



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date		
From	1 st	January	To	31 st	December
		2024			2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN, WALTHAMSTOW

Other names charity is known by St John's PCC, Walthamstow

Registered charity number (if any) 1179140

Charity's principal address 18 Brookcroft Road,
Walthamstow
Postcode E17 4LH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd Kieran Bush	Chair		
2	Mrs Ann Nurcombe	Churchwarden		
3	Mr Stuart Christie	Churchwarden		
4	Mrs Elaine Barnett-Page	PCC Secretary		
5	Mr Jerome Ilenotuma	Treasurer		
6	Miss Cori Bromfield			
7	Mr Tim Cole		Until 1 st September 2024	
8	Ms Diane Collins			
9	Mr Rajesh Thanasingh		Until 21 st April 2024	
10	Mr Omar Timberlake		21 st April until 1 st September 2024	
11	Ms Sandra Wallace		Until 3 rd March 2024	

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All regular church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and we look to encourage those who share our aims (see below) to stand for election to the PCC.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Trustees are inducted and reminded of their duties each year in the first PCC meeting after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Trustees receive information and training annually linked to Safeguarding, GDPR and conflicts of interest.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

St John's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Kieran Bush, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church buildings.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The PCC's charitable objects ('Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church') are primarily focused on the advancement of religion, which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit. All regular public worship is provided free of charge and open to all. In addition, the PCC's activities have further public benefits; for example, teaching and taking assemblies offer advancement of education which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit. Donations to other charities and our own projects provide public benefits in the relief of poverty and need, whether within or outside the ecclesiastical parish, often for minority groups with particular needs such as the elderly.

All trustees have received the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and hereby declare that we have continued to focus on the public benefit that our charity provides.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The PCC does not have a formal grant making policy, nor does it have a business plan. It will bear in mind it's charitable purpose and those promoting a Bible-based evangelical faith when determining who will receive grants.

The PCC is very grateful to all those who give their time to volunteer in the life of the church. These volunteers undertake a variety of roles in line with the objectives and activities of the Charity.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Achievements and performance

Church attendance

There are 90 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 51 of whom are not resident within the parish 12 names were added during the year and 14 were removed either because they moved away from the parish, no longer attended, or died. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 73 (48 adults and 25 children). Small numbers continue to watch regularly on Zoom and YouTube. This number increased at festivals.

Review of the year

2024 has been a hard year for St John's Church family. During 2024, we bid a very fond farewell to several St John's stalwarts and a few others who got quickly stuck into serving the Church Family.

Among others, we praise God for and continue to pray for: Tim Cole, Orall, Carla, Lara and Maya Cornelius, David, Hung, and Thessa Mac, Omar and Johanna Timberlake, Nina Vladikina and Sandra Wallace. All gave so much to St John's over recent years. For several of this group, this was their first (evangelical) Church as believers.

It was a particular joy to send Tim Cole for further ministry training at Oak Hill Theological College – the first 'home-grown' person from St John's to study full time for ministry in a generation.

These departures meant that autumn 2024 felt more full-on and draining for the Staff team, Standing Committee members and others committed to serving at St John's.

And yet, there were also many things to praise God for including:

- growing confidence in God's word and encouragement to serve boldly as we heard sermons on 1 Peter, Matthew's Passion, Joshua, Psalms and Acts
- newcomers joining the St John's family
- growing numbers of children visiting St John's on School visits
- God's ongoing financial provision, enabling us to make a major upgrade to our AV, and to employ Sandra Theron as our Church manager
- celebrating our current building's 100th Anniversary
- joy in our Christmas services on "The Christmas story brick by brick"

The full PCC met 8 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 77 percent. The standing committee (comprising the Incumbent, Wardens, Cori Bromfield (Women and Families' Workers) and Tim Cole (Minister in Training)) met occasionally to discuss and implement day-to-day maintenance issues and administration, and also communicated via email and WhatsApp.

During the year, we were served by a number of visiting preachers, especially some preachers in training from St Helen's Bishopsgate over Easter.

The PCC has discussed and taken the following actions:

- Keep parish share payments paused as we remain in broken partnership and broken fellowship with Chelmsford Diocese
- Seek to replace our minister in training and appoint a Church Manager (Sandra Theron was employed in this latter role from August 2024)
- Reviewed and updated staff salaries and rental agreements
- Transferred more reserves to a high-interest account
- Continue investigating building flats on church land
- Ongoing work to update our health and safety policy and risk assessments
- Review our Mission Partner support including financially supporting the ministries / training of Tim Cole, Matt Harvey and Priscilla Ng for the first time
- Make a significant update to our AV systems
- Set up and use Contactless Giving (thanks to a Chelmsford Diocese initiative)

The last quinquennial inspection was held in July 2023.

