

**Church of England Parish of Bemerton, Salisbury**

Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements  
of the  
Parochial Church Council

Registered Charity: 1183774

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Bemerton Parish  
96 St. Michael's Road  
Bemerton Heath  
Salisbury SP2 9LE

Bank:  
Lloyds Bank Plc.  
Blue Boar Row Branch  
Salisbury

Independent examiner:  
Wendy Oliver

## **Safeguarding**

There are 2 safeguarding officers in our parish Jane Podkolinski and Debbie Ford.

We work closely with the Rector, meeting on a regular basis to ensure that safeguarding is a priority within our church, café, community centre and parish. In the café and community centre we continue to make sure our code of conduct and safeguarding measures are up to date, to keep staff, volunteers and anyone accessing the community centre safe.

We regularly access the Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard for our parish. This helps to keep us on track for what needs to be done. It uses a traffic light system with red being something that should be actioned as soon as possible, amber meaning action that will need to be done and green up to date with everything required at this time. We are in a good position now as all the lights for our parish are green.

Some safeguarding concerns came to light in the wider church last year. The Diocesan Safeguarding Team are working to make sure safeguarding is a priority for everyone, and that vulnerable voices and concerns are heard and listened to.

The Diocesan safeguarding team hold in person workshops once a year, which both Parish safeguarding officers attended in 2024. They also hold zoom meetings on a regular basis for parish safeguarding officers.

We aim to be proactive rather than reactive in the way we approach safeguarding, assessing risks and making sure there are systems and processes in place which keep everyone in the church and Community Centre safe. This includes issues which affect health and safety. Finally safeguarding training is crucial to creating a safe church community, so if anyone has any difficulties accessing training or would like to do it as a group, please do get in touch with us.

*Report written by Debbie Ford and Jane Podkolinski*

## **Health and Safety**

As now required Legionella risk for our buildings has been addressed. To reduce the risk and simplify procedures in the community centre a tank has been removed so that all water is now directly from the mains.

The main focus has been the community centre as this is our most complex and potentially highest risk building. Investigations are ongoing as to exactly how the fire alarm system works and whether it is still suitable for the current use of the building, many of the components will require replacement in the near future as a minimum. Another area of concern is the stage lighting in the main hall some of which should have been included in the last 5-year installation inspection but could not be accessed and other items which would be subject to portable appliance testing but there is no evidence that it has been tested. These issues will be a priority for resolution in 2025.

*Report written by Mike Bird.*

## **Evangelism, Ministry & Mission**

Our approach to evangelism, ministry and mission in this parish continues to be based on a chaplaincy model. This model sees us going out to be alongside people and to put into action the role of the Church of England parish to be the place where people of all faith and none can come for spiritual, emotional and practical support. We have a small worshipping community on a Sunday morning but we are seeking to move away from a 'Sunday centric' way of being and to move beyond the numbers game that urban church communities can so easily be drawn into. We meet our parishioners in schools during collective worship and at the school gate. We meet them in their workplaces, homes and the places they socialise.

St Michael's Community Centre has continued to offer us a great opportunity for this type of ministry. We went through a period of reflection during 2024 and with the departure of the community centre manager we realised we needed to develop a team of workers. This team came together through September and October and comprised of two café team members and two cleaning team members. They are all a wonderful asset and presence in the Community Centre. The café has gone from strength to strength and has once again been a warm, welcoming and safe space. As you read through this report I hope you will be able to see how Evangelism, Ministry and Mission is at the heart of each decision we make in how our parish is structured and how we live our daily lives.

In November Rev'd Canon Karen Hutchinson was licenced to the parish as an associate priest having spent a year with us as an assistant priest. Karen is a great support to me personally and the whole parish and it is great to have her as part of the growing ministry team here in Bemerton Parish.

*Written by Kevin Martin*

## **Lent (turning into year round) Study Group**

In Lent 2024 we held our usual study group as we read and reflected on Marcus Borg's 'Reading the Bible Again for the First Time'. This book opened up a great deal of useful and at times challenging discussion. It was led by Karen Hutchinson and Kevin Martin. At the end of the course several members asked if we could continue studying so we have.

