild is closely monitored by the PCC through regular site visits and monthly reporting via the architect and other professionals employed on the project.

Volunteers have made an important contribution to the rebuilding principally in fundraising to meet the expected shortfall and have raised funds from events, grant applications and encouraging donor contributions from a wide range of local individuals and also from those further afield with connections to Ropley and the Church.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The PCC are fully aware of the financial implications of the church rebuild and that the full amount of the funds are not yet held to meet the expected overall cost.

Since the end of the financial year, the PCC has taken a diocesan loan to ensure that the project will be completed and are actively working to bridge the shortfall gap. Regular financial updates are provided to the PCC based on the known and anticipated future costs.

OUR CHURCH THIS YEAR (Report by Rev'd Clare Welham)

When we met at our APCM to reflect on 2020 we felt that covid restrictions were gradually easing and perhaps the worst was behind us. However, 2021 proved to be a year of transition and not the fresh start that we initially hoped for. As the year began, another National Lockdown meant that, for everyone's safety, worship was once again online and we were unable to restart services in person until Palm Sunday. All sorts of creative ways were used to keep in touch from zoom and pre-records, to envelopes of ashes and garden chats; the church community stayed together and worship continued throughout it all. This time of transition is visible in the number of people worshiping with us throughout the year with numbers fluctuating as local risk factors continued to go up and down. We had less than half of our normal congregation for Easter with only 37 attending and only 49 were able to gather for in person worship across the two services for Christmas Day. However, a truly wonderful Community Carol Event outside St. Peter's organised by the Friends, proved that we could celebrate in other ways and was testament to the resilience of the whole community of Ropley. At other points of the year we were able to return to more typical gatherings with a particularly joyful Harvest Lunch even more enjoyable because it had been sorely missed in 2020. The whole PCC would like to thank all those who make our weekly worship and special events alike such a success in particular our Wardens for 2021, Norma Day and Jane Plowright; our sides people Roy and Shirley Wyeth, and Jason Clements, who offer such a warm welcome to regulars and visitors alike; Margaret Newman and her flower team for stepping into action whenever services were allowed; John Bate for never giving up on the Ropley 16! and for his playing once music was permitted.

Sadly Jane Plowright was forced to take a step back from the Warden's Role in the Autumn in order to care for her mother and in November formally submitted her resignation to Bishop Debbie. We are hugely grateful to Jane for her work as warden during this unsettled season and are delighted that she remains a member of our congregation. We are also very grateful to Norma Day for tackling the increased workload with her usual efficiency and for all that both she and Tim have done to ensure the smooth running of our parish hall worship. In July 2021 we were shocked to hear that our long-term treasurer and much loved member of the congregation, Ken Ingle, had passed away. We were able to say a heartfelt thanks for his incredible contribution over the years at his funeral service at St. John's Alresford and Ken was laid to rest in the churchyard of St. Peter's. The whole PCC owes a huge debt of gratitude to Keith Monkhouse for all his work as Interim Treasurer and we are delighted and thankful that Alan Parsonson has now agreed to take the role on permanently.

One of the great delights of the year has been the progress of the rebuild project, outlined in greater detail later in this report, which has finally been clearly visible from outside the fencing. The PCC were able to restart monthly tours and have been involved in a variety of decisions throughout, making good use of virtual PCC meetings. We very much hope and believe that the next APCM will be able to deliver full details of its reopening and the many church and

community events that it has hosted. The PCC remain hugely grateful to Andy Bonner for his patient guidance and tireless commitment to the project; we don't know what we would do without him!

Fundraising for the church rebuild was given an incredible boost when Revd Clare received the generous offer of fund matching everything raised in a two month window up to the value of 50k. Initially daunted by the idea of raising such a huge amount in just two months, we were blown away by the response of supporters near and far and were astounded when the total came in at over 80k. We are hugely grateful to our generous anonymous benefactor for his contribution of 50k and to each and every person who worked tirelessly to make the most of the opportunity; amongst them Jules Flory and the fantastic auction team, Julia Morgan and her events teams and Norma Day and her Fete team. To name everyone would take the entire report, it really was a whole community effort!

If we found 2021 a challenging year, we were certainly not alone. The PCC have learnt a lot about risk assessments but how much more had to be learnt and done by the Head, Staff and Children of Ropley Church of England School. We have been in awe of everything that they have done and achieved virtually and in person throughout the pandemic. We are very grateful to our foundation governors; Norma Day and Kerriann McLackland for their part in this. Revd Clare has continued as a co-opted governor but more importantly has been able to continue with weekly collective worship both online and in person during the year. We were so touched that every class in the school from the tiniest in 'Bumblebee 'Class to the oldest in 'Beekeepers 'held a fundraising event

FRIDAY COFFEE & CHAT (Report by Alison Lester, Sue Thomas & Sarah Earthy)

Coffee and a Chat restarted in September 2021 following the long break for Covid. Initial meetings were distanced with some preferring to stay outside, but everyone was delighted to be able to see each other in person again.

The sessions now run from 10.30-12 every Friday morning, and are joyous times of laughter and companionship.

ROPLEY CHURCH GODPARENT SCHEME (Report by Sue Thomas)

The Ropley Church Godparent Scheme has suffered again from having no baptisms in Ropley during 2021. However, some Ropley babies have been christened at West Tisted and Bishops Sutton with their Ropley Church Godparents in attendance.

As we start to rebuild regular church activities within the new St Peter's, we're looking for more volunteers to be church godparents.

Keeping in touch with families and children, remembering them with Christmas, Easter and Baptism Anniversary cards all help to encourage the link to their church family and the wider community.

ROPLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL (Report by Norma Day – Foundation Governor)

Although the support that we, as a Church community, have given to our local school, Ropley C of E Primary, throughout 2021 has taken on a different format due to the National pandemic brought about by Covid-19 and the resulting closures and restrictions, we have maintained our commitment through our Revd Clare as Co-Opted Governor and our Foundation Governors, Norma Day and Kerriann Mclackland.

Clare provided excellent online worship for the whole school ensuring that in addition to the weekly themes, major festivals and historical events, including Founders Day, were also celebrated. Sadly, the Year 6 Leavers Service, which is held in the Cathedral each year and brings together children from all over the diocese, couldn't take place but we were able to be present at the outdoor Ropley Leavers service when the children were presented with a bible donated by St Peter's Church.

There was a short respite in the autumn term when we were able to enjoy 'live 'worship sessions with the children and staff in school, which included the lead up to Christmas but a long period of online worship only has followed.

The Headteacher, Sarah Vittle and her staff are to be commended for their commitment to deliver the very best education for the children and also care for all the families during these unprecedented and difficult times.

DEANERY SYNOD (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

Focal Ministry

Two Focal Ministers, Alresford and Bighton, have now been commissioned. Parishes will have the opportunity to receive a briefing on the scheme.

Old Alresford Place

The future of Old Alresford Place is still under discussion as many consider that it should be retained within the Diocese.

Lango

Our association with LANGO has now ceased. A final donation of £700 from the Deanery Synod, increased to £1075 by other donations, was made and a letter of thanks received for all our support in the past. Barbara Griffiths who had chaired the committee for many years was also thanked for all her work.

Further overseas associations with a possible link with Rwanda are also being considered. There is considerable work to be done to determine the possible location and scope of the link before Parishes are to become involved.

Deanery Services

The Deanery Service this year, held in the Parish Hall Ropley was not as well attended as last year's. The Service this year will be replaced with a Deanery Pilgrimage, Alresford to Winchester Cathedral on Saturday 28th May. There are various stages to the walk which will take about 4 hours 15 mins. Details are included in the St Peter's website.

Deanery Farm Church Services

Farm Church Services have been successfully continued. The next is at Scrubbs Farm, Bishop's Sutton, on Saturday 2nd April, 3pm-4pm.with the theme 'Lambs & Lambing". 6 such services will be held throughout the year.

STEWARDSHIP AND PARISH GIVING SCHEME (Report by Humphrey Carr)

Stewardship has yet again suffered because of the over-riding requirement for fundraising for the re-building of the new church. Work on the church has been delayed by the Coronavirus 'lockdowns', and the cost of the re-build has escalated because of supply-chain difficulties and the ever-increasing cost of materials.