The following urgent repairs were identified:

Section D Achievements and performance	
	<p>1 West Nave gable: resecure loose lead flashings (4.1)</p> <p>2 Felt layers separating on nave roof risk point of water entry and need re-securing (5.4)</p> <p>3 East end garden/playground- - install fence (6.2; 12.1)</p> <p>4 Nave west end: refix plastic soil vent pipe (6.5)</p> <p>5 Nave roof: re-arrange insulation to give even coverage (8.1.1)</p> <p>6 South Lobby: remove loose section of stonework at head of arched opening. (9.6)</p> <p>7 Electrical services: undertake recommendations from 2022 inspection (11.1)</p> <p>8 West boundaries: rebuild sections (12.1)</p> <p>In 2024, we focused on undertaking recommendations from the 2023 inspection.</p>

Section E Financial review	
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	<p>Our reserves policy states that:</p> <p>The PCC aims to keep 3 months running costs (including salary costs) in cash reserves in case of a major problem (=£60,000).</p> <p>The PCC was previously seeking to reduce our reserves (through building upgrades in 2019 and salary costs). Given planned building upgrades, the PCC will seek to maintain reserves in the short term, but will review this policy in future.</p>
Details of any funds materially in deficit	N/A

Further financial review details (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted. 	<p>The primary source of income is the giving of church members, together with Gift Aid & GASDS received on these donations. This is either through planned giving, church collections or other donations. Being a local church, we know our regular donors, and the giving of visitors is at a low level in relation to our overall income.</p> <p>St John's receives income from renting parts of the Church building to local businesses and charities.</p> <p>Fees in line with Church of England guidelines are charged for occasional services e.g. weddings and funerals.</p> <p>From time to time we may apply for grants for maintenance of our building to English Heritage, the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme or some other heritage grant maker. We may also apply to the Diocese or other grant makers including London over the Border for support with other projects the PCC wishes to undertake in furtherance of its charitable objects.</p> <p>Each year the PCC agrees a budget which is in line with the overall objectives as defined above and the specific priorities for the year ahead. This involves seeking to maintain in good condition the buildings and land the trustees are responsible for.</p> <p>FINANCIAL UPDATE 2024</p> <p>Summary: Praise God again for His ongoing generous provision for us. Despite significant AV expenditure, our accounts showed a small year-on-year surplus.</p> <p>We can again praise God for: Jerome our treasurer; Ann who oversees day-to-day finances; Graham who reclaims gift aid and oversees with our high-interest account; and Lourens our external examiner. They continue to do a great job.</p> <p>Income</p> <p>Giving – God has again provided abundantly. Boosted by a few significant one-off gifts, total giving rose by nearly 10% to almost £96k and has now more than doubled since 2020. We will reclaim more gift-aid in 2025. Praise God!</p> <p>Rental income – Even after discounting 2 outstanding payments from 2023, rental income increased by over 10% to nearly £124k. This was boosted by hosting 2 elections</p>
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in 2024. **Praise God for His provision.**

Other – we received more money from sales of old furniture (£1.6k) and more interest as we transferred more money into our higher-interest account – income from interest should increase significantly in 2025.

Our total income is again up significantly from 2023 - £243k compared to £230k. Praise God!

Expenditure

Parish share – This remains our major part of our annual outlay (£51.7k). However, since February 2023, we have paused these voluntary donations to the Diocese because of the national Living in Love and Faith agenda. In time, back-payments may be possible, money is being kept for this.

Building Upgrades – During 2024, around £45k was spent on major AV upgrades.

Staff costs – In September 2024 we bid farewell to Tim Cole and employed Sandra Theron as Church Manager. Staff costs increased by 13%, but remain very good value!

Utilities – through careful management, utility bills reduced by £5k this year.

Other – we spent significant more on the church office (largely due to upgrading our printer/photocopier), but spent less on training.

Our total expenditure reduced significantly - £190k compared to £248k. (However, if £51.7k parish share was included, expenditure would be £242k)

Overall in 2024 our accounts show a surplus of almost £60k.

However, after subtracting £51.7k parish share and almost £7k rental arrears, the underlying year-on-year surplus was just under £1k. Praise God for His provision, and thank you for your giving and practical help.

Reserves: This means that by the end of 2024, our reserves were close to £178k. After Parish Share payments our underlying reserves are just over £126k. This is a very healthy place to be relative to our target reserves of £60k. **Praise God!**

We are awaiting updates on possibly building flats, so plans to carry out major upgrades to our meeting space are on pause, but we remain in good position to carry out those works in time.

Budgeting and forecasting: As ever, budgeting is hard, as ever I have sought to budget conservatively. It is hard to know whether we will be able to upgrade our lights, insulation, back toilets or our main meeting space. It is also hard to know for sure about employing a new minister in training / church manager.

I have budgeted that we fill one of those posts, and spend £25k on building upgrades. With those assumptions, **I am conservatively forecasting a year-on-year loss of £25k in 2025.** We continue to seek to make long-term investments (both in personnel and in our buildings) to help us, under God, to fulfil our vision of seeing North Walthamstow transformed by Jesus 1 life at a time.