This group now meets on a regular basis to study books which open up our understanding of the scriptures we read and the faith we live. This enables an engagement with faith which encourages questioning all those things we have been taught before to come back to the teaching of Jesus and the God who reveals Godself outside of organised religions.

*Written by Kevin Martin*

## **LPA (Lay Pastoral Assistant) and Pastoral Care**

The Community Fridge and Larder and the Community Café have continued to be ways in which we can offer pastoral care to those who would not normally attend church services. There has been an increasing number of regular visitors who clearly find it appealing as a safe place, somewhere to meet others and somewhere to share problems.

The weekly lunch at a low cost for older persons (a joint venture with the local council) resumed in the second half of the year, and we have continued to provide lunches once a week for a similar group of people in Harnham.

The regular hire of premises to Spire Inclusion has also given us opportunities to engage with adults with a variety of Special Educational Need, and those who support them.

The schools in the parish are another arena of pastoral care, where Revd Kevin has regular visits to be available to staff as well as to the families and children.

We are fortunate to have five people serving as Lay Pastoral Assistants under the direction of Revds Kevin and Karen. Anybody who lives within the parish boundaries can seek pastoral care from the incumbent, and calls have been received regularly throughout the year, asking for pastoral care for the sick and dying, and continued support to those who are bereaved was also available. LPAs participate in this pastoral care by visiting parishioners who are housebound, sick or dying, offering communion to those unable to attend church, or supporting those who are more vulnerable as they attend church. We are every mindful of good safeguarding practice and regularly take advice and review our practice so that all are kept safe, whether they are being visited or doing the visiting.

As part of our ongoing care of those who are bereaved we again held an All Souls Service at St Michael's in October which was well attended, and appreciated, with refreshments served afterwards. Pastoral care is also expressed through the two other 'life events' ministries which are Baptisms and Weddings. Preparation for these celebrations of God's love for all God's children and the way we share in that loving relationship often means an extended period of time getting to know couples and families.

Our pastoral care is also extended to those who have maybe felt hurt or rejected by another church either within the CofE or another denomination because of their gender, sexuality, ethnicity, relationship status or other issues. We have remained committed during 2024 to continue to uphold the following statement of the Inclusive Church Network of which we are part: "We believe in inclusive church – **a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate**. We will continue to challenge the church where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of **disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality**. We believe in a Church which **welcomes and serves all people** in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

*Report written by Shirley Frayling and Karen Hutchinson*

### **Lay Worship Leaders**

We have for some time been involving lay people in leading worship through acting as liturgical deacons at the 10.30 Eucharist, which enables us to express in a visible way the engagement of all God's people in the worship of God. During 2024 we supported this ministry by running the diocesan course for lay worship leaders, and

at the conclusion of the course, Neal, Shirley and Patience were commissioned by Bishop Andrew as Lay Worship Leaders and Neal and Shirley now participate regularly in leading worship in that way (together with Maureen as a formerly-licensed lay minister).

Participating in the course enabled us to reflect together on how we express our shared life in Christ through our worship, resulting in some minor changes to the orders of service that we use. We intend to continue to meet regularly as a worship leading team to plan, particularly for the special seasons.

Patience brings her considerable musical skills to the role of LWL and together with Cathy provides uplifting musical support for the worship at the 10.30 service. They both have a key role in choosing and planning music as well as actually playing it, and we are grateful for their gifts.

*Written by Shirley Frayling and Karen Hutchinson.*

### **Social Events**

Social events this year have mostly centred around the White Horse Pub in Quidhampton rather than at the Quidhampton Village Hall and Harlequin Club. This included a good gathering for Harvest Festival with nibbles, drinks, singing and a well supported raffle.

Social events were also part of ministry, mission and evangelism joining with the Methodist Church for their Covenant Service and Good Friday hot cross buns and a reciprocal service at St Michael's to celebrate Mother's Day.

We also had various 'walking carols' throughout the parish during December and afterwards at The White Horse Pub and St Andrew's Church for mulled wine and mince pies. All had excellent turnouts.

*Written by Lynn Kershaw*

### **Little Pows Parent and Toddler Group**

The parent and toddler group went through a name change during 2024 when it was brought to our attention that some found the previous name of 'Little Angel's' difficult. An angel baby is a name given to a baby who dies during pregnancy or soon after birth. Once we realised this we knew we needed to change the name. Kayleigh currently leads the group and does an excellent job and we are looking to safely recruit a co-lead for this group early in 2025.