I can only repeat that regular giving is the main source of income for the Church, supporting its ministry and mission as well as clergy housing, stipends and pensions. It is going to be even more important in the coming years, as the running costs of the new church are going to be significantly higher than the expense we have been used to over the last six years, which has been almost entirely the hiring fee for the Parish Hall. We will have to pay for the heating, lighting and upkeep of the new church, and energy costs are forecast to be very substantially higher.

During the year there were 25 (only one more than last year) who contributed through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), which allows the Church to continue receiving its income, whether or not people are able to attend the Sunday services. It also hugely simplifies the work of the Treasurer, as Gift Aid is automatically collected by the C of E scheme administrator.

Giving via the PGS is therefore the recommended method, and I would urge every member of the congregation to consider joining the PGS. Further information about how the scheme works can be found at www.parishgiving.org.uk, where you can register and set up your regular giving on-line. For the purposes of the website, the church is Ropley St Peter and the PGS code is 416001022.

If anyone wishes to know anything more, or would like a gift form to join the scheme, do please ask me (Tel: 772216).

SAFEGUARDING REPORT (From Sue Thomas, Safeguarding Officer)

We have not had any safeguarding issues identified in the last year.

All PCC members have been DBS approved and are undertaking the Basic and Foundation Levels of the Diocesan Safeguarding Training Course.

We have zero tolerance to any form of abuse. The PCC has approved the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy which will be displayed in St Peter's and on our website.

WEBSITE - stpetersropley.org.uk (Report by Ron Beal)

The St Peter's website – stpetersropley.org.uk – continues to be an essential parish resource, allowing information to be disseminated rapidly and easily to a wide audience.

During the lockdown period, the website enabled us to ensure materials were available for worshipping at home – offering weekly video sermons, weekly bulletins and a wealth of other resources.

The Friends of St Peter's Church website - friendsofropleychurch.org.uk - is also available. This focusses primarily on fundraising activity by the Friends.

In addition to the websites themselves, other cloud-based resources are utilised. Notably Google Calendar to hold the Benefice diary and Google Drive to store photos, archive and source material.

ROPLEY BELL RINGERS (Report by Rodney Skinner – Tower Captain)



Not much to report. I have kept the band together, but age and infirmities are showing. We need learners.

Practices were cancelled during winter as it seemed silly to heat Bishop's Sutton church for an hour and half during the week. I`d like to thank Bishop's Sutton for the use of their bells.

We have rung at Bishop's Sutton for the benefice services, though sadly the last service I could only get three ringers as others were away and still sheltering.

The re-hanging of Ropley bells seems to be getting further away. Cash is the biggest problem. The money for the re-casting and welding has been handed to the PCC. We have had a grant from the Winchester and Portsmouth guild of Bell Ringers of £10,000, but only when the work is

finished, and £500 from the Winchester district ringers, besides a number of donations for the bells. This June the A.G.M. of the Guild is at Alton and we are hoping to get some more money from them. The Guild executive committee are, supposedly, visiting the church next month to see the work already done.

This year will see me complete fifty years as a ringing member of the Guild.

I informed the PCC that I will not stand again after over fifty years on and off. It's time for others to take the reins.

FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, ROPLEY & FUNDRAISING (Report by Alison Wood)

Whilst the restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic in 2021 did impact on our planned in-person fundraising events, significant progress was made in raising money for the Appeal Fund. The PCC is very grateful to the many people who donated or supported the Appeal Fund in 2021.

As noted in the 2020 Annual Report, during 2019, it was decided to divide fundraising for the Appeal into two phases. Phase 1 will provide us with a usable building, hopefully before the end of 2022. Fundraising for Phase 2 will then start immediately to raise money for other items, such as the stained-glass windows in the East and West elevations, the bells, church clock, furniture and a PA system.

Friends of St Peter's Church, Ropley

The PCC greatly appreciates and values the support and fund-raising efforts of the Friends of St Peter's Church over many years. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, The Friends were able to undertake a range of much enjoyed in-person fund-raising events in 2021. These included:

- Cindy Chetwode's enlightening talk on Lady Anne Clifford,
- the Louisson's Hog Roast lunch,
- the Shakespeare's Open Garden at Kitwood,
- the Summer Drinks Party at Town Street Farmhouse, and
- the Car Boot Sale and Old Bags Sale 2 organised by Julia Morgan and friends.

£8,000 was raised from these events. The Friends also helped the Development Group with the online auction in September, 2021 (see below).

By October, 2021, The Friends were able to make a further grant of £40,000 to the PCC for the Appeal Fund, leaving about £4,000 in The Friends account at the end of 2021.

The Development Group

As noted in the 2019 and 2020 Annual Reports, in the second half of 2018 a group of people keen to help raise money for the Appeal began meeting under the chairmanship of Humphrey

Carr. The Group, known as the Development Group, works on behalf of the PCC, seeking more substantial donations from individuals and organisations and holding major fund-raising events.

The Development Group organised the extremely successfully online auction for the Church Appeal, which was held in September, 2021. With a huge array of lots there was an enormous choice for bidders. Over £34,000 was raised. Special thanks go to Julia Flory, Georgie Nichol, Kate Cook and their team for all their hard work in organising and running the auction.

The PCC is very grateful to the Development Group for all their work and support.

Grants (PCC Grants Administrator – Nigel Plowright)

We received 4 grant offers in 2021:

- The Duke of Devonshire's 1949 Charitable Trust
- The Beatrice Laing Trust
- The Winchester District of the WP Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
- The Trustees of the Bell Restoration Fund (BRF), The Winchester and Portsmouth (WP) Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

The first three have already been received and the fourth will be received once the work has been carried out. The generous support from the various grant providers is very much appreciated by the PCC and for their endorsements of our ambitious rebuilding project for St Peter's.

Nigel Plowright worked extremely hard throughout 2021 to research, prepare and submit the grant applications and liaise with the grant giving organisations. The PCC thank him for all his successful efforts.

A new Grants Administrator is to be found for applications being submitted in 2022 and beyond.

The Future

Progress with the rebuilding of St Peter's is now very visible and the PCC will continue to look to explore more ways to innovate and expand opportunities to generate more donations and fundraising support in 2022 and beyond.

ST PETER'S CHURCH RESTORATION (Report by Andy Bonner)

Just when we thought it was safe to go back to building, Omicron decided to make an appearance. This year was better than the previous one but there were still stoppages due to covid and shortages of people and materials. To add to that, companies couldn't supply items in the original design and changes had to be made. By the year end Reside and John Alexander had put in some excellent work and the ceiling was up and the internal fit out begun.

The completion has slipped with a projected practical completion date of the end of May 2022. That will be eight years since the fire.

Physically, St Peter's is the same size inside as ever it was but the feeling is new and the bright, light interior is a credit to John's vision from 2015 when he first put pen to paper. (actually, it was probably mouse to MacBook).

There have had to be some compromises because of increasing costs and the extension of time but we have tried to delay items rather than install inferior, so that the building is prepared for when money is available. Items like the central light and stained-glass windows aren't in place now but they can be installed at a later date.

As we near the completion of this phase of the rebuild, and we are discussing things like paint colours, the scale of the work that has been done is becoming apparent and it will be good to open the doors in mid-2022 and let everyone see the rebuilt St Peter's.

Finance has been an issue for years now, and it remains an issue. The generosity of everyone involved, in Ropley and beyond, has been amazing and the amount of money raised has been beyond what any of us thought possible. As we begin to move into the next phase, looking at items like the restoration of the bells, the fundraising effort continues.



St Peter's Church, taken on 06 April 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2021 (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - GENERAL (by Keith Monkhouse)

As an introduction to the ensuing financial reports, I must again commend the work of Ken Ingle as treasurer for many years. It is difficult to match the detailed aspects of his work. Although the accounts satisfactorily balance we have been unable to find, so far, his detailed accounts for last year and so detailed comparisons are not possible. However broad comparisons can be made.

It has been a year of significant generosity as is shown by the Gift Aid collected from individual donations, most of which were entered into the Appeal Account with the associated Gift Aid paid by HMRC to the General Account. It was decided mid-year that we would temporarily cease our monthly payment to the Common Mission Fund (Parish Share) in order to save expenditure from the General Fund. Although the General Fund is an unrestricted fund which means that it can be used for any purpose, it has not been used for the building works thus far. It was, however, decided mid-year that, in view of the possible deficit in the building account, it may be necessary temporarily to permit transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Building fund as a loan. Indeed some part, or all, of the Gift Aid sum of £17,385.95 should be transferred with the agreement of the PCC as it was mainly raised from donations to the Appeal Fund.