Let us continue to pray to our great God and ask Him to provide all we need.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Kieran Bush</i>	<i>Ann Nurcombe</i>
Full name(s)	Kieran Bush	Ann Nurcombe
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair / Vicar	Church Warden
Date	9/3/2025	



Independent examiner's report to the
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST JOHN, WALTHAMSTOW

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Walthamstow ("the charity") for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 7-9 following.

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 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.

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.

Lourens du Plessis

Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA)
Independent Examiner

Date: 10 March 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name THE PCC OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN, WALTHAMSTOW	No (if any) 1179140
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	01-Jan-24	To	31-Dec-24
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
a. Donations Gift Aid:					
DONATION GIFT AID PLATE COLLECTION	2,212			2,212	405
STANDING ORDER (GIFT)	77,325			77,325	72,026
GIFT DAY (Gift Aided)	4,562	5,000		9,562	4,571
LEGACY	-			-	500
b. Donations Non Gift Aid:(DNGA)					
DNKA PLATE COLLECT	3,492			3,492	4,234
STANDING ORDER NGA	3,268			3,268	6,111
OTHER INCOME	156			156	2,846
c. Lettings:					
WALTHAMSTOW MONTESSORI SCHOOL (ST JOHN'S)	23,417			23,417	22,735
WALTHAMSTOW MONTESSORI SCHOOL (PENHRYN HALL)	57,453			57,453	47,145
VESTRY SCHOOL OF DANCE	42,593			42,593	30,409
CHURCH HALL LETTINGS	3,000			3,000	100
WALTHAM FOREST ALLOTMENTS	180			180	-
RENT FROM NON CHURCH PROPERTY	-			-	-
CUB/SCOUTS	4,104			4,104	3,906
RED BALOON	-			-	1,200
d. Other Sources					
GIFT AID RECOVERY	19,082			19,082	15,717
(GRANT) LONDON OVER BORDER(LOB) YOUTH PROJECT	-			-	1,000
GRANTS MAJOR STRUCTURAL RENEWAL	-			-	8,545
BANK INTEREST ON CCLA & CURRENT ACCOUNT	1,082			1,082	605
CHURCH FEES RECEIVED	1,299			1,299	1,170
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	243,225	5,000	-	248,225	223,226
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sales of assets	1,776	-	-	1,776	-
Sub total	1,776	-	-	1,776	-
Total receipts	245,001	5,000	-	250,001	223,226

A3 Payments

a. Church Related

SHARE TO DIOCESE	-	-	-	-	51,522
FEES PAID TO DIOCESE	592	-	-	592	1,119
INSURANCE (MAIN)	4,569	-	-	4,569	4,365
UTILITIES	15,296	-	-	15,296	20,282
MUSIC AND WORSHIP	2,965	-	-	2,965	2,200
CLERGY EXPENSES	103	-	-	103	302
TRAINING	4,045	-	-	4,045	6,082
OUTREACH & EVANGELISM	720	-	-	720	547
EQUIPMENT AND PLANT MAINTENANCE	5,376	-	-	5,376	4,629
CLEANING AND CONSUMABLES	8,852	-	-	8,852	7,949
PENHRYN HALL INSURANCE	1,499	-	-	1,499	1,471
Service Manager	10,957	-	-	10,957	-
CHURCH WORKER	20,016	-	-	20,016	27,126
WOMEN AND FAMILIES' WORKER	45,050	-	-	45,050	40,147
b. PARISH ADMIN					
OFFICE RUNNING COST	4,673	-	-	4,673	2,524
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FEE	534	-	-	534	514
BANK CHARGES	236	-	-	236	272
c. AWAY GIVING CHURCH FUNDS					
MISSIONARY GIVING	15,450	-	-	15,450	14,990
d. SPECIAL ACTIVITIES					
CAPITAL PROJECT	43,077	5,000	-	48,077	60,640
YOUTH PROJECT	1,514	-	-	1,514	1,310
Sub total	185,524	5,000	-	190,524	247,991

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)

	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total payments	185,524	5,000	-	190,524	247,991
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Net of receipts/(payments)

	59,477	-	-	59,477	24,765
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	118,399	-	-	118,399	143,164
Cash funds this year end	177,876	-	-	177,876	118,399

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	1101 : BARCLAYS PCC ACC COMMUN 1102 : PETTY CASH 1103 : CCLA DEPOSIT ACC	77,423 39 100,414	 - - -	- - - -
	Total cash funds	177,876	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	HMRC Gift Aid receivable for the FYE 2024 estimated at	21,990	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Audiovisual equipment	General Unrestricted	-	-
Furniture	General Unrestricted	-	-
Office equipment	General Unrestricted	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Jerome Ilenotuma</i>	JEROME ILENOTUMA	9/3/2025
<i>Ann Nurcombe</i>	ANN NURCOMBE	9/3/2025