### **Bemerton Parish Community Art Group.**

We enjoy meeting together on Thursday afternoon from 3pm-5pm and welcome anyone with a desire to paint or draw. Material is not essential as we always have plenty of paper or paints and pens.

We charge £2 which includes a cup of tea and biscuits.

*Report written by Maureen Winstanley.*

### **Flowers for St Michael's Church.**

As has been the case for the past few years we no longer have a rota for flowers in the church building. We ensure two to three arrangements are in place for the major

festivals and these arrangements last for two to three weeks. The rest of the year we don't have any flowers.

At Easter we do have the Easter Candle stand arrangement throughout Eastertide and the Advent Wreath throughout Advent.

We are hoping some budding flower arrangers may arrive who will enable us to have a flower arrangers rota once again.

*Report written by Maureen Winstanley.*

### **Flowers at St Andrew's Church.**

The rota has fewer people but some have stepped up for longer periods and we continue to have two arrangement throughout the year for the many visitors that pass through as the church continues to be open all day.

Special and extra arrangements are done as well for the Harvest Festival with thanks to Harry and Justine Baker and also for Remembrance and the Christmas festivities.

Thanks also to Jane Malkin who continues to prepare the annual rota and keep in touch with the participants.

*Written by Lynn Kershaw*

### **Deanery Synod Report**

In 2024 all three scheduled meetings actually took place and minutes were produced. Bemerton Parish was represented at all these and hosted the September meeting at the community centre which gave us the opportunity to tell the Deanery of the ways we engage with and work alongside our community using the centre with its café, community fridge etc.

None of these meetings were quorate in the house of clergy and we are still waiting for a decision from the diocese on what can be done about this. A change in Rural Dean has given these meetings more direction than in 2023 but they are still little more than a talking shop.

*Report written by Michael Bird and Debbie Ford*

### **Church Buildings**

#### **St Andrew's**

The fabric of St Andrew's is generally in good repair.

Wording for a plaque commemorating the purchase of the Paschal Candle Stand in memory of Margaret Munt was agreed and attached to the stand in time for Easter 2024.

The heating control timers were damaged and were replaced in February.

Two lights were replaced with LED floodlights in February as a trial to decide if these lights would be suitable for use throughout the building. It was decided that a slightly lower power LED flood would be better and a List B approval was obtained. All of the downlights were replaced in September / October. It has been agreed that similar flood lights should be used to replace the uplights and LED spots should be used to replace the Altar spots in due course.

The Quinquennial inspection took place in October. The report is due in Q1 of 2025. The verbal feedback is that there are no immediate repairs but some guttering on the north side needs replacing soon. This will be addressed in 2025. Thanks to a number of local residents we have been able to keep the church open every day with a rota of people locking up.

*Written by Hilary Bird*

### **St John's**

There is no change to the interior of the chancel.

Bemerton Community are planning a project to move the reredos from behind the altar to the north wall where it will replace the organ pipes as an art feature. The project was progressing but planning permissions had yet to be granted. It was confirmed that the chancel was not under faculty jurisdiction so only planning and listed building consent were required.

\*Note early in 2025 it was confirmed that this was incorrect and the chancel is under Faculty jurisdiction but steps can be made to change that.

*Written by Hilary Bird*

### **St John's Churchyard**

Bemerton Community are planning to develop a second wild area within the churchyard and plans are being made to improve the paths.

*Written by Hilary Bird*

### **St Michael's**

The fabric of St Michael's has deteriorated slightly with the ongoing leak in the roof at the East end of the North aisle (note the cardinal points are as if the building has the altar at the east end). Some plaster work in the crossing is beginning to spall slightly. This is all due to the poor design of the roofs above the leak and the poor quality of the bricks used throughout.

The Quinquennial inspection report was received with no significant surprises.

*Written by Hilary Bird.*

### **The Friends of St Andrews**

The Friends of St Andrews fund the maintenance and upkeep of the church. They met three times in 2024, in January, April and September.

Most outcomes have been fabric related and are in the St Andrew's report.

A George Herbert Festival Evensong was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

Visitors from around the world are once again arranging to visit the church and these visits are supported by members of the George Herbert in Bemerton Group.