The most significant increase in expenditure has been the large expenditure on electricity supply at the start of the year probably because of the type of building work being done then.

We had intended to simplify our accounts presentation this year but we are advised by our Auditors that the accounts now presented are the minimum acceptable.

ROPLEY CHURCH – APPEAL ACCOUNT (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

At the start of 2021 the PCC Appeal account totalled £205,552.00 and at the end of the year this had reduced to £2,627.98, a significant decrease. However this was as planned because funds totalling £934,750.00 were transferred during the year to the Building Fund. The major source were the funds in our savings accounts with the CCLA ((Churches, Charities and Local Authorities) Investment Management Limited) which was initially introduced in 1958 as the Church of England Investment Fund. The funds were sourced as follows:

From balance from previous year	£205,552.00
Transfer from the CCLA Appeal Fund	£550,000.00
Fundraising	£181,877.98
	£937,42..98

Fundraising was achieved via the following receipts:

Donations	£92,199.56
Events	£29,521.52
Golden Giving	£14,243.50
	135,964.58

Grants

Alresford Pigs Association	£190
Duke of Devonshire DDCT Donation	£1,000
Ropley Parish Council	£13,033.40
Adam & Company	£5,000
Clerkindell Charitable Trust	£5,000
J Bourne-May Charitable Trust	£1,000
Beatrice Laing Trust	£20,000
Winchester & District Bell Ringers Guild	£500
Alresford Ladies Group (Bells)	£190
	£45,913.40
Plus Donations, Events and Golden Giving	£135,904.58
	£181,877.98

However there is still an expected shortfall to enable phase one of the rebuild to be completed and grant applications are already planned to help meet this shortfall expected later in 2022.

In addition to the fundraising for the PCC Appeal the Friends of St Peter's Church have also been actively fundraising for the church restoration and details of their activities are reported separately. The Friends have donated £40,000 to the Appeal Fund during the year – much appreciated.

ROPLEY CHURCH – BUILDING ACCOUNT (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

After a long period of planning and preparation the rebuilding of St Peter's began in March 2019. During 2020 total payments of £1,097,288 were made, principally to the builders Reside Construction Ltd which was £984,543. This amount includes VAT the majority of which we have been able to claim back under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS) and during the year these grants amounted to £172,169. In 2021 VAT receipts were £203,721.12. The Government have now confirmed the funding for the Scheme until 31st March 2025.The total payments from the Building Fund in 2021 were £1,312,406.45 of which payments to Reside amounted to £1,216,205.

Other costs relate to the ongoing fees for architect, quantity surveyor, structural engineers, design consultant, archaeologists plus other consultants and costs relating to the rebuild. All insurance income was completed during 2021.

Future income will consist of donations, grants and a flexible £200,000 loan which has been agreed by the Winchester Diocese and will be drawn down as necessary.

As far as future costs are concerned it is expected that the Reside costs will exceed their initial statement. All costs are increased due to Brexit and Covid which were not a factor when the decision to proceed with the rebuild was made. An assessment at the end of 2021 indicated that,

assuming the £200,000 loan was all taken up we would have some £43,000 remaining in the bank at the end date then assumed to be March 22. The completion date has now gone back to end May 2022 and that will cause further increased costs. The final Reside costs have yet to be agreed and may add further to the overall costs. There will, however, still be a proportion of the loan plus interest and a retention sum of some £78,000 to be repaid by mid May 2023. Further information will be included in Andy Bonner's report on the Church Restoration.

RESERVES POLICY (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets), which equates to at least six months. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

It has been agreed that the restricted General Fund will be available to fund any unforeseen building expenses on a loan basis.

The balances on the six CCLA restricted funds, Appeal Fund, Building Fund, Fabric Fund, Organ Fund, Rosemary Bray Fund and Tower Fund are held for the designated purposes and will be used for their specific purpose as required. We have drawn down £550,076 which is the majority of the balance in the CCLA Appeal fund and transferred it to the Building Fund during the year.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund though this has been suspended in this time of heavy cash demands for rebuilding,

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank all the many volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is.

Over the last 39 years the Friends of St Peter's Church have financially supported the upkeep of the fabric of the church and the churchyard. Their fundraising has been of great benefit to the church and they continue to give valued support to the PCC in the rebuilding of St Peter's.

The churchyard is maintained by volunteers from the Ropley Church Garden Society who undertake seasonal grass cutting, tree pruning and generally keep the churchyard tidy for the benefit of parishioners and visitors.

Maintaining the churchyard during 2021 has been extremely difficult for the Garden Society because of Covid restrictions and also because a large area of the churchyard was effectively put 'out of bounds 'due to the rebuilding work. Plans are in hand to improve the appearance of the churchyard during 2022 and to continue a regular maintenance programme.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a Registered Charity with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC meet regularly throughout the year and have the ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including such matters as compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation and child protection. In addition to the main body of the PCC there is a standing committee comprising of Priest-in-Charge, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary and currently the rebuilding coordinator. They meet as required and are authorised to decide on issues which may arise between PCC meetings but they are responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met about every two months, some of these meetings were by Zoom this year. Given the considerable amount of work in dealing with the church renovation issues the standing committee met on a number of occasions to consult with the architect, the Diocese and other professionals to discuss issues relating to planning and faculty permissions and to receive reports on the progress of the rebuilding program. Reports of these meetings are relayed to the full PCC at subsequent meetings.

In January 2021 the charity took steps (in line with Government and the Archbishops advice) to help contain the outbreak of COVID-19. This included the temporary suspension of all physical gatherings and the charity has had to curtail, or change, how it operates; the charity has been able to continue some of its activities using online media. The trustees are monitoring income and expenditure and, if it becomes necessary, will take measures to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the charity's free reserves.

APPROVED BY THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL & SIGNED ON THEIR BEHALF BY PCC CHAIR

Rev'd Clare Welham
PCC Chair
Date: 25th April 2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2021.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

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.

A C Kensett FMAAT
FCCA Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
The Engine House
77 Station Road
Petersfield
Hampshire GU32 3FQ

Date: 11/5/2022

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	35,303	440,849	476,152	651,759
Other trading activities	3	3,161	-	3,161	4,867
Investment income	4	-	232	232	1,995
Total		38,464	441,081	479,545	658,621
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Church activities		21,819	52	21,871	24,491
Church restorations		-	1,174,591	1,174,591	92,288
Total		21,819	1,174,643	1,196,462	116,779
NET INCOME		16,645	(733,562)	(716,917)	541,842
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898	658,056
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		79,784	403,197	482,981	1,199,898

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Balance Sheet
31st December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	285	-	285	8,813
Cash at bank		80,675	403,197	483,872	1,192,261
		80,960	403,197	484,157	1,201,074
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,176)	-	(1,176)	(1,176)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		79,784	403,197	482,981	1,199,898
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		79,784	403,197	482,981	1,199,898
NET ASSETS		79,784	403,197	482,981	1,199,898
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				79,784	63,139
Restricted funds				403,197	1,136,759
TOTAL FUNDS				482,981	658,056

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ..... and were signed on its behalf by:

C. Welham

.....
Clare Welham - Trustee

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(708,621)	539,195
Interest paid		-	(45)
Net cash provided by operating activities		(708,621)	539,150
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		232	1,995
Net cash provided by investing activities		232	1,995
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(708,389)	541,145
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,192,261	651,116
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		483,872	1,192,261

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(716,917)	541,842
Adjustments for:		
Interest received	(232)	(1,995)
Interest paid	-	45
Increase in debtors	8,528	(697)
Net cash provided by operations	(708,621)	539,195

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.1.21 £	Cash flow £	At 31.12.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	1,192,261	(708,389)	483,872
	1,192,261	(708,389)	483,872
Total	1,192,261	(708,389)	483,872

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. There are no material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to the sufficient cash balance held as at 31st December 2021.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Planned giving	1,320	-	1,320	1,095
Collections at services	1,535	-	1,535	1,928
Parish giving scheme	16,345	-	16,345	15,653
Gift aid recovered	12,823	-	12,823	15,043
Grants - LPWGS	-	203,721	203,721	172,169
Donations	2,536	40,000	42,536	4,252
Special collection	655	-	655	
Ropley Church appeal	-	181,876	181,876	441,569
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
Miscellaneous income	39	-	39	-
Grants	-	15,252	15,252	-
	35,303	440,849	476,152	651,759

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	203,721	172,169
	203,721	172,169

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Fees	3,161	-	3,161	4,867

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Deposit account interest	-	232	232	1,995

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Church activities	20,368	339	1,164	21,871
Church restorations	1,174,591	-	-	1,174,591
	1,194,959	339	1,164	1,196,462

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2021 £	2020 £
Church activities	339	295

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Church activities	1,164

Governance costs comprise Independent Examiner's fees of £1,164 (2020: £1,140).