*Written by Hilary Bird.*

### **St Michael's Community Centre & Café**

As mentioned above the Community Centre is our main way of reaching out to and serving the local community.

We are delighted to be working with Salisbury Foodbank, Spire Inclusion, a day provision for supporting adults with special educational needs support. We have been able to host a number of Bemerton Bright Ideas panel meetings along with other fitness and health education classes.

The Community Café has continued to enable us to help those people experiencing temporary and more medium term food poverty. We have been able to do this by utilising grant payments from Wiltshire Council. Breakfast club continued in the school holidays until the end of the first week of the summer holidays. The decision was made to pause this club until we have redesigned the menu to provide meals which offer good nutritional value to the families who come to the club.

The Community Café also offers a safe and warm space for people to meet within and to be able to purchase drinks and a snack at a reasonable price. With the new café team members starting in October we have seen a very big shift in new people attending the café. We ended 2024 with some new ideas to improve the café further throughout 2025.

It is at this point that I feel it's important to say a very big thank you to Hilary Bird who has been amazing in rolling her sleeves up and getting stuck in with volunteering alongside the new café team members. It is absolutely thanks to Hilary that we obtained a Level 5 Hygiene rating in our inspection in September of 2024. It is also important to thank all our volunteers who bring a real sense of joy to the café in their willingness to serve and uniqueness of character.

*Written by Kevin Martin*

### **Community Fridge and Larder**

The Community Fridge and Larder continued to offer support to those in need in the local community. It was open during café opening times, and was well used. We are grateful to Waitrose and Partners who give regular donations through FairshareGo and to Co-op for regular donations. We are also thankful for the support of Salisbury City Council Pantry who ensure we receive any goods they have left over each week. An exciting development which was brokered through 2024 was that a local allotment group have agreed to run the St Michael's Community Garden to grow fruit and vegetables to supply the community fridge at St Michael's along with other food support networks in the city.

### **Performance and Achievement**

As with last year this report on 2024 shows clearly how we have continued to strive to be a strong and serving Christian presence in the Church of England Parish of Bemerton. We have achieved our desire to be a community based on worshipping God and serving the people of God in this parish which is everybody who lives within our parish boundary. We have engaged with new ways of meeting people where they are rather than simply trying to get people to come to our church buildings.

*Written by Kevin Martin*



## Finance Report

The headline news is that we were able to pay parish share to the diocese in full for this year without having to draw down any monies from our bond accounts. I am not aware when we were last in this position. This has been due to the generous giving from parishioners and supporters of the parish and the hard work of our staff. This has been made easier through our moving over to the Parish Giving Scheme in April.

It is also due, in part, to the PCC being given the information it needs to make more prudent decisions around how we use our buildings and how we spend our money. In August the parish administrator, Keren, handed in her notice having worked in the parish for more than twenty years. When recruiting a new admin team member didn't go to plan the PCC spent time considering the best and most economical way to move forward. The decision was made to outsource our bookkeeping and to return to outsourcing our payroll. This realised a significant saving in staff costs and we are very pleased with the service being offered by Sandra Silk.

Sadly, the parish treasurer had to step back from her role in April for personal reasons and we thought we had found a new treasurer but that didn't turn out as we had hoped. As is the case in these situations the churchwarden becomes the contact person with the diocese whilst we are without a treasurer. The outsourcing of bookkeeping, however, has made this a far from difficult situation. From an environmental perspective it has also helped as we have become a near paperless office.

During the course of 2024 the two bank accounts were merged and we are now in the final stages of completing this and closing the old community centre account. There are a small number of payments which need to be moved to being paid into and out of our main parish account. This should be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2025.

The merging of bank accounts along with the introduction of different account software has flagged up certain issues we need to resolve moving forward. The summary of accounts and our income and expenditure needed to be recorded differently to originally planned after the independent examiner pointed out the use of the restricted column in the accounts in previous years. This column was used to record the figures for the community centre account although this wasn't an accurate recording of the data. Restricted monies are those which are donated, given through grants or left as legacies for a specific purpose. The majority of the income into the Community Centre account was from lease fees, hall hire costs and cafe takings. Occasionally we receive grants and donations for different works we would like to do in the centre. In recent years this has been to replace some of the flat roofing, refurbishing the kitchen to turn it into a professional kitchen, purchasing an additional table tennis table to name a few. These are the only items which should be listed as restricted rather than every income the community centre generates. We will be speaking with the Diocesan Board of Finance for advice on how we change our reporting to give a more accurate picture of our finances moving forward. Because the reporting hasn't been done so clearly historically we are in a position which makes the accounts look like we have a £26,158 deficit in our unrestricted account with a £29,841 surplus in our restricted.