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2021 nor for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2021 nor for the year ended 31st December 2020.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	37,249	614,510	651,759
Other trading activities	4,867	-	4,867
Investment income	-	1,995	1,995
Total	42,116	616,505	658,621
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Church activities	24,491	-	24,491
Church restorations	-	92,288	92,288
Total	24,491	92,288	116,779
NET INCOME	17,625	524,217	541,842
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	45,514	612,542	658,056
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	285	8,813

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other creditors	1,176	1,176

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	63,139	16,645	-	79,784
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	755,564	182,052	(934,750)	2,866
Tower fund	540	-	-	540
Building fund	370,831	(915,618)	934,750	389,963
Church Fabric Fund	910	-	-	910
Organ fund	6,945	3	-	6,948
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,969	1	-	1,970
	1,136,759	(733,562)	-	403,197
TOTAL FUNDS	1,199,898	(716,917)	-	482,981

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	38,464	(21,819)	16,645
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	182,104	(52)	182,052
Building fund	258,973	(1,174,591)	(915,618)
Organ fund	3	-	3
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1	-	1
	441,081	(1,174,643)	(733,562)
TOTAL FUNDS	479,545	(1,196,462)	(716,917)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	45,514	17,625	63,139
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	311,270	444,294	755,564
Tower fund	540	-	540
Building fund	290,950	79,881	370,831
Church Fabric Fund	906	4	910
Organ fund	6,915	30	6,945
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,961	8	1,969
	612,542	524,217	1,136,759
TOTAL FUNDS	658,056	541,842	1,199,898

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	42,116	(24,491)	17,625
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	444,294	-	444,294
Building fund	172,169	(92,288)	79,881
Church Fabric Fund	4	-	4
Organ fund	30	-	30
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	8	-	8
	616,505	(92,288)	524,217
TOTAL FUNDS	658,621	(116,779)	541,842

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	45,514	34,270	-	79,784
Restricted funds				
Appeal fund	311,270	626,346	(934,750)	2,866
Tower fund	540	-	-	540
Building fund	290,950	(835,737)	934,750	389,963
Church Fabric Fund	906	4	-	910
Organ fund	6,915	33	-	6,948
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,961	9	-	1,970
	612,542	(209,345)	-	403,197
TOTAL FUNDS	658,056	(175,075)	-	482,981

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	80,580	(46,310)	34,270
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	626,398	(52)	626,346
Building fund	431,142	(1,266,879)	(835,737)
Church Fabric Fund	4	-	4
Organ fund	33	-	33
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	9	-	9
	1,057,586	(1,266,931)	(209,345)
TOTAL FUNDS	1,138,166	(1,313,241)	(175,075)

Appeal Fund: These accounts represent monies received towards the rebuilding of the church. The sources of funds include personal donations, grants, fundraising events and Gift Aid reclaimed.

Building Fund: This account was opened at the request of our insurers to cover the drawdowns from the insurance company and all payments to architect, builders and other professionals in connection with the initial securing of the damaged building and subsequent work on the planning and preparation for the rebuild.

Fabric Fund: These funds are for the maintenance and upkeep of the church building and income is normally received from donations or specific events raising monies for the fabric of the church and not just general funds.

Organ Fund: This originates from fundraising many years ago to refurbish the organ. The success of the fundraising raised more money than required to undertake the refurbishment so the balance remaining was being used to maintain the old organ, which was subsequently destroyed in the fire.

Rosemary Bray Fund: This fund represent monies raised and used to make kneelers for the church. Again there was a surplus left after all the work was completed. It is not expected that new kneelers will be made when the church is renovated.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2021.

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Donations and legacies				
Planned giving	1,320	-	1,320	1,095
Collections at services	1,535	-	1,535	1,928
Parish giving scheme	16,345	-	16,345	15,653
Gift aid recovered	12,823	-	12,823	15,043
Grants - LPWGS	-	203,721	203,721	172,169
Donations	2,536	40,000	42,536	4,252
Special collections	655	-	655	-
Ropley Church appeal	-	181,876	181,876	441,569
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
Miscellaneous income	39	-	39	
Grants	-	15,252	15,252	
	35,303	440,849	476,152	651,759
Other trading activities				
Fees	3,161	-	3,161	4,867
Investment income				
Deposit account interest	-	232	232	1,995
Total incoming resources	38,464	441,081	479,545	658,621
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities				
Printing and stationery	262	-	262	379
Diocesan parish share	10,115	-	10,115	15,000
Diocesan fees	443	-	443	1,752
Church running expenses	8,667	-	8,667	3,277
Cost of services	544	52	596	750
Parochial expenses	240	-	240	-
Miscellaneous expenses	45	-	45	1,853
Bank interest	-	-	-	45
Church restorations	-	1,174,591	1,174,591	92,288
Carried forward	20,316	1,174,643	1,194,959	115,344

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Charitable activities				
Brought forward	20,316	1,174,643	1,194,959	115,344
Mission giving & donations	339	-	339	295
	20,655	1,174,643	1,195,298	115,639
Support costs				
Governance costs				
Independent examination	1,164	-	1,164	1,140
Total resources expended	21,819	1,174,643	1,196,462	116,779
Net income	16,645	(733,562)	(716,917)	541,842

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER, ROPLEY, WINC

England & Wales - Charity number 1176142

Accounts

St Peter's Church, Ropley

St Peter's Church
ROPLEY

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2020

St Peter's Church, Ropley PCC
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For the year ended 31st December 2020

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St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

ANNUAL REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Peter's Church is situated in Church Street, Ropley. It is part of the Alresford Deanery in the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Lyeway Lane, Ropley, Alresford, Hants. SO24 0DW

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission Registered Charity Number 1176142

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Priest-in-charge:
Rev'd Clare Welham

Churchwardens:

Mrs Norma Day	Health & Safety Officer
Mrs Sarah Earthy	(To APCM 2020)
Mrs Jane Plowright	(From APCM 2020)

Representative on the Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee:
Mr Keith Monkhouse

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:
Mr Keith Monkhouse
Mr Humphrey Carr

Elected Members:

Mr Ron Beal	
Mr Andy Bonner	Church rebuilding co-ordinator
Mr Humphrey Carr	Parish Stewardship Promoter
Mr Ken Ingle	Treasurer & Vice Chair
Mr Keith Monkhouse	
Mr Nigel Plowright	(From APCM 2020)
Mrs Julie Rugg	Secretary
Mr Rodney Skinner	
Mrs Sue Thomas	Safeguarding Officer (From APCM 2020)
Mrs Alison Wood	Electoral Roll Officer

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

AIMS AND PURPOSES

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St Peter's, Church Street, Ropley.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Peter's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we rebuild and maintain the fabric of St Peter's Church and the planning and preparation for this has been underway since the fire in 2014 which virtually destroyed the church building. During this year work continued on the rebuild which will take about another year to complete phase one and a further period for the second phase.
The PCC have the ultimate responsibility for the project but are supported by the specialist professionals, the Diocese and other relevant bodies as required. The progress of the rebuild is closely monitored by the PCC through regular site visits and monthly reporting via the architect and other professionals employed on the project.
Volunteers have made an important contribution to the rebuilding principally in fundraising to meet the expected shortfall and have raised funds from events, grant applications and encouraging donor contributions from a wide range of local individuals and also from those further afield with connections to Ropley and the Church.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Church attendance
The average weekly attendance counted during October 2020 was 27 and lower than previous years due to the restrictions which limited numbers and others who were still shielding.

The total Worshipping Community at the end of 2020 was 66.

As at the 31st December 2020 there were 98 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 89 were resident in the parish.