We would like to extend our thanks to Wendy Oliver for being our independent examiner again this year.

# Balance Sheet

Bemerton PCC

As at 31 December 2024

Account	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>		
<b>Friends of St Andrew's</b>		
6502 - St.Andrews Current account	3,888.77	4,806.30
6515 - CCLA deposit - St.Andrews	16,394.35	15,568.03
6525 - St Andrew's Pay Pal	85.45	-14.67
6530 - St Andrew's Gift Aid Tax due	240.50	57.75
<b>Total Friends of St Andrew's</b>	<b>20,609.07</b>	<b>20,417.41</b>
Bemerton Community Centre	3,114.01	43,495.37
Bemerton PCC	25,494.66	18,368.75
Bemerton PCC Savings	50,100.33	0.00
CCLA (CBF) deposit account - St.Michaels	10.69	10.69
<b>Total Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>99,328.76</b>	<b>82,292.22</b>
7550 - Fixed Interest Securities	1,295.77	1,224.87
7565 - Church Hall	34,611.87	53,208.58
7575 - Warre Trust	136,520.81	133,465.99
Accounts Receivable	6,462.33	0.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>278,219.54</b>	<b>270,191.66</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accounts Payable	857.77	0.00
PAYE/NIC Liability	-174.72	710.35
Pension Liability	30.66	
Accruals	658.26	
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>1,371.97</b>	<b>710.35</b>
<b>Net Current Assets (Liabilities)</b>	<b>276,847.57</b>	<b>269,481.31</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>276,847.57</b>	<b>269,481.31</b>
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>		
Unrestricted Funds	-8,162.62	17,367.79
Restricted Funds	146,991.26	117,149.41
Designated Funds	1,498.12	1,498.12
Endowment Funds	136,520.81	133,465.99
<b>Total Capital and Reserves</b>	<b>276,847.57</b>	<b>269,481.31</b>

## Profit and Loss

Bemerton PCC

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Account	Endowment	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Prior Year
<b>Income</b>					
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	0.00	0.00	17,660.85	17,660.85	24,631.00
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	0.00	0.00	369.56	369.56	130.00
0201 - Planned Giving	0.00	0.00	8,650.48	8,650.48	743.00
0301 - Loose plate collections	0.00	0.00	2,511.81	2,511.81	1,838.00
0302 - Baptism loose plate	0.00	0.00	85.00	85.00	39.00
0410 - Giving through church boxes	0.00	0.00	48.34	48.34	96.00
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	0.00	0.00	783.79	783.79	1,961.00
0550 - Donations appeals etc	0.00	0.00	4,877.30	4,877.30	2,883.00
1101 - Fees for weddings & Banns	0.00	0.00	1,869.00	1,869.00	2,069.00
1102 - Fees for funerals & monuments	0.00	0.00	1,783.00	1,783.00	1,673.00
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	0.00	0.00	8,888.22	8,888.22	2,682.00
0550C - Costs incurred for Donations received	0.00	0.00	33.55	33.55	(32.00)
<b>Community Centre Income</b>					
0602 - CC - Tax Recoverable on Gift Aid	0.00	450.00	0.00	450.00	
1211 - CC Cafe Sales	0.00	17,580.13	0.00	17,580.13	
1212 - CC FoodBank Clients	0.00	498.45	0.00	498.45	
1214 - CC External Catering	0.00	2,994.00	0.00	2,994.00	
1230 - CC Lettings	0.00	9,570.00	0.00	9,570.00	
1231 - CC Long Term Lettings	0.00	22,230.16	0.00	22,230.16	
1232 - CC Hourly/Day Bookings & Parties	0.00	16,756.50	0.00	16,756.50	
1240 - CC Grants & Donations	0.00	322.50	0.00	322.50	
1241 - CC Donations - General	0.00	1,785.28	0.00	1,785.28	
1242 - CC Donations - Fridge	0.00	798.00	0.00	798.00	
1243 - CC - Fundraising Income	0.00	760.85	0.00	760.85	1,636.00
1244 - CC - Grants	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	12,335.00
<b>Total Community Centre Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>78,745.87</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>78,745.87</b>	<b>56,364.00</b>
0701 - Legacies	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
0901 - Other funds generated	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	36.00
1001 - Dividends	0.00	0.00	4,778.14	4,778.14	5,102.00
1020 - Bank and building society interest	0.00	826.32	100.75	927.07	
1400 - Friends of St.Andrews	0.00	946.70	0.00	946.70	1,654.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>80,518.89</b>	<b>69,439.79</b>	<b>149,958.68</b>	<b>115,840.00</b>
<b>Direct Costs</b>					
1850 - Giving - Other Charities	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
2510 - CC Cafe Cost of Sales	0.00	6,053.06	0.00	6,053.06	
Square Fees	0.00	48.28	0.00	48.28	
Sumup - Give a Little - Processor Fees	0.00	0.00	1.34	1.34	
2540 - CC Outreach Programme Costs	0.00	295.42	0.00	295.42	
2542 - CC Outreach Programme Supplies	0.00	1,533.75	0.00	1,533.75	
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,930.51</b>	<b>31.34</b>	<b>7,961.85</b>	<b>30.00</b>
<b>Gross Surplus</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>72,588.38</b>	<b>69,408.45</b>	<b>141,996.83</b>	<b>115,810.00</b>
<b>Administrative Costs</b>					
1910 - Parish share etc	0.00	0.00	77,008.63	77,008.63	25,845.00
<b>Salaries and Staff Costs</b>					
2050 - Salary of parish administrator	0.00	0.00	4,752.31	4,752.31	6,772.00
<b>Total Salaries and Staff Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,752.31</b>	<b>4,752.31</b>	
<b>Church Running Costs</b>					
2201 - Parish training and mission	0.00	0.00	932.48	932.48	1,264.00
2301 - Church running - insurance	0.00	0.00	4,255.04	4,255.04	3,426.00
2310 - Church office - telephone & broadband	0.00	0.00	621.39	621.39	465.00
2330 - Church maintenance	0.00	1,609.86	347.92	1,957.78	1,256.00
2340 - Upkeep of services	0.00	0.00	817.80	817.80	946.00
2360 - Administration	0.00	0.00	705.48	705.48	891.00
2401 - Church running - electric	0.00	0.00	1,810.29	1,810.29	1,702.00
2410 - Church running - gas	0.00	0.00	934.73	934.73	606.00
2420 - Church running - water	0.00	0.00	401.64	401.64	194.00
<b>Total Church Running Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,609.86</b>	<b>10,826.77</b>	<b>12,436.63</b>	
<b>Community Centre Costs</b>					
2110 - CC Staff Costs	0.00	3,582.54	0.00	3,582.54	
2113 - CC Wages	0.00	18,529.70	0.00	18,529.70	
Employer's Pensions	0.00	52.06	0.00	52.06	
2560 - CC Running Costs	0.00	1,123.94	0.00	1,123.94	
2561 - CC Gas	0.00	772.12	0.00	772.12	
2562 - CC Electricity	0.00	3,689.81	0.00	3,689.81	
2563 - CC Water	0.00	618.00	0.00	618.00	
2564 - CC Waste, Recycling & Pest Control	0.00	2,026.11	0.00	2,026.11	
2567 - CC Administration	0.00	64.11	0.00	64.11	
2568 - CC Marketing & Promotion	0.00	65.00	0.00	65.00	
2810 - CC Equipment Purchase	0.00	2,541.33	0.00	2,541.33	
2815 - CC Equipment Repair & Maintenance	0.00	934.80	0.00	934.80	
2816 - CC Janitorial Supplies	0.00	1,573.35	0.00	1,573.35	
2840 - CC Routine Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	6,767.09	0.00	6,767.09	
<b>Total Community Centre Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>42,339.96</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>42,339.96</b>	<b>56,460.00</b>
2845 - St John's Place Lease/Utilities contribution	0.00	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Bookkeeping and Payroll	0.00	0.00	609.60	609.60	
IT Software and Consumables	0.00	0.00	36.00	36.00	
<b>Total Administrative Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>43,949.82</b>	<b>95,633.31</b>	<b>139,583.13</b>	<b>102,227.00</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>51,880.33</b>	<b>95,664.65</b>	<b>147,544.98</b>	<b>102,257.00</b>
<b>Surplus before Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>28,638.56</b>	<b>(26,224.86)</b>	<b>2,413.70</b>	<b>13,583.00</b>
Gains/Losses on Investments	3,054.82	1,203.29	65.90	4,324.01	16,142.00
<b>Total Surplus</b>	<b>3,054.82</b>	<b>29,841.85</b>	<b>(26,158.96)</b>	<b>6,737.71</b>	<b>29,725.00</b>