Ropley Church Appeal

A limited number of activities were undertaken during the year to raise funds for the Church Appeal. Whilst these activities have been happening over a number of years since the fire there was a significant reduction in the in-person activities due to lockdown restrictions. Nevertheless there was a major addition towards the initial fundraising target and this momentum has continued through into 2021.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The main plans for the future continue to be as outlined in our Objectives and Activities, principally to continue to build and foster the local church community and support the wider church and charities. Also to continue with the plans for the rebuilding of St Peter's into 2021 and beyond until a successful completion is achieved.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The PCC are fully aware of the financial implications of the church rebuild and that the full amount of the funds are not yet held to meet the expected overall cost.
The PCC will only commit to undertake work for which funds are available and are actively working to bridge the shortfall gap. Regular financial updates are provided to the PCC based on the known and anticipated future costs.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER (Report by Rev'd Clare Welham)

This year has been one of unprecedented and unexpected changes to the worship and prayer of our parish and indeed the entire Church of England.

We are proud that worship has continued in a variety of ways throughout the year despite national lockdowns and many restrictions in place from March onwards. This year has strengthened our experience of working as a benefice and providing a variety of services and worship experiences for all three of our congregations, seeking to include those who have internet access and those who are reliant on other types of communication. Morning Prayer service booklets were delivered to all members of our ER in the week following the initial lockdown, allowing us to worship together whilst physically apart. A mixture of pre-recorded and live zoom services and reflections has been available on a weekly basis and seasonal resources have been delivered throughout the year.

Whenever possible to do so safely, the PCC reopened for in-person worship, in line with our risk assessment. This has been a far more challenging year than we might have anticipated but, as our mission and evangelism section explains, there have also been unexpected blessings. Whilst we have not had any baptism services in the past year, we have been able to continue with funeral ministry throughout the pandemic and provide a much needed prayerful and practical presence in these difficult times.



St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

BENEFICE MISSION ACTION PLAN – BMAP 2020 (Report by Rev'd Clare Welham)

Our BMAP (Benefice Mission Action Plan) identifies 3 areas that underpin our Mission and Ministry:

1. **Inspire and encourage a deepening of faith in those who already attend worship.**
An increase in the involvement and commitment of all of God's people within our benefice.

2. **Increase our visibility and presence in our communities**
Our churches will be more visible in the community and more responsive to the needs of 3 very different parishes.

3. **Provide effective follow up and engagement with those who come for "life events" and others in need of pastoral care.**
We will develop the support offered to those who hold christenings, marriages and funerals in our benefice.

As is the case for so many other things, the way in which these objectives have been met over the past year has not been what we anticipated. Nevertheless, we have been delighted that more of our village than ever have engaged with online worship which has been a focus for our mission this year.

Our visibility and presence in our community has been evident in the high numbers of people not currently part of our worshiping community engaging with our shorter online 'thoughts for the day'. As collective worship has also moved online for much of the year, we have also been able to connect with the families as well as the children who attend our school in a new and different way.

FRIDAY COFFEE & CHAT (Report by Alison Lester, Sue Thomas & Sarah Earthy)

The coffee and chat sessions have sadly been suspended during the Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak but we look forward to meeting up again as soon as it is safely possible.

ROPLEY CHURCH GODPARENT SCHEME (Report by Sue Thomas)

The Ropley Church Godparent Scheme is a new venture which has been limited by having St Peter's church building being out of action for baptisms and there were no baptisms in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Keeping contact by Christmas, Easter and Baptism Anniversary cards reminds the family of their links to us as a Church and looking ahead, I'm sure this will be a valuable way of creating ties within the congregation and the wider community.

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

ROPLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL (Report by Norma Day – Foundation Governor)

Although the support that we, as a Church community, have given to our local school, Ropley C of E Primary, throughout 2020 has taken on a different format due to the National pandemic brought about by Covid-19 and the resulting closures and restrictions, we have maintained our commitment through our three Foundation Governors, Clare Welham, Norma Day and Kerriann Mclackland.

After many years of invaluable service as a school governor, Ken Ingle, took the decision to stand down, he is greatly missed for not only his financial expertise and his wise counsel but also for his understanding of the historical aspects of the school. The PCC owe him an immense debt of gratitude for undertaking this role on their behalf for such a considerable period of time. Kerriann, a member of both West Tisted and Ropley congregations was elected to replace Ken and is already a huge asset on the Governing body.

Clare provided excellent online worship for the whole school ensuring that in addition to the weekly themes, major festivals and historical events, including Founders Day, were also celebrated. Sadly, the Year 6 Leavers Service, which is held in the Cathedral each year and brings together children from all over the diocese, couldn't take place but we were able to be present at the outdoor Ropley Leavers service when the children were presented with a bible donated by St Peter's Church. There was a short respite in the autumn term when we were able to enjoy 'live' worship sessions with the children and staff in school, which included the lead up to Christmas but a long period of online worship only has followed.

The Headteacher, Sarah Vittle and her staff are to be commended for their commitment to deliver the very best education for the children and also care for all the families during these unprecedented and difficult times.

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT (Report by Norma Day and Jane Plowright)

The year 2020 started off in the same way as any other year with weekly services and special celebrations for Epiphany and Candlemas as well as the marking of the start of Lent with a service on Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes but then, following the third Sunday of Lent, it became a year that was very different to anything we had ever known. The impact of the Corona Virus Pandemic was felt in all areas of our lives including the life of our church. A National lockdown saw the closure of church and community buildings which meant that we were unable to hold 'live' services or meet together in any way.

We owe Clare a huge debt of gratitude for the way in which, with very limited resources, she continued to provide meaningful worship for us from her garden and her kitchen table, ensuring that, through her inspirational teaching and dedication, our spiritual lives had the opportunity to grow and also that the outreach was far greater as more and more people connected with this new way of worshipping.

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT continued (Report by Norma Day and Jane Plowright)

We, as a church, recognised the need for community support during these unprecedented times and were able to offer, along with other groups, much needed help in a huge variety of ways as well as maintaining a link and contact with the regular members of our congregation.
Instead of our usual All Age service on Mothering Sunday, when flowers would be distributed to a very full congregation, posies of daffodils were delivered to those who would normally have been with us in the hall.

Sunday 12th July saw us back in the hall, where sanitising, masks and social distancing became the new 'buzz words' and for a few months, albeit with reduced numbers due to the restriction of the Parish Hall risk assessment, we were able to worship together once more.

An in person APCM was held at which Sarah Earthy, who had given amazing and invaluable service as a churchwarden, stood down and Jane Plowright was elected as the new warden.
At the end of October there was another lockdown and services in the hall were no longer permitted but from the start of Advent a new initiative was introduced throughout the village when Nativity figures journeyed towards the stable that had been erected in the churchyard, this proved extremely popular with all ages. Services in the hall resumed once again on 6th December. During this period although it was not possible to hold our usual Carol Service, due to the restriction of numbers and that singing inside was not permissible, we were able to create a filmed service involving a range of ages and readings which was made available to a wide audience. An exciting All Age Service was held on Christmas Day which, for the first time ever, had to be a ticketed event in order to ensure that numbers did not exceed the permitted allowance.

There then followed a further 3 month lockdown which took us into 2021!

2020 may well have been the year when everything seemed to stop but because of this we have found new ways to connect with people, ways of taking our worship outside the confines of a building, ways of working as a Benefice to ensure that risk assessments and reopening of the churches and hall were workable, ways of developing our faith through online worship and dipping into other resources, and, probably most important of all, many different ways of looking after people.

We, as Wardens, have continued, as far as possible, to be fully involved in the rebuilding of St Peter's project, full details of which are given in Andy's report. So, a difficult and challenging year but one that has also seen unexpected blessings.

We would like to thank everyone for their support and in particular our sides-people, Roy, Shirley and Jason, who, although the role changed dramatically, continued to offer help whenever it was needed, Margaret for organising the flower rota and to all the flower arrangers who make such a difference to the Hall, all members of the PCC who work so hard in their different roles, our Green Team who, although sadly depleted, continue to do amazing work to maintain the churchyard, volunteers to join this team would be very welcome and are much needed. Thank you also to all those who read the lessons and prepare intercessions for our services and, as always, our thanks go to Andy Bonner, for his unstinting work on the rebuild, we certainly wouldn't be at this exciting stage without him and finally a huge thank you to Clare for the joy that she brings to our church life and for her dedication to us all.

DEANERY SYNOD (Report by Keith Monkhouse)

Focal Ministry

Two pilot Focal Ministry schemes are now in operation, the first in New Alresford and the second in Bighton. Pour memoire, following training, Focal Ministers assume certain responsibilities in the Parish to relieve pressures on the incumbent. The incumbent always has oversight of the Focal Minister. Further reports are expected in 2021.

Old Alresford Place Closure

The Diocese of Winchester has announced that Old Alresford Place will no longer be used as its Diocesan Office by the end of December 2020, with staff relocated to existing offices in Winchester, along with a greater use of flexible and home-working. The decision was made by the Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance, taking into account new working patterns introduced due to the pandemic, and with the Diocese looking to make financial savings as a result of ongoing pressures on churches' income. Old Alresford Place will be temporarily closed whilst the Diocese begins a review of potential future uses for the site.

Lango

Lango was a major subject of discussion throughout the year. One of the concerns at the first meeting was uncertainty about the accounting practices in Lango used for our donations. These were confirmed as satisfactory. But the final decision, to sever links with Lango, had primarily to be taken because no one in the Deanery was willing to take on the organisational role. In the end the following proposal was made and carried: *"It is proposed that we recognise and celebrate the good work that has been undertaken for Lango over the years, that a final donation be made to Lango from Deanery funds and a suitable exit strategy be developed in cooperation with Lango"*.

A Deanery Group will meet to discuss the exit strategy and will report to the next Deanery Synod meeting.

Pastoral Reorganisation

The consultation process with Bishop David and the Archdeacon had been concluded and they were now working on pastoral reorganisation schemes; approaching parishes who are affected the most and where dispossession was likely to occur.

Our Area Dean is restricted in what information he is allowed to share but gave the reassurance that most of the positions lost (around 22) will be through retirement or voluntary redundancies and a few through dispossessions. Compensation packages will be offered to all those who qualify.

The prospects for the various parishes were discussed based on our Deanery Pastoral Plan, i.e. 3 full-time posts and 3 part-time posts or similar, as the Diocesan plan has yet to be confirmed no conclusions could be reached. A meeting with Bishop David and the Archdeacon was being sought by the Deanery. It is expected that our Vicar's post is not in danger.

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

MISSION AND EVANGELISM

As a church we aim to support the needs of our community and those beyond it. Church members are involved in the support and running of many Village activities such as the Bi-Monthly Village Tea Parties (suspended during 2020) which bring so many in the community together and helps tackle issues of isolation.

Despite a difficult year Julia Morgan and her team of cooks continued to provide meals for the Winchester Night Shelter every two months and these food donations are very welcome and greatly appreciated.

Another regular activity, at specific services, had been the collection and donation of a wide variety of items which were then given to the Winchester Basic Bank to support their essential work. This was suspended in 2020 and when circumstances return to more normal and it can be done again safely then these valued donations will be able to be resumed.

Our bi-monthly parish magazine BisMonRopTis is distributed to all households in the parish and it always includes a letter from the incumbent and also keeps our parishioners informed of all services and other important matters affecting our church and related activities.

Although inevitably much time and fund raising activity has focused again this year on the church rebuilding project, support for other charities has continued. Collections and donations for British Red Cross and Year 6 leavers at Ropley C of E Primary School were presented with bibles.



During the year the collections and donations were:
British Red Cross - £73.00
Bibles for Year 6 Leavers at Ropley C of E Primary School - £222.13

STEWARDSHIP AND PARISH GIVING SCHEME (Report by Humphrey Carr)

Stewardship has once again suffered because of the pressing need to focus on fundraising for the re-build of St Peter's. Work on the church has been very much curtailed by the 'lockdowns' imposed as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.
Regular giving is the main source of income for St Peter's Church in Ropley and also for the running of the Diocese, supporting its ministry and mission as well as clergy housing, stipends and pensions. During the Summer, the Vicar wrote to all those on the Church Electoral Roll, asking if they would consider making a regular contribution towards meeting our share of the Common Mission Fund, which is the amount the Parish has to contribute towards the running of the Diocese. This request was met by a very favourable response, and the PCC would like to thank all those who increased their giving as a result.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME™

However, because our Church services have been on-line during the two periods of 'lockdown', the Church has lost the contributions of those whose giving is by means of the collection when attending services.

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

STEWARDSHIP AND PARISH GIVING SCHEME continued (Report by Humphrey Carr)

During the year there were 24 who contributed through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), which allows the Church to continue receiving its income, whether attendance at services is in person or by Zoom, on-line. Giving via the PGS is therefore the preferred method, and is to be encouraged. If anyone wishes to know more about the scheme, please ask me (Tel: 772216 Email: humphreycarr@gmail.com), or the Treasurer, Ken Ingle (Tel: 772230 Email: keningle@btinternet.com).

Further information about how the scheme works can be found at www.parishgiving.org.uk where you can register and set up your regular giving on-line.
The church is Ropley St Peter and the PGS code is 416001022

WEBSITE - stpetersropley.org.uk (Report by Ron Beal)

The St Peter's website - stpetersropley.org.uk - has been an important parish resource as our fundraising has intensified to cover the rebuild shortfall. Pages offering information on fundraising progress, rebuild progress and news have been enhanced and are well used.
With the unwelcome changes to our regular worship brought about by the pandemic, the website has been extended to ensure materials are available for worshipping at home. The website offers Clare's new weekly video sermons, weekly bulletins and a wealth of other resources.

The Friends of St Peter's Church website - friendsofropleychurch.org.uk - is also available. This focusses primarily on fundraising activity by the Friends.

ROPLEY BELL RINGERS (Report by Rodney Skinner – Tower Captain)



There has been no ringing in the benefice, the district, the guild or the country for over a year due to Covid-19 restrictions. What ringing there has been has been done under very strict conditions. Ringing for no more than fifteen minutes, ringing the same bell, in masks, standing six feet apart and the tower left open for ventilation for at least seventy two hours. The guild is in regular contact with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers on order to know the latest rules and orders and when we can commence ringing. I have, sadly, lost a ringer. They feel age has caught up with them. As I write this two ringers are awaiting operations, so they will be out of action for some time. If we have the bells installed there will have to be a concerted effort in recruiting ringers and teaching them. The prospect of Ropley bells being installed is getting further away due to costs. Even with help from the guild Bell Restoration fund there will be a short fall of – who knows. With the possible loss of bell hangers due to less work, those left will be able to charge more than many churches can afford for work. It`s a vicious circle. Do it now and hope the money comes in or leave it and it could be too expensive. The P.C.C will have to make that decision in the near future because it will take up to two years to design and fabricate a bell frame as our tower is a funny shape. You cannot buy a bell frame off the shelf like a book or crockery.

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, ROPLEY & FUNDRAISING (Report by Alison Wood)

Whilst the restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic in 2020 did impact on our planned in person fundraising events nevertheless overall significant progress was made raising funds for the Appeal Fund. The PCC is very grateful to the many people who donated or supported the Appeal Fund in 2020.

Friends of St Peter's Church, Ropley

The PCC appreciates and values the support and fund-raising efforts of the Friends of St Peter's Church over many years. The coronavirus pandemic prevented The Friends from doing much fundraising in 2020. £940 was raised from the soup lunch held in February and the sale of Raise St Peter's aprons. £37,439 was raised by the Friends for the Appeal Fund and they also made a further grant of £65,000 to the PCC for the Appeal Fund.

The Friends also helped with the three fundraising events Camerata Concert, Quiz & Curry and Art for St Peter's.

During 2019, it was decided to divide fundraising for the Appeal into two phases. Phase 1 will provide us with a usable building, hopefully by the end of 2021. Fundraising for Phase 2 will then start in 2022, to raise money for other items, such as the stained glass windows in the main eastern and western walls of the church, the bells, church clock, furniture and a PA system.

The Development Group

As noted in the 2019 Annual Report, in the second half of 2018 a group of people keen to help raise money for the Appeal began meeting under the chairmanship of Humphrey Carr. The Group (known as the Development Group) works on behalf of the PCC, seeking donations from individuals and holding some events. The Winchester Camerata concert and Art for St Peter's (organised by Nicky Cambrook) were extremely successful events. The PCC is very grateful to the Development Group for all their work and support.

Grants (PCC Grants Administrator – Nigel Plowright)

There were a number of successful grant applications in 2020 and details of these are shown in the financial section of this report.

The generous support from the various grant providers is very much appreciated by the PCC and for their endorsements of our ambitious rebuilding project for St Peter's. A grateful thanks to all the grant providers, their contributions are most welcome.

The future

Progress with the rebuilding of St Peter's is now very visible and the PCC will continue to look to explore more ways to innovate and expand opportunities to generate more donations and fundraising support in 2021 and beyond.