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bemerton, Salisbury**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bemerton, Salisbury (PCC) for the year ended 31 December 2024

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed 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 PCC 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.

*Wendy Oliver*  
Signed:

Wendy Oliver FCCA  
Meadow Glen  
Lower Road  
Quidhampton  
SP2 9AR

Date: 4/4/25

## **Administrative Information**

St Michael's, St Andrew's and St John's are located in the Parish of Bemerton part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

The parish office is located within the Community Centre at 96 St Michael's Road, Bemerton Heath, Salisbury SP2 9LE. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the charity commission. The PCC is required to hold an annual meeting and the minutes from the meeting held in May 2024 covering the operating year 2023 are provided in Annex 2.

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Member can also be co-opted by the PCC.

Reverend Kevin Martin as Rector of Bemerton is an Ex-Officio member. PCC members who have served from 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to the APCM on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024 are as follows:

### Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent: The Reverend Kevin Martin

Associate Priest: The Rev'd Canon Karen Hutchinson (from 04.11.2024)

### Churchwarden

Hilary Bird

Clive Marriott (26.05.2024 – 23.12.2024)

### Deanery Synod Representatives

Michael Bird (from 01.07.2023 – 2026)

Debbie Ford (from 01.07.2023 – 2026)

### Elected members

Patience Dreyer (27.04.2022 – 2025)

Neal Dreyer (27.04.2022 -2025)

Colin Frayling (27.04.2022 – 2025)

Birthe Mester (27/04/2023 – 2026)

Bruce Burley (27/04/2023 – 19.05.2024)

Denise Wells (27/04/2023 – 2026)

Shirley Frayling (26.05.2024 – 2026)

Bob Kershaw (26.05.2024 – 2027)

Lynn Kershaw (26.05.2024 – 2027)

Liisa Wallace (26.05.2024 – 12.01.2025)

### Co-opted members

Shirley Frayling (27/04/2023 – 26.05.2024)  
Koral Hull (27/04/2023 - 02.04.2024)

**Bemerton Parish  
Annual Parish Meeting  
followed by  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Present: Kevin Martin (Chair), Shirley Frayling (minutes), Hilary Bird, Michael Bird, Robert Kershaw, Lynn Kershaw, Maureen Winstanley, Alan Winstanley, Linda Carley, Jane Podkolinski, Colin Frayling, Helen Pessell, Frank Pessell, Denise Wells, Patience Dreyer, Neal Dreyer, Cathy Markall, Clare Lewis, Carol McAbendroth, Clive Marriott, Liisa Wallace, Heather Richards, Clare Lewis, Linda Prince, Geoffrey Herbert, Debbie Ford, Birthe Mester, Carol Shipp

**Annual Parish Meeting**

Election of Church Wardens: Hilary Bird and Clive Marriott were unanimously elected, with thanks.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. Kevin opened with prayer.
2. Apologies for absence: Bruce Burley, Margaret Moore, Anne Russell, Koral Hull, Beverly Conio.
3. Changes in membership on the Electoral Roll. On 2.05.24 there were 71 on our Electoral Roll, which is 2 less than last year. Thanks were expressed to Keren Mercer, our Electoral Role Officer.
4. Election of PCC members.

Bruce has had to resign due to work commitments. Kevin expressed his thanks to him for his role on the PCC.