ST PETER'S CHURCH RESTORATION (Report by Andy Bonner)



St Peter's Church - December 2020

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

ST PETER'S CHURCH RESTORATION (Report by Andy Bonner)

This past year has been a difficult one for just about everybody, and building contractors are no exception. Reside have had difficulties in the supply of materials and subcontractors on top of having to find ways to work on a building whilst socially distancing.

Thankfully Reside are a resilient and resourceful company and have found ways to continue with a level of work to keep the rebuild of St Peter's progressing. Inevitably there have been additional costs for everyone and the timescales have extended. This slowdown has put completion back by many months, but the work is coming together. We have seen the roof go onto the building, the glass into the windows and, by the beginning of May, the clock will be installed on the bell tower and the tower scaffolding will be coming down.

Inside progress is being made too. The inner ceiling is being finished with the facilities in and the insulation and reverberation layers ready for the wooden ceiling to be fitted. Most of the first fit electrics are there and St Peter's is starting to look like a church again.

Yes, I am going to mention the fundraising. A superb job has been done by everyone involved and there has been some generous giving over the year. The money requirement has been something of a moving target. The old adage of time being money is certainly true within the building industry and the Covid-19 delays have cost Reside money, whilst changes due to the supply of materials and modifications have impacted on the fundraising requirement. Whilst we are on track to meet the costs of the rebuild phase, as ever, if you are able to help, any contribution will be gratefully received.

Having said all that about the challenges of Covid-19, work did continue, John Alexander and his architect team were coordinating, what could be done was done and now the sub-contractors are returning, and the pace is picking back up. We can still only look from the outside of the security fencing at the moment but completion isn't too far away now.



St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2020 (Report by Ken Ingle)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL - GENERAL ACCOUNT (Report by Ken Ingle)

Receipts on the General Account of unrestricted funds were lower than last year, although there was an increased take up of the Parish Giving Scheme, but collections were much lower due to the cancellation of many services due to Covid-19 restrictions. The lower giving income was compensated by donations of £4,015 towards day-to-day running costs.

£24,491 was spent to provide the maintenance and running costs of St Peter's Church but this did include the Parish Share (to the Diocesan Common Mission Fund) of £15,000, which was the same amount as the previous year but still well below our assessed requested share which should have been £31,779.

The Parish Share is the total of all parish payments into the Diocese Common Mission Fund (CMF), which funds the mission of the church and provides the stipends, pension contributions, housing costs and training for the clergy. The sum that the Churches in the diocese have to find is shared between the Churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the church membership and the affluence category of the parish. In 2020 an application for Special Consideration was again made to the Diocese and a reduction to £15,000 from the original assessed figure of £31,779 was agreed.

We have again submitted an application for Special Consideration for CMF contributions in 2021 and the proposed Parish Share to CMF for Ropley is £20,230, which is an agreed reduction of £10,000 from the assessed figure of £30,230.

The Diocesan share of Diocesan fees was £1,752 which leaves the PCC share of £3,115. Fees, principally for weddings and funerals, have as expected been much lower in the last five years than what was normal in the past before the fire.

The net result for the year was a surplus of £17,625 which was principally due to the lower than allocated Parish Share payment and it is anticipated that any surpluses on the General Account will be required to support the rebuild and the future running costs of the new church. The General account balance carried forward at 31st December for unrestricted funds, plus debtors of £1,315 and less creditors of £1,176, totalled £63,139.

The total balance of the restricted funds in the Tower Fund, Appeal Funds and Building Funds held with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund is £1,129,261, plus debtors £7,498, giving total restricted funds of £1,136,759 and overall total funds of £1,199,898.

The impact of the COVID-19 Coronavirus did have financial implications on the PCC's finances in 2020 not only because of a lower level of general income but also being unable to organise fundraising events limited the growth of the Appeal Fund and the delays and extras cost relating to the rebuilding work.

There are also likely to be factors which will affect the rebuilding work on the church which could also involve additional costs. At the present time it is difficult to quantify how much of an impact the current restrictions will influence finances as it is partly dependent on how long restrictions will apply before the situation returns to somewhere nearer normality.

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

ROPLEY CHURCH – APPEAL ACCOUNT (Report by Ken Ingle)

At the start of 2020 the PCC Appeal account totalled £304,542 and at the end of the year this had risen to £757,595, an increase of £453,053. The sources of the additional Appeal funds were:

Grant (Friends of St Peter's Church)	£65,000
Grant (Garfield Weston Foundation)	£30,000
Grant (Beatrice Laing Trust)	£5,000
Grant (Ropley Parish Council)	£5,000
Grant (EHDC Supporting Communities 2020)	£25,000
Grant (The Jerusalem Trust)	£15,000
Sale of Monkwood Mission Church	£72,500
Donations	£206,360
Fundraising Events	£14,074
On-line Donations – Golden Giving	£2,399
On-line Events – Golden Giving	£1,686
Gift Aid – 2019/20	£9,081
Interest	£1,953
TOTAL	**£453,053**

Here are details of some of the 2020 fundraising events:

Winchester Camerata Concert	£2,316
Quiz & Curry Evening	£920
Art for St Peter's	£9,000

Many of the donations are eligible for Gift Aid and for the fiscal year 2020/2021 this has not yet been claimed.

However there is still an expected shortfall to enable phase one of the rebuild to be completed and active fundraising and grant applications are already planned to help meet this shortfall expected later in 2021.

In addition to the fundraising for the PCC Appeal the Friends of St Peter's Church have also been actively fundraising for the church restoration and details of their activities are reported separately.

ROPLEY CHURCH – BUILDING ACCOUNT (Report by Ken Ingle)

After a long period of planning and preparation the rebuilding of St Peter's began in March 2019. During 2020 total payments of £1,097,288 were made, principally to the builders Reside Construction Ltd which was £984,543. This amount includes VAT the majority of which we have been able to claim back under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS) and during the year these grants amounted to £172,169. The Government have now confirmed the funding for the Scheme until 31st March 2022.

Other costs relate to the ongoing fees for architect, quantity surveyor, structural engineers, design consultant, archaeologists plus other consultants and costs relating to the rebuild.

ROPLEY CHURCH – BUILDING ACCOUNT continued (Report by Ken Ingle)

Currently the expenditure costs are being met from insurance drawdowns and during the year we received £1,005,000 from our insurers Ecclesiastical Insurance and there is a further £133,211 still to drawn from the total settlement claim.

The insurance receipts of £1,005,000 have been offset against the church restoration expenditure of £1,097,288 resulting in net restoration expenditure of £92,288, as shown in the financial statements.

Since the fire the total costs relating to the rebuild are £2,737,927 which has been principally funded from insurances of £2,693,328 and LPWGS grants of £415,353.

The original invoicing schedule provided by Reside has not been met and at the end of December the amount invoiced was about 55% of what had been expected which gives an indication of time delays with the contract due to Covid-19 restrictions various issues and problems which had to be overcome, which was to be expected with a project of this type when issues arise that are only found once the work is underway.

Considering the state of the building after the fire the builders made remarkable progress during these early months and the PCC are kept up to date with regular site visits and meetings with the architect and builders to monitor progress.

RESERVES POLICY (Report by Ken Ingle)

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets), which equates to at least six months. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of unrestricted funds at the year-end did match the target.

The balances on the six restricted funds, Appeal Fund, Building Fund, Fabric Fund, Organ Fund, Rosemary Bray Fund and Tower Fund are held for the designated purposes.
It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund.

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank all the many volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is.

Over the last 39 years the **Friends of St Peter's Church** have financially supported the upkeep of the fabric of the church and the churchyard and their fundraising has been of great benefit to the church and they continue to give valued support to the PCC in the rebuilding of St Peter's.

The churchyard is maintained by volunteers from the **Ropley Church Garden Society** who undertake seasonal grass cutting, tree pruning and generally keep the churchyard tidy for the benefit of parishioners and visitors.

St Peter's Church, Ropley – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a Registered Charity with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC meet regularly throughout the year and have the ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including such matters as compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation and child protection. In addition to the main body of the PCC there is a standing committee comprising of Priest-in-Charge, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary and currently the rebuilding coordinator. They meet as required and are authorised to decide on issues which may arise between PCC meetings but they are responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met about every two months, some of these meetings were by Zoom this year. Given the considerable amount of work in dealing with the church renovation issues the standing committee met on a number of occasions to consult with the architect, the Diocese and other professionals to discuss issues relating to planning and faculty permissions and to receive reports on the progress of the rebuilding program. Reports of these meetings are relayed to the full PCC at subsequent meetings.