There were 3 spaces on the PCC for the duration of 3 years and 1 for a 2year duration. Bob Kershaw, proposed by Patience Dreyer and seconded by Shirley Frayling, Lynn Kershaw, proposed by Shirley Frayling and seconded by Patience Dreyer and Liisa Wallace, proposed by Hilary Bird and seconded by Michael Bird were unanimously elected for 3 years, and Shirley Frayling, proposed by Patience Dreyer and seconded by Neal Dreyer, was unanimously elected for 2 years.

Kevin announced that Koral Hull was stepping down as treasurer and Liisa Wallace was standing in.
5. The minutes of the previous APCM were accepted by all and signed as a true record.
6. Matters arising: A decision still needs to be made regarding the artwork donated by Robyn Golden Hann as to where it should be most safely positioned.

## 7. The Reports.

a) Safeguarding – unanimously accepted.

b) Evangelism, Ministry and Mission

There were no questions or comments on the report.

c) Lay Pastoral Assistants and Pastoral Care

There were no questions or comments on the report.

d) Social Events.

There were no questions or comments on the report.

e) Bemerton Parish Community Art Group.

There were no questions or comments on the report.

f) Flowers for St Michael's Church.

There were no questions or comments

g) Flowers at St Andrew's Church.

There were no questions or comments.

h) Deanery Synod Report

There were no questions or comments.

i) Church Buildings.

i) St Andrew's.

Appreciation was recorded for the money left to St Andrew's in the will of Margaret Munt, with which a Pascal candle stick had been bought for the church.

ii) Friends of St Andrew's

There were no comments on the report.

iii) St John's

There were no comments on St John's.

iv) St John's Churchyard.

There were no comments on the report.

v) St Michael's Church

Kevin expressed his thanks to Hilary for all the work she had done on the buildings, including preparation for the Quinquennial and also his thanks to Mike for the Health and Safety checks carried out on all the buildings.



- j) St Michael's Community Centre  
Carol McAbendroth mentioned that the report said that the volunteers in the café chose to leave when changes were made, but they had actually been asked to leave.  
Hilary suggested that it would be a good idea to have a Community Centre Steering Group consisting of Kevin, Kate, Hilary, Patience and Shirley.  
There were no further comments.
- k) Community Café  
There were no further comments.
- l) Community Fridge and Larder  
There were no comments or questions.
- m) Performance and Achievement  
There were no comments or suggestions following this report.
- n) Financial Report  
Helen asked whether the accounts had been combined. Kevin explained that it was taking time to do this, mainly because Lloyds were slow and the fact that they are considered as 2 separate businesses made it more difficult.  
Helen also asked whether the Parish Share had been paid and was told that it had, and that less money had had to be drawn down last year. It was hoped that there would be no need to draw money down to pay it this year.  
Clare Lewis asked whether there was a fundraising committee and that she would be interested in being on it if one was formed.  
There were no further comments or suggestions.  
Kevin expressed his thanks to Wendy Oliver for all her support with the accounts.

## 8. Rector's Report

Kevin began by reminding us that, as he had said in his sermon, the Trinity is a Community of Love and, as we are made in God's image, this is what we should be as a church moving forward.

He was delighted that Karen Hutchinson had joined us as an assistant priest and he appreciates her wisdom. Karen co-led the Lent Course on Marcus Borg's book "Reading the Bible again for the First Time" and is continuing to co-lead "The Heart of Christianity", which has 12 attendees. He was also

pleased to say that there are 2 other priests who are discerning whether they are being called here and asked for prayer for them in their discernment. The café is still a work in progress, and needs more volunteers who are able to sit with customers and not spending the time in the kitchen. The Breakfast Club has been a superb outreach.

There are 5 people who are interested in attending a training course for Lay Worship Leaders.

Easter had been a great celebration, with 2 adults being baptised during the service.

Change is happening all the time and he recognised that this could be difficult but it also needed to be celebrated and it was lovely to see new faces after three and a half years. It had been very sad to hear of the deaths of Chris Cochrane and Terri Seaton who had been so much a part of the parish for so long.

An “Enquirers” group will be starting soon, and there is a Meditation group, which he hopes will meet more frequently.

He reiterated how excited he is for the present and is looking forward to the future.

Birthe formally thanked Kevin for all his hard work.

9. AOB.

Hilary mentioned the Parish Giving Scheme and that it could be done online or via a form.

10. The meeting closed with the Grace.