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS – 2020-2021

In March 2020 the charity took steps (in line with Government and the Archbishops advice) to help contain the outbreak of COVID-19. This included the temporary suspension of all physical gatherings and the charity has had to curtail, or change, how it operates; the charity has been able to continue some of its activities using online media. The trustees are monitoring income and expenditure and, if it becomes necessary, will take measures to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the charity's free reserves.

APPROVED BY THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL & SIGNED ON THEIR BEHALF BY PCC CHAIR

C. Welham

Rev'd Clare Welham
PCC Chair
Date: 25th April 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Peter's Church Ropley PCC (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2020.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

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.

A C Kensett FMAAT FCCA
Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
The Engine House
77 Station Road
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU32 3FQ

Date: 13/5/2021

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	37,249	614,510	651,759	368,011
Other trading activities	3	4,867	-	4,867	2,177
Investment income	4	-	1,995	1,995	1,338
Total		42,116	616,505	658,621	371,526
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Church activities		24,491	-	24,491	22,127
Church restorations		-	92,288	92,288	(51,563)
Total		24,491	92,288	116,779	(29,436)
NET INCOME		17,625	524,217	541,842	400,962
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		45,514	612,542	658,056	257,094
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898	658,056

Balance Sheet
31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	1,315	7,498	8,813	8,116
Cash at bank		63,000	1,129,261	1,192,261	651,116
		64,315	1,136,759	1,201,074	659,232
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,176)	-	(1,176)	(1,176)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898	658,056
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898	658,056
NET ASSETS		63,139	1,136,759	1,199,898	658,056
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				63,139	45,514
Restricted funds				1,136,759	612,542
TOTAL FUNDS				1,199,898	658,056

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25TH APRIL 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

C. Welham

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Clare Welham - Trustee

St Peter's Church Ropley PCC

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	539,195	394,223
Interest paid		(45)	(45)
Net cash provided by operating activities		539,150	394,178
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		1,995	1,338
Net cash provided by investing activities		1,995	1,338
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		541,145	395,516
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		651,116	255,600
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		1,192,261	651,116

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	541,842	400,962
Adjustments for:		
Interest received	(1,995)	(1,338)
Interest paid	45	45
Increase in debtors	(697)	(5,542)
Increase in creditors	-	96
Net cash provided by operations	539,195	394,223

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.1.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.12.20 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	651,116	541,145	1,192,261
	651,116	541,145	1,192,261
Total	651,116	541,145	1,192,261

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. There are no material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to the sufficient cash balance held as at 31st December 2020.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Planned giving	1,095	-	1,095	1,020
Collections at services	1,928	-	1,928	5,277
Parish giving scheme	15,653	-	15,653	14,285
Gift aid recovered	14,271	772	15,043	14,373
Grants - LPWGS	-	172,169	172,169	145,155
Donations	4,252	-	4,252	61
Ropley Church appeal	-	441,569	441,569	187,790
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
	37,249	614,510	651,759	368,011

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	172,169	145,155
	172,169	145,155

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Fees	4,867	-	4,867	2,177

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Deposit account interest	-	1,995	1,995	1,338

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Church activities	23,056	295	1,140	24,491
Church restorations	92,288	-	-	92,288
	115,344	295	1,140	116,779

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2020 £	2019 £
Church activities	295	464

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Church activities	1,140

Governance costs comprise Independent Examiner's fees of £1,140 (2019: £1,212).

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	25,896	342,115	368,011
Other trading activities	2,177	-	2,177
Investment income	-	1,338	1,338
Total	28,073	343,453	371,526
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Church activities	22,127	-	22,127
Church restorations	-	(51,563)	(51,563)
Total	22,127	(51,563)	(29,436)
NET INCOME	5,946	395,016	400,962
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	39,568	217,526	257,094
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	45,514	612,542	658,056

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	8,813	8,116

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other creditors	1,176	1,176

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.20	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.20
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	45,514	17,625	63,139
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	311,270	444,294	755,564
Tower fund	540	-	540
Building fund	290,950	79,881	370,831
Church Fabric Fund	906	4	910
Organ fund	6,915	30	6,945
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,961	8	1,969
	612,542	524,217	1,136,759
TOTAL FUNDS	658,056	541,842	1,199,898

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	42,116	(24,491)	17,625
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	444,294	-	444,294
Building fund	172,169	(92,288)	79,881
Church Fabric Fund	4	-	4
Organ fund	30	-	30
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	8	-	8
	616,505	(92,288)	524,217
TOTAL FUNDS	658,621	(116,779)	541,842

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	39,568	5,946	45,514
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	113,046	198,224	311,270
Tower fund	540	-	540
Building fund	94,231	196,719	290,950
Church Fabric Fund	899	7	906
Organ fund	6,874	41	6,915
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,936	25	1,961
	217,526	395,016	612,542
TOTAL FUNDS	257,094	400,962	658,056

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	28,073	(22,127)	5,946
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	198,224	-	198,224
Building fund	145,156	51,563	196,719
Church Fabric Fund	7	-	7
Organ fund	41	-	41
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	25	-	25
	343,453	51,563	395,016
TOTAL FUNDS	371,526	29,436	400,962

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	39,568	23,571	63,139
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	113,046	642,518	755,564
Tower fund	540	-	540
Building fund	94,231	276,600	370,831
Church Fabric Fund	899	11	910
Organ fund	6,874	71	6,945
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	1,936	33	1,969
	217,526	919,233	1,136,759
TOTAL FUNDS	257,094	942,804	1,199,898

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,189	(46,618)	23,571
Restricted funds			
Appeal fund	642,518	-	642,518
Building fund	317,325	(40,725)	276,600
Church Fabric Fund	11	-	11
Organ fund	71	-	71
Rosemary Bray Memorial fund	33	-	33
	959,958	(40,725)	919,233
TOTAL FUNDS	1,030,147	(87,343)	942,804

Appeal Fund: These accounts represent monies received towards the rebuilding of the church. The sources of funds include personal donations, grants, fundraising events and Gift Aid reclaimed.

Building Fund: This account was opened at the request of our insurers to cover the drawdowns from the insurance company and all payments to architect, builders and other professionals in connection with the initial securing of the damaged building and subsequent work on the planning and preparation for the rebuild.

Fabric Fund: These funds are for the maintenance and upkeep of the church building and income is normally received from donations or specific events raising monies for the fabric of the church and not just general funds.

Organ Fund: This originates from fundraising many years ago to refurbish the organ. The success of the fundraising raised more money than required to undertake the refurbishment so the balance remaining was being used to maintain the old organ, which was subsequently destroyed in the fire.

Rosemary Bray Fund: This fund represent monies raised and used to make kneelers for the church. Again there was a surplus left after all the work was completed. It is not expected that new kneelers will be made when the church is renovated.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Donations and legacies				
Planned giving	1,095	-	1,095	1,020
Collections at services	1,928	-	1,928	5,277
Parish giving scheme	15,653	-	15,653	14,285
Gift aid recovered	14,271	772	15,043	14,373
Grants - LPWGS	-	172,169	172,169	145,155
Donations	4,252	-	4,252	61
Ropley Church appeal	-	441,569	441,569	187,790
Commonwealth War Graves	50	-	50	50
	37,249	614,510	651,759	368,011
Other trading activities				
Fees	4,867	-	4,867	2,177
Investment income				
Deposit account interest	-	1,995	1,995	1,338
Total incoming resources	42,116	616,505	658,621	371,526
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities				
Printing and stationery	379	-	379	154
Diocesan parish share	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Diocesan fees	1,752	-	1,752	529
Church running expenses	3,277	-	3,277	2,974
Cost of services	750	-	750	1,249
Parochial expenses	-	-	-	80
Miscellaneous expenses	1,853	-	1,853	420
Bank interest	45	-	45	45
Church restorations	-	92,288	92,288	(51,563)
Carried forward	23,056	92,288	115,344	(31,112)

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Charitable activities				
Brought forward	23,056	92,288	115,344	(31,112)
Mission giving & donations	295	-	295	464
	23,351	92,288	115,639	(30,648)
Support costs				
Governance costs				
Independent examination	1,140	-	1,140	1,212
Total resources expended	24,491	92,288	116,779	(29,436)
Net income	17,625	524,217	541,842	400,962

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements