

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH

England & Wales · Charity number 1184093

Details

Other names CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2019-06-25

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

Contact

Address Christ Church Office
86 Prospect Road
Southborough
Tunbridge Wells
TN4 0EG

Phone 01892513680

Email ccsouthborough@gmail.com

Website christchurchsouthborough.com

Activities

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

Activities: Religious Activities

Classification

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

Geography

- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£169,559	£171,191	-	-
2024-12-31	£181,659	£152,701	-	-
2023-12-31	£171,352	£171,481	-	-
2022-12-31	£143,055	£153,556	-	-
2021-12-31	£102,910	£111,618	-	-
2020-12-31	£917,321	£107,254	£953,294	2

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jonathan Taylor	Chair	2019-06-09
Angela Wright		2025-05-11
Anthony John Denyer		2021-05-16
BARBARA JOYCE BOURNE		2019-06-09
Fiona Caroline Hiscoke		2025-05-11
GRAHAM PETER SYMS		2022-07-04
Jamie Andrew Roddy		2022-05-08
Judith Ann Stevens		2019-06-09
Patricia Lesley Clare		2019-06-09
Rita Morland		2019-06-09
Susan Shrubbs		2021-05-16
Wenonah Weston		2025-05-11

Accounts

Christ Church Southborough



2025 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Southborough

2025 started on a sad note as our Rector, Rev Nick Cornell left us in January to take up the post as Archdeacon of Tonbridge in the Rochester Diocese. Due to issues with the 1870's Rectory, the Diocese made the decision to sell this property and buy another more modern property for our next incumbent. As a Parish we were placed into "suspension" and that is how we ended the year. The original Rectory was sold during December and a new property was sourced with an offer being made in January 2026. Once this property has completed we will be in a position to start advertising for a new Rector.

However, taking this into account we have continued to progress and grow and to encompass our aims to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Aims and Purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for cooperating 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 Christ Church, the attached Church Hall and Annexe in addition to having a majority ownership of the curate's house at 54 Holden Park Road, Southborough and full ownership of 2 rental properties - 32B London Road in Southborough and 38 Azure Court in Tonbridge.

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 Christ Church. 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 local 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
- Mission and outreach work

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of Christ Church.

Reporting Public Benefit

The "Our Vision" section of the Trustees Report provides a brief summary of the activities undertaken by Christ Church, Southborough to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. This section of the report also provides confirmation that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning our activities.

The report specifically addresses the two key principles:

1. There must be an identifiable benefit – and the Trustees have explained the activities and benefits which flow from them to the Parish community.
2. The benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public – and the Trustees have explained their commitment to enable as many people as possible to worship and become part of the Parish community.

Reference and Administrative Information

Rector:	Rev Nick Cornell (until January 2025 and thereafter vacant)
Clergy – PTO:	Rev Jim Stevens
Licensed Lay Minister:	Sheila Syms

Churchwardens:	Rita Morland Jonathan Taylor
Deanery Synod Representative:	Barbara Bourne Graham Syms

Representation on the Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the Church. Deanery Synod Representatives are elected for a period of 3 years. Elections took place at the APCM in 2023 and therefore Representatives are eligible to serve until May 2026.

Bank:	Lloyds Bank Plc, Tunbridge Wells Branch
Independent Examiner:	Zachary Ramsden, 63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2JT
Charitable Status:	The PCC is a corporate body (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number: 1184093
Website:	www.christchurchsouthborough.com
Correspondence Addresses:	Christ Church Office Prospect Road Southborough TN4 0EG
Patronage Board includes:	Church Pastoral Aid Society and The Mabledon Trust

Structure & Governance

PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC consists of the clergy, the Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod Representatives and the following elected members:

Parish Treasurer:	Lesley Clare
PCC Secretary &	Lesley Clare
Electoral Roll Officer:	
Representatives:	Judy Stevens
	Tony Denyer
	Sue Shrubbs
	Jamie Roddy
	Fiona Hiscoke (from May 2025)
	Wenonah Weston (from May 2025)
	Angie Wright (from May 2025)

In addition to her duties as Churchwarden, Rita Morland is also our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Christ Church PCC met 8 times during 2025 and at times make further decisions via e-mail. Members of the PCC have personal and legal liability for the activities within the Parish. The average attendance at the full PCC meetings was 93%. PCC minutes, once approved by the PCC are displayed on the website.

A Standing Committee is required under Church Representation Rules and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the Clergy, both Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator. This Committee met once in 2025 to discuss the process for recruiting a new Incumbent.

APCM – the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 11th May 2025 after the Sunday service and was also live-streamed for those who couldn't attend.

Committees – committees have been set up to make recommendations to the PCC on specific areas. These committees are:

1. Standing Committee
2. Youth & Children's Work
3. Sundays - Worship/Prayer/Discipleship

4. Mission/Tithe
5. Mission/Outreach

Safeguarding

Rita Morland has been appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and she is the first point of call for all safeguarding issues and ensures that all DBS clearances and training are kept up to date. During 2025 Sue Shrubbs was appointed as Deputy Safeguarding Officer to support Rita in her role. In 2025 there were 30 volunteers with DBS clearances available to do children/youth work or pastoral care. During 2025 there were 16 people who had their DBS renewed.

Every year, parents are asked to complete the parental consent forms for groups, activities, trips and photographs and all children and youth volunteers are issued with a written code of conduct and safeguarding policy. The Church of England Safeguarding Handbook is kept in the vestry and displayed on the main Noticeboard, on the Noticeboard in the office and a summary document given to all volunteers in September. We had no reportable Safeguarding incidents during 2025.

The PCC has agreed and are committed to comply with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 which confirms that we will have regard to the House of Bishop's Safeguarding policies and good practice guidance. The PCC also agree every year, what activities are covered by the Safeguarding Policy and agree the procedure for reporting any allegations.

The Safeguarding Committee have adopted the Safer Recruitment requirements and continue to review policies using the Diocesan Dashboard system. We have currently completed Level 1 and are working towards Level 2. Rita Morland, Sue Shrubbs and Jamie Roddy have all completed the Safer Recruitment Training.

Safeguarding is always on the PCC Meeting Agenda and any Diocesan or National developments are discussed.

During 2025, 4 people undertook safeguarding training at Basic Level and 8 at Foundation Level. Kevin Clare & Angie Wright completed their Safeguarding Leadership Pathway Course during 2025 to add to Jim, Sheila, Jamie, Rita and Jonathan who had already completed theirs. In addition 2 people undertook

the Safer Recruitment Training and 7 people undertook the Domestic Abuse Module.

All PCC members have Enhanced DBS clearances.

Serious Incident Reporting

Charities are required to report to the Charity Commission any serious incidents, both safeguarding and non-safeguarding.

The PCC agreed to delegate authority to the Diocesan Secretary to submit safeguarding Serious Incident Reports to the Charity Commission and to the PCC Secretary to submit non-safeguarding Serious Incident Reports.

Employees

During 2025, Christ Church employed three members of staff, Sue Shrubbs, Church Administrator, Clair Tighe, Cleaner and Jamie Roddy as Children & Families' Pastor.

Sue is usually the first point of contact and she ensures the smooth running of the Church, assists the clergy and co-ordinates all aspects of church administration, whilst Clair ensures the Annexe and the Hall are clean and tidy for our hirers and hoovers the church. Jamie's role is to oversee all activities relating to children & youth and to build relationships with the school and the families attending any of the events we put on.

Major Risks

The Trustees consider that major risks have been identified. Those which are not covered by insurance through EIG plc are namely Health & Safety and Child Protection. These topics are reviewed regularly by the PCC.

Our Vision

“Faith Building, Bridge Building, Life Building”

The above “strap line” summarises the vision statement adopted by Christ Church in 2011 and still remains relevant today. These three features are intended to focus all that we do as a Church.

“Faith Building”

We believe that the Bible reveals God’s will by His Spirit and we seek to enable people to understand its true meaning and apply it to their lives as true disciples of Christ. We seek also to create a worship environment in which the reality of God is experienced.

As a CPAS patronage Parish our tradition is evangelical. We place a high value on biblical preaching, mission and worship. We stand firmly on the authority of the Bible as the revealed Word of God and believe that the Bible speaks to each new generation afresh and the Holy Spirit is at work in our world today.

Current Vacancy

Rev Nick Cornell left the Parish, his last Sunday being 26th January. After this service we had a celebration with puddings! His Collation, Installation and Welcome Service at Rochester Cathedral in February was attended by a number of the congregation.

In July, the Ven Andy Wooding Jones (CPAS) and Rev Will North (Associate Archdeacon – Tonbridge) joined a PCC meeting to discuss the vacancy, the process and what we would need to do plus some timescales. This would be a more prolonged appointment than usual due to the decision taken by the Diocese to sell the current Victorian Rectory.

During the year the PCC (including Jim & Sheila) discussed what we would be looking for in a new Incumbent, agreed the strengths and weaknesses of the Parish and the vision for the next 5/10 years. From this information Sue Shrubbs and Lesley Clare were tasked with pulling together a Parish Profile to sell the Parish to any potential applicants. This was completed by the end of 2025 (with people’s comments) and the draft profile was agreed.

Clergy/Lay Ministers

Rev Jim Stevens (retired) is licensed as Clergy PTO for the Parish and Sheila Syms is a Licensed Lay Minister and we are especially grateful for the effort, time, guidance and care that both Jim and Sheila undertook this year after Nick moved roles. Jim provides all the themes and readings for the services and Sheila continues to provide all the Life Group notes/studies. Michael Wightwick is also a Reader Emeritus at Christ Church.

We also had a number of guest speakers/service leaders during the year – and we are thankful to Rev Ian Aveson, Rev Jane Edwards, Rev Anthony Hammill,

Rev Simon Whiteside, the Ven Andy Wooding Jones, Rev Deryck Charnock and Rev David Kitley for assisting us with our services.

Services

There is a Sunday morning service every week. The morning services include a monthly All Age Service which sees children and adults remain together with something for everyone and the emphasis on sharing the gospel through fun. Other morning services include Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. There is an evening service once a month for Prayer and Praise which is a reflective type of service. Before the All Age Service on the first Sunday of the month we have a reflective service including Communion.

On average 66 adults attended Sunday morning services each week and 13 children. Live streaming still takes place for all Sunday morning services, with the exception of the All Age Service, which allows for children to be more involved in the service without the fear of them being on camera reflecting our safeguarding policy.

During 2025, 8 adults started attending the church and 2 left, 3 children started attending while 2 left. There are 244 people attached to the church with the age break-down as follows:

Between 0 – 10 years	=	21
Between 11-17 years	=	16
Between 18 – 69 years	=	66
70+ years	=	40

In addition about 40 people watched the services from home and 6 members of the congregation are predominantly “Church at Home” worshippers.

Special Services

During 2025, there were no Baptisms, Services of Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child nor any services of Prayer & Dedication after a civil marriage in the church. However, we did have two weddings – where both couples were attached to Christ Church.

There was 1 funeral service held in church, and no services were conducted at the Crematorium.

Seasonal Services

Christmas

Leaflets were distributed to the community detailing the Christmas services. These were also advertised on-line and through social media. Christmas Lights were again put up around the church to light up the area and a group went carol singing around the local streets.

In addition to the standard weekly services, there were special Christmas services including a Morning Service which incorporated a Nativity Service, an Evening of Favourite Carols, Carols by Candlelight and a Christingle Service in the afternoon of Christmas Eve. There was a Christmas Day family service. A total number of 577 people attended the special services up to 23rd December and 220 people attended the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day services.

Easter

Easter services were advertised both on-line and via social media. A Maundy Thursday Communion Service was held with a simple meal of soup and a roll and an All Age service on Good Friday, in addition to the usual service on Easter Sunday. 62 people attended the Good Friday service and 93 attended on Easter Sunday including 71 communicants. The Church was decorated with lilies over the Easter period which had mainly been donated by members of the congregation in memory of a loved one.

Others

An All Age Harvest Festival was held in church with the produce being donated to the Community Larder and Nourish. This was also our annual Mission Gift Day.

A service was held on Mothering Sunday and posies of daffodils distributed to the ladies in the congregation. In November a Remembrance Sunday service was held where we joined in with the national 2 minutes silence at 11.00 am.

Both Angie Wright and Kevin Clare completed a course - Leading Worship – and they now have formal Diocesan permission to lead worship 12 times a year. Les Padfield undertook some training and has permission to preach at some services. Angie Wright started the *The Bishop's Certificate in Christian Ministry* course as the first stage of training to become a Licensed Lay Minister.

Mission

Christ Church has 5 main missions which it supports both financially and through prayer – Education for Life in Kenya, Sovereign World Trust, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), CrossTeach and Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS). A number of smaller charities are also supported throughout the year on an ad-hoc basis. All our 5 main Missions each received £888 from our tithing.

A Mission Gift Day was held in October which raised £2,420 for our 5 mission partners – Education for Life £1,359, MAF £259, Sovereign World Trust £284, CrossTeach £259 and CPAS £259. Katharine Fairbairn from CrossTeach also visited to talk about their work in schools.

Every Christmas we make a collection for Education for Life for a specific need at that particular time. In 2025 we raised £587 which was put towards the large stationery order they have at the beginning of every school year (January).

Max & Genevieve Allen who had left us during 2024 to work in Nepal for KISC (Kathmandu International Study Centre) visited during June and during a service shared their experiences and their life in Nepal.

We participated again in Operation Christmas Child, operated by Samaritan's Purse, whereby shoe-boxes filled with presents are sent to children worldwide. Whilst the trend is now towards on-line donation, there are still a large number collected in church.

Community Larder

The Community Larder, started in November 2020 as a 6 week project, is still required in the community with the need and number of users remaining constant. The Café after the Larder also continues to thrive.

Patrick Grice has overall responsibility for the Larder and it is going from strength to strength. The Larder received £5,084 in grants and donations during 2025 - £833 from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, £500 from Neighbourly, £150 from Churches for Tunbridge Wells, £600 from the Asda Foundation, £700 from the Southborough Lions, £226 from the Mayor of Southborough's Quiz and £2,075 from private donations.

Many volunteers help at this event either by manning the tables on a Thursday, providing refreshments in the café, or being involved in one of the

many pick-ups from supermarkets that are necessary to provide this service to the community. Whilst many of these volunteers are members of our congregation there are also a number of volunteers from other churches and the wider community.

Life Groups

Life Groups continue to be an integral part in the life of the Church and there are currently 5 groups. They are held every fortnight during the day or in the evening to enable people to worship and pray together, explore their faith, ask questions to gain a greater understanding of both the Bible and Christianity and form a closer relationship with God and each other. Many Life Groups also had social meetings during the year.

During Life Groups we had sessions on Daniel, the “I Ams”, The Bible (History, Prophets and Versions) and the First Epistle of John and we sincerely thank Sheila Syms for faithfully choosing topics and producing these study notes throughout the year.

The Men’s Study Group started in 2024 on a Saturday morning twice a month called “Toast & Study” has a regular if small participant group.

Electoral Roll

2025 was the year that the Electoral Roll undertakes a complete revision and this was completed prior to the APCM. After the revision there were 109 people on the Roll, a reduction of 19 from the previous year.

The Electoral Roll Secretary (Lesley Clare) reports the number on the Roll at the time of the APCM and it is this number, given to the Diocese, which is used to calculate the number of representatives we have on Deanery Synod. Electoral Roll additions, deletions and rolling totals are reported at each PCC meeting.

Ecumenical Life

We are a member of Churches for Tunbridge Wells, support the Annual Week of Prayer for Tunbridge Wells and we are a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

The Group Ministry within Southborough called ACTS (Anglican Churches Together in Southborough) comprising ourselves, St Thomas, St Lawrence & St Peter continued to be involved in community events.

“Bridge Building”

We seek to ensure that the church is a visible and valuable presence in the community by welcoming and serving as many people as we can.

Prayer

Prayer remains a fundamental role in the ministry of the Parish and is at the centre of all we do. Regular monthly Women and Men’s prayer are held throughout the year. Staff prayers are held every Monday and regularly pray for members of the congregation. There are always designated people available to pray after the morning services.

The monthly prayer and praise evening service continued and prayer before the morning services continued. The small prayer groups continued to meet through the year and Sue continued to produce the monthly prayer diaries.

Jamie used to hold termly prayer meetings for Children & Youth Work, but he has suspended these during the vacancy with the aim for them to re-start once a new Rector is in place.

During 2025, a new prayer meeting was introduced after the service on the 4th Sunday every month, to pray specifically for the process of finding a new Incumbent, the sale and purchase of a Rectory and on-going events in the Church.

School Governors

We continue to maintain and strengthen the good relationship we have with our local school – Southborough CE Primary School. During 2025, we continued to have 2 Foundation Governors – Les Padfield and Rebecca Large. Lin Hutchinson from St Peter’s is also a Foundation Governor.

Jamie continues to regularly run Collective Worship at the school and since Nick is no longer able to help him, Les Padfield has assisted.

During the year, services were held in Church for specific year groups which included parents. The service for the Reception year was attended by 100 parents. There were also year group visits by the children as part of their RE lessons. A School Leavers Service was held for Year 6.

Friday Lunch Club

This club runs every Friday with Rita Morland, Judy Stevens & Lesley Grice providing the catering from the church kitchen. This activity is aimed at the elderly in the Parish. The lunches exist for fellowship for the elderly but also to minister to those in their latter years as many attendees are not members of the Sunday congregation. Volunteers provide transport to allow people to attend. There are regularly over 20 people who attend.

Tea and Toys

The term-time toddler group for parents and carers to bring their pre-school children to play in a friendly and safe environment continues to thrive. This provides fun activities with lots of toys and opportunities to sing songs and listen to stories. Since September 2025, this session has included bible story time with relevant craft activities to try to make the most of the opportunity to share our faith with those who attend.

These sessions have continued to be extremely popular. An Easter Special session was held which included the Easter Story. Easter crafts and an Easter Egg hunt and a Christmas party was held in December during which a very “scratch nativity” was held!

Youth & Children

Children & Families’ Pastor

Jamie Roddy continues as our Children & Families’ Pastor. During 2025 he attended a Growing Young Disciples Conference for Youth Workers based on the theme of “Christ: Prophet, Priest, King.”

Youth Activities

The Acts 29 Youth Life Group run by Angie Wright, Pole Voisey and Wenonah Bubb continued to meet on a weekly basis in the evening and the Pathfinders Group meet during Sunday morning services. Pathfinders was re-named Christ Church Youth in September 2025.

A very successful Youth Weekend Away was held in July at West Watch which was attended by 12 members of our Youth. To assist with the funding of this Weekend, the Youth held a Quiz Night in May.

Jamie maintains links with Unite (Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ) and encourages our young people to attend the Unite services and music events

during the year. For the last 3 years, he has led the Christian Union at Skinners School but from the end of 2025 has passed this back to Youth for Christ. He also maintains a link with CrossTeach and assists with leading the St Gregory's School Christian Union.

A Beach Themed Light Party was held on 31st October to celebrate Jesus the Light of the World and give an alternative for parents to trick and treating. This was aimed at primary age children with their parents and involved games, crafts, a tuck-shop, a disco and Bible Talk. It was much appreciated as a safe space during the evening and 432 people passed through the doors at this event.

Sunday School/JAM/Family Events

JAM (Jesus and Me) continues every week with the exception of the first Sunday of the month. All children of primary age meet together in the Annexe. The under 5's group also continues. There continues to be a "Together Time" where JAM and the under 5s sing, learn a memory verse and play games together. In September 2025, JAM and the under 5s were re-named Christ Church Kids and Christ Church Kids Juniors.

During the August School holidays, children attending services were provided with Activity Bags which included various activities to do during the service.

Holiday Club

A Holiday Club was held in 2025 and run over three mornings – the theme for this was the story of Jonah with bible teaching, games, songs and drama. This was attended by approximately 25 children each day from reception to Year 6. Not all could attend every day but great fun was had by all. A Holiday Club service was held on the Sunday following the event to share the experiences with the congregation.

“Life Building”

We believe that we are created to have a relationship with Jesus Christ by His Spirit. We seek therefore to give opportunities for people to discover for themselves the relevance of Jesus in their lives and to demonstrate this through our communal life and care for one another.

Community Events

Many events took place during 2025, some were focussed on outreach whilst the aim of others is to strengthen the community of the church.

Coffee – tea & coffee is served every week after church on Sundays and people are encouraged to stay and chat with other members of the congregation.

Coffee & Chat - a small group of predominately women meet every week for a time to enjoy fellowship and chat, coffee and biscuits! This group supports Max & Genevieve who left our congregation to work in Nepal and regularly send donations to them.

Friday Café – a termly café for the PTA particularly when they are holding a uniform sale in the Hall.

Men’s Events – included a Men’s Breakfast in February and a visit to St Michaels Church in Berwick.

Men’s Curry Nights – these continue on a monthly basis. Due to no local Restaurant being available the group have been meeting at Junahki in St John’s which is a car ride away. Numbers are fairly small but there is a committed group of around 6-10 attendees each month. In December there is usually an evening for both men and women but this year the men decided to continue to meet on their own, so the ladies arranged their own event on the same night at The Thai Orchid in Southborough which was attended by 12 people.

Christmas Fair – the annual Christmas Fair was held again at the end of November. This has always been an event for the community as well as fund-raising and was well supported raising over £1,800. Tony Denyer’s men’s singing group again provided entertainment during the Fair. A craft preparation evening was held prior to the Fair which was a fun evening for the participants.

Harvest – an Evening of Entertainment was held at Harvest time (October) showcasing talent within the Church – this included singing, drama, readings and playing instruments with various dishes of chilli made by members of the congregation. Over 100 people attended which included church members and also members of the community.

Pancake Panto – Les Padfield organised a Pancake Panto based on the Robin Hood story at the beginning of Lent. This event was a musical drama (much improvised and quite chaotic!) and involved a large amount of children and adults from the church. It was well attended and enjoyed by both the congregation and the community.

Sunday Lunches – Judy Stevens regularly provides Sunday Lunches for the congregation in the Church Hall and there were 2 held in 2025 plus there was a Church Party in June with a BBQ and various games which was attended by the church congregation and a number of larder users.

Other Events

A Women's Breakfast was held in September when Ellie Roddy spoke about her life and Christian journey.

Ice Cream Sunday has rapidly become an annual event and was held in June on the Sunday when Max & Genevieve joined us.

Sue Shrubb, Rita Morland, Lindy Voisey, Lesley Grice and Jamie Roddy were involved in running Christian camps over the summer holidays.

The Brownie pack continued to meet on a weekly basis and in September they dug up their "time capsule" which had been planted 25 years ago.

Little Learning Tree Nursery held a Nativity Service in the church. Prior to this Jamie visited them to teach them the Nativity Story and to practice their Nativity songs with them.

A number of the congregation participated in the annual Ride & Stride event which raised £441. Many thanks to Steve & Annette Cole for organising.

Pastoral Care

Where people have not been able to attend church due to sickness, Rev Jim Stevens or members of the Staff Team have visited them to celebrate

communion or to pray with them. Many lifts have been provided by members of the congregation to church, church events, hospital appointments and other medical appointments.

Bereavements

Unfortunately during 2025 we had to say goodbye to 2 members of our current congregation – Barry Ward and Ken Grover. Both had been loyal and popular members of our congregation over many years. They will both be sorely missed and we are thankful for their many, many years of faithful service.

We were also sad to suddenly lose Tony Bourne in April, who although worshipped at St Paul's in Rusthall, often attended at Christ Church accompanying his wife Barbara and was always seen at special or social events.

Communications

The Christ Church Facebook page continues to grow which now has 555 followers and services and events are regularly advertised via this medium and on the Southborough Forum FaceBook site. The Christ Church, Southborough YouTube Channel also has 166 subscribers. Our Sunday morning services continue to be live-streamed and is watched by around 40 people each week. Regular e-mails are sent to all the people on the church database (ChurchSuite) which now totals 133.

We continue to have a weekly notice sheet in addition to notices given out during services and Sue Shrubb regularly sends round by email anything of interest to the congregation. In addition, all information is provided on the website.

Buildings

Both the Hall and the Annexe are normally hired out for community use with the Annexe proving to be particularly popular in the community. Lettings are extremely high and we have many regular weekly hirers who have been hiring with us for many years.

The properties we own – 32B London Road and 38 Azure Court – are both rented and help to fund the employment of our Children & Families Pastor. Both are managed through Estate Agents Wood & Pilcher who ensure all necessary maintenance is carried out.

54 Holden Park Road – this house is owned by ourselves (70%) and St Peter's (30%) and historically houses the curate if appropriate. However the last curate left in August 2023, the house has since been rented on a commercial basis. Again Wood & Pilcher manage this on our behalf.

Re-ordering – the re-ordering project is on hold pending a new Rector. However, we have still sought permission via a faculty for the disposal of the old font plus the electronic organ and are still awaiting a final confirmation that we are able to do so.

Boiler Fund – we are pleased to confirm that the new boiler was installed in January 2025. This was funded through the generosity of our congregation and the church has been a much warmer place this winter!

The following upgrades were made or purchased:

- 8 new blue chairs with arms were purchased as we needed to place a number permanently within the church and have some available in the Annexe (previously there had only been the set of chairs with arms in the Hall).
- A new water boiler (urn) was installed in the main kitchen (thank you to the anonymous donor)
- The Lightning Conductor was checked by Len & Jonathan
- The External front door was sanded down and repainted by Steve
- Steve filled in some holes in the Boiler Room
- The Annexe Boiler was serviced
- The fence between the Rectory and church was fixed by Jonathan & Steve
- Steve chopped down some the Ash Trees in the Rectory Garden which were causing issues with the Annexe

Steve Cole continues to keep all the garden area around the church in excellent condition and assists Jonathan in carrying out various minor internal repairs.

Voluntary Helpers

Our church would not function without it's multitude of voluntary helpers and the PCC are eternally grateful to all the people who have helped over the year in any capacity. There are too many people to mention everyone but they include service leaders, children and youth workers, flower arrangers, cleaners, our gardener, the music group, life group leaders, providers of tea/coffee, event organisers, sides people/welcomers, people who carry out any pastoral

care, people on the prayer teams, those on the reading and prayer rota, plus many others.

We are extremely grateful for everybody's time/skills/efforts during 2025.

Stewardship/Financial Review

A big thank you to the congregation for their generosity and faithful giving to the work of Christ Church over the last year particularly in light of the financial challenges we still continue to face.

Your giving has allowed us to continue to support our Mission partners as well as our own outreach groups within Christ Church. We have also been able to continue the Community Larder which helps so many local families.

The Parish Giving Scheme whereby an external company deals with all the regular direct debits and associated gift aid is working well for us and the majority of our regular givers' income comes through this system.

Our total income for 2025 was £169,559 (including restricted funds of £9,626) and our expenses were £171,191 (which included £24,676 of restricted funds) meaning that we made an overall loss of £1,632. However, our actual operating position is a small surplus of £462 after taking into account the cost of the Boiler (paid during 2025 but funds raised during 2024) and the interest raised on the funds we are holding for the re-ordering project and the funds held at the Diocese. This is an amazing achievement in a year without the leadership of a Rector.

Our reserves remain healthy and we have sufficient reserves for 3 to 6 months of expenses. Our reserves policy states that "it would be wise, in case of unforeseen expense or temporary reduction of income, to maintain reserves of unrestricted net current assets, insofar as these are within the PCC's control, at a level of between three and six months "normal" expenditure, ie, excluding items of large special or project expenditure."

In addition our Restricted Project Funds now stand at £45,075. (This is money which has been stipulated can only be used for building/lighting/re-ordering projects).

A copy of our independently reviewed accounts for 2025 is available on our website.

The Trustees Report and Financial Accounts was adopted by the PCC on 13th April 2026 and approved at the APCM on 10th May 2026.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Jonathan Taylor/Rita Morland
Churchwardens

Date 19th April 2026

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of Christ Church, Southborough**

Charity no 1184093

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st December 2025

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.25 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.25 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.25 £	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year to 31.12.24 £</i>
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	81,642	9,626	91,268	84,154	30,543	114,697
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	31,327	-	31,327	23,411	300	23,711
Investment income	2(c)	46,964	-	46,964	43,251	-	43,251
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		159,933	9,626	169,559	150,816	30,843	181,659
RESOURCES USED							
Charitable activities	3	146,515	24,676	171,191	140,589	12,112	152,701
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		146,515	24,676	171,191	140,589	12,112	152,701
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		13,418	(15,050)	(1,632)	10,227	18,731	28,958
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		13,418	(15,050)	(1,632)	10,227	18,731	28,958
Balances at 1.1.25		898,861	64,053	962,914	888,634	45,322	933,956
Balances at 31.12.25	10	912,279	49,003	961,282	898,861	64,053	962,914

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		31.12.25			31.12.24		
		£	£	£	£	£	£
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
FIXED ASSETS	Notes						
Tangible fixed assets	6	671,400	-	671,400	671,400	-	671,400
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	7	1,729	-	1,729	1,142	-	1,142
Bank	8	263,168	49,003	312,171	255,617	64,053	319,670
		264,897	49,003	313,900	256,759	64,053	320,812
CREDITORS:							
Due within one year	9	24,018	-	24,018	29,298	-	29,298
NET CURRENT ASSETS		240,879	49,003	289,882	227,461	64,053	291,514
CREDITORS:							
Due after more than one year		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		912,279	49,003	961,282	898,861	64,053	962,914
Represented by:							
FUNDS							
Funds		912,279	49,003	961,282	898,861	64,053	962,914
Total	11	912,279	49,003	961,282	898,861	64,053	962,914

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 13th April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Jonathan Taylor

Chair of Trustees

Mr Jonathan Taylor - Churchwarden

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice as the applicable standard to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind (i.e. the church and vicarage) is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not classified in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic life other than where insufficient cost information is available. In this case the item is not capitalised, but all items are included within the Church inventory.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity (functional fixed assets)

Larger items are capitalised and written off over their useful lives. Smaller items are written off as incurred.

Any expenditure on maintenance or improvements on fixed assets is written off as incurred.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit with the Diocese.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted.

INCOMING RESOURCES

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving under covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the related income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its entitlement and the likely amount due.

Funds raised by church events and activities are accounted for gross, i.e. before any associated expenses.

Other ordinary income

Rental from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Parochial fees due to the PCC for weddings, funerals etc. are accounted for when the event occurs.

Income from investments

Interest is accounted for when received.

RESOURCES USED

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly related to the work of the Church

The Diocesan Parish Offer in respect of clergy and diocesan costs are accounted for when paid.

Any additional amounts agreed by the PCC but not paid across as at 31st December are shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

DEBTORS

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

Diocesan Church Repair Fund - Quinquennial Funds

The Diocesan Church Repair Fund consists of funds designated by the PCC for future repairs.

A contribution rate into the fund is agreed to pay for these repairs. The repairs specified in the survey report are funded by the Diocesan Church Repair Fund. Where insufficient funds are available, a loan (currently interest free) may be obtained from the diocese which is repayable over five years.

Pensions

PCC contributes to a pension scheme for its lay staff. Contributions are accounted for as they are paid. Contributions paid in the year were £807 (2024: £ 756).

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.25 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.25 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.25 £	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year to 31.12.24 £</i>
2(a) Donations and legacies						
Donations	65,904	4,541	70,445	65,371	15,013	80,384
Income tax recoverable	14,238	325	14,563	14,616	2,297	16,913
Grants received	1,500	4,760	6,260	4,167	13,233	17,400
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
	81,642	9,626	91,268	84,154	30,543	114,697
2(b) Income from charitable activities						
Church activities	31,327	-	31,327	23,411	300	23,711
	31,327	-	31,327	23,411	300	23,711
2(c) Investment income						
Property Rental Income	37,241	-	37,241	32,219	-	32,219
Interest	9,723	-	9,723	11,032	-	11,032
	46,964	-	46,964	43,251	-	43,251
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	159,933	9,626	169,559	150,816	30,843	181,659

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	31.12.25	31.12.25	31.12.25	31.12.24	31.12.24	31.12.24
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities						
Staff costs	39,527		39,527	37,042		37,042
Utilities	6,980		6,980	4,238		4,238
Insurance	2,775		2,775	2,737		2,737
Parish share	68,004		68,004	70,044		70,044
Repairs & renewals	2,610	11,723	14,333	4,400	1,344	5,744
Church costs	5,723		5,723	8,511		8,511
Church activities	9,361	8,712	18,073	1,470	8,449	9,919
Property costs	4,197		4,197	5,181		5,181
Independent examination	715		715	750		750
Mission giving	6,292	4,241	10,533	6,216	2,319	8,535
Sequestration account	331		331			
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	146,515	24,676	171,191	140,589	12,112	152,701

4. GRANTS - Missionary and charitable giving

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total
	£	£	£
Paid to organisations	6,292	4,241	10,533
			-
	6,292	4,241	10,533

5. STAFF COSTS AND PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL AND RELATED PARTIES

Staff costs (excluding clergy)

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	38,721	36,286
Employers NI	-	-
Employers pension contributions	806	756
	39,527	37,042

No employees earn more than £60,000.

	Number of employees		
	2025	FTE	2024
Administrator	1.00	0.40	1.00
Youth worker	1.00	1.00	1.00
Cleaner	1.00	0.15	1.00
Total	3.00	1.55	3.00

Payments to members of the Parochial Church Council and related parties

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from the Charity (2024 - none).

No trustees' expenses were incurred in the year (2024 - none).

There have been no transactions with persons or entities that are closely connected to the charity or its trustees (2024 - none).

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings	Total
	£	£
Cost		
Brought forward	671,400	671,400
Additions	-	-
Carried forward	671,400	671,400
Depreciation		
Brought forward	-	-
In year	-	-
Carried forward	-	-
Net Book Value	671,400	671,400

Property cost £36,400 (70% ownership) was donated by the previous charity at cost. No depreciation is provided as the current value is greater than cost.

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. DEBTORS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	400	-	-	400	366
Other debtors	1,329	-	-	1,329	776
	<u>1,729</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,729</u>	<u>1,142</u>

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

**2025
£** **2024
£**

Bank accounts

DBF Building Fund	30,585	29,577
DBF Church Repair Fund	27,151	23,818
DBF General Account	8,569	8,286
DBF Tithing Account	15,284	14,780
Lloyds Current Account	5,075	6,998
Lloyds Savings Account	72,783	89,161
Affirmative Deposit Account	144,283	138,844
DBF 54 HPR	8,441	8,206
	<u>312,171</u>	<u>319,670</u>

Of the total, £263,168 is for unrestricted purposes, and £49,003 for restricted purposes.

9. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

**2025
£** **2024
£**

Creditors and accruals	11,136	18,266
Tithe	12,882	11,032
	<u>24,018</u>	<u>29,298</u>

Of the total, £24,018 is for unrestricted purposes.

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	671,400	-	671,400
Current assets	264,897	49,003	313,900
Current liabilities	(24,018)	-	(24,018)
Fund Balance	<u>912,279</u>	<u>49,003</u>	<u>961,282</u>

11. FUNDS

	Balance 1.1.25 £	Movement in Funds Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers	Balance 31.12.25 £
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
General fund	892,974	159,933	(146,515)	(350)	906,042
New toys fund	5,887	-	-	350	6,237
	<u>898,861</u>	<u>159,933</u>	<u>(146,515)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>912,279</u>
<u>Restricted funds</u>					
Friday Lunch Club Fund	912	300	(731)	-	481
Lighting Fund	118	-	-	-	118
Screens	1,530	-	-	-	1,530
Building Project Fund	42,763	-	-	-	42,763
Gift day	-	-	-	-	-
Boiler fund	12,387	-	(11,723)	-	664
Larder donations	6,343	5,085	(7,981)	-	3,447
Mission giving	-	4,241	(4,241)	-	-
	<u>64,053</u>	<u>9,626</u>	<u>(24,676)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,003</u>
	<u>962,914</u>	<u>169,559</u>	<u>(171,191)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>961,282</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Parochial Church Council of Christ Church Southborough**

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed: *Zachary Ramsden*

Name: Zachary Ramsden FCA

Chartered Accountant

63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JT

Date: 23rd April 2026

Accounts

Christ Church Southborough



2024 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Southborough

2024 was a year of stabilisation and steady growth after many years of uncertainty. However, towards the end of the year, our Rector, Rev Nick Cornell, accepted the appointment as Archdeacon of Tonbridge and will therefore be leaving us at the end of January 2025. In addition to this the habitable state of the current Rectory was in question and it is likely that this will be sold and a new house locally sourced and bought for the incoming incumbent. Next year will become another year of flux and change!

Aims and Purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for cooperating with the incumbent, Rector Nick Cornell, 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 Christ Church, the attached Church Hall and Annexe in addition to having a majority ownership of the curate's house at 54 Holden Park Road, Southborough and full ownership of 2 rental properties - 32B London Road in Southborough and 38 Azure Court in Tonbridge.

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 Christ Church. 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 local 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
- Mission and outreach work

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of Christ Church.

Reporting Public Benefit

The "Our Vision" section of the Trustees Report provides a brief summary of the activities undertaken by Christ Church, Southborough to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. This section of the report also provides confirmation that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning our activities.

The report specifically addresses the two key principles:

1. There must be an identifiable benefit – and the Trustees have explained the activities and benefits which flow from them to the Parish community.
2. The benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public – and the Trustees have explained their commitment to enable as many people as possible to worship and become part of the Parish community.

Reference and Administrative Information

Rector:	Rev Nick Cornell
Clergy – PTO:	Rev Jim Stevens
Licensed Lay Minister:	Sheila Syms
Churchwardens:	Rita Morland Jonathan Taylor
Deanery Synod Representative:	Barbara Bourne Graham Syms

Representation on the Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the Church. Deanery Synod Representatives are elected for a period of 3 years. Elections took place at the APCM in 2023 and therefore Representatives are eligible to serve until May 2026.

Bank:	Lloyds Bank Plc, Tunbridge Wells Branch
Independent Examiner:	Zachary Ramsden, 63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2JT
Charitable Status:	The PCC is a corporate body (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number: 1184093
Web-site:	www.christchurchsouthborough.com
Correspondence Addresses:	Christ Church Office Prospect Road Southborough TN4 0EG
Patronage Board includes:	Church Pastoral Aid Society and The Mabledon Trust

Structure & Governance

PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC consists of the clergy, the Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod Representatives and the following elected members:

Parish Treasurer:	Lesley Clare
PCC Secretary & Electoral Roll Officer:	Lesley Clare
Representatives:	Judy Stevens

Tony Denyer
Sue Shrubbs
Jamie Roddy

In addition to her duties as Churchwarden, Rita Morland is also our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Christ Church PCC met 8 times during 2024 and also made further decisions via e-mail on occasions. Members of the PCC have personal and legal liability for the activities within the Parish. The average attendance at the full PCC meetings was 96%. PCC minutes, once approved by the PCC are displayed on the web-site.

A Standing Committee is required under Church Representation Rules and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the Clergy, both Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator. This Committee did not meet during 2024.

APCM – the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 28th April 2024 after the Sunday service and was also live-streamed for those who couldn't attend.

Committees – committees have been set up to make recommendations to the PCC on specific areas. These committees are:

1. Standing Committee
2. Youth & Children's Work
3. Sundays - Worship/Prayer/Discipleship
4. Life Groups
5. Buildings
6. Lettings/Risk Assessments
7. Finance
8. Mission/Tithe
9. Mission/Outreach
10. Pastoral Care
11. Re-ordering Committee

12.Safeguarding Committee

13.Representation on ACTS Group

Safeguarding

Rita Morland has been appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and she is the first point of call for all safeguarding issues and ensures that all DBS clearances and training are kept up to date. During 2024 there were 30 volunteers with DBS clearances available to do children/youth work or pastoral care. There were 3 new DBS clearances applied for in 2024 and 4 people renewed their DBS.

Every year, parents are asked to complete the parental consent forms for groups, activities, trips and photographs and all children and youth volunteers are issued with a written code of conduct and safeguarding policy. The Church of England Safeguarding Handbook is kept in the vestry and displayed on the main Noticeboard, on the Noticeboard in the office and a summary document given to all volunteers in September. A credit card sized guide, Safeguarding – A Pocket Guide has been issued to all volunteers. We had no reportable Safeguarding incidents during 2024.

The PCC has agreed and are committed to comply with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 which confirms that we will have regard to the House of Bishop's Safeguarding policies and good practice guidance.

The Safeguarding Committee have adopted the Safer Recruitment requirements and continue to review policies using the Diocesan Dashboard system. We have currently completed Level 1 and almost completed Level 2. All role descriptions have been rewritten. Rita Morland, Nick Cornell, Sue Shrubbs and Jamie Roddy have all completed the Safer Recruitment Training.

Safeguarding is always on the PCC Meeting Agenda and any Diocesan or National developments are discussed. A Lost Child Policy was written specifically for Christ Church.

During 2024, 5 people undertook safeguarding training at Basic Level and 9 at Foundation Level. Nick, Jim, Sheila, Jamie, Rita and Jonathan all completed their Safeguarding Leadership Pathway Course during 2024.

All PCC members have Enhanced DBS clearances.

Serious Incident Reporting

Charities are required to report to the Charity Commission any serious incidents, both safeguarding and non-safeguarding.

The PCC agreed to delegate authority to the Diocesan Secretary to submit safeguarding Serious Incident Reports to the Charity Commission and to the PCC Secretary to submit non-safeguarding Serious Incident Reports.

Employees

During 2024, Christ Church employed three members of staff, Sue Shrubbs, Church Administrator, Clair Tighe, Cleaner and Jamie Roddy as Families & Children's Pastor.

Sue is usually the first point of contact and she ensures the smooth running of the Church, assists the clergy and co-ordinates all aspects of church administration, whilst Clair ensures the Annexe and the Hall are clean and tidy for our hirers and hoovers the church. Jamie's role is to oversee all activities relating to children & youth and to build relationships with the school and the families attending any of the events we put on.

Major Risks

The Trustees consider that major risks have been identified. Those which are not covered by insurance through EIG plc are namely Health & Safety and Child Protection. These topics are reviewed regularly by the PCC.

Our Vision

"Faith Building, Bridge Building, Life Building"

The above "strap line" summarises the vision statement adopted by Christ Church in 2011. These three features are intended to focus all that we do as a Church.

"Faith Building"

We believe that the Bible reveals God's will by His Spirit and we seek to enable people to understand its true meaning and apply it to their lives as

true disciples of Christ. We seek also to create a worship environment in which the reality of God is experienced.

As a CPAS patronage Parish our tradition is evangelical. We place a high value on biblical preaching, mission and worship. We stand firmly on the authority of the Bible as the revealed Word of God and believe that the Bible speaks to each new generation afresh and the Holy Spirit is at work in our world today.

Services

There is a Sunday morning service every week. The morning services include a monthly All Age Service which sees children and adults remain together with something for everyone and the emphasis on sharing the gospel through fun. Other morning services include Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. There is an evening service once a month for Prayer and Praise which is a reflective type service. This service is preceded by a short act of Holy Communion.

We also have further communion services – on the 4th Sunday, after the main service and in April a 30 minute reflective service including Communion was introduced prior to the All Age Service, on the 1st Sunday in the month.

On average 71 adults attended Sunday morning services each week and 15 children. Live streaming still takes place for all Sunday morning services, with the exception of the All Age Service, which allows for children to be more involved in the service without the fear of them being on camera reflecting our safeguarding policy.

During 2024, 3 adults started attending the church and 6 left, 2 children started attending while 2 left. There are 244 people attached to the church with the age break-down as follows:

Between 0 – 10 years	=	72
Between 11-17 years	=	10
Between 18 – 69 years	=	98
70+ years	=	64

In addition about 30 people watched the services from home and 4 members of the congregation are predominantly “Church at Home” worshippers.

Special Services

During 2024, there were no Baptisms, weddings nor any services of Prayer & Dedication after a civil marriage in the church There were 5 funerals services

held in church, and the clergy also conducted 3 funerals at the Crematorium.

Seasonal Services

Christmas

Leaflets were distributed to the community detailing the Christmas services. These were also advertised on-line.

In addition to the standard weekly services, there were special Christmas services including a Nativity Service at a special Family Church in the afternoon, a Christingle Service as part of the usual Sunday service, an Evening of Favourite Carols and Carols by Candlelight. There was a Christmas Eve Communion and an All-age Christmas Day communion service. A total number of 586 people attended the special services up to 23rd December and 105 people attended the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day services including 105 communicants.

Easter

Easter services were advertised both on-line and via social media. A Maundy Thursday Communion Service was held and two services were held on Good Friday – an All Age service plus a more meditative service of an Hour at the Cross, in addition to the usual service on Easter Sunday. At the All-Age Service there were a number of families who attended including some that had not previously attended our services. The men's singing group sang an anthem at the Easter Sunday service and also at the Pentecost service. 136 people attended Easter services including 105 communicants. The Church was decorated with lilies over the Easter period which had mainly been donated by members of the congregation in memory of a loved one. A weekly Lent challenge was published via the Notice Sheets

Hope Explored

A Hope Explored Course was run in February.

Others

An All Age Harvest Festival was held in church with the produce being donated to the Community Larder and Nourish. This was also our annual Mission Gift Day. During the Harvest Service a number of the congregation joined with the Music Group to sing a John Rutter anthem.

A service was held on Mothering Sunday and posies of daffodils distributed to the ladies in the congregation. In November a Remembrance Sunday service was held where we joined in with the national 2 minutes silence at 11.00 am. Nick, along with other local clergy, held a service of remembrance at the Southborough War Memorial.

Clergy/Lay Ministers

In June, Nick was appointed Associate Archdeacon of Tonbridge which is a newly created role for 2 days per week, working alongside his role as Rector of Christ Church. In this role he will provide support to the Archdeacon of Tonbridge and work as her representative in various matters including pastoral issues, complaints, recruitment, meetings and some project boards. The appointment is for up to 3 years. Due to this appointment, Nick stood down as Area Dean.

However, due to the current Archdeacon relinquishing her role, at the beginning of November, Nick was appointed as Archdeacon of Tonbridge and will start his new role in February 2025.

Rev Jim Stevens (retired) is licensed as Clergy PTO for the Parish and continues to assist with services at Christ Church and during the year also assisted at other churches within the Diocese covering illness and vacancies.

Sheila Syms is a Licensed Lay Minister and also regularly assists in services and in addition provides all the Life Group notes/studies. Michael Wightwick is also a Reader Emeritus at Christ Church.

In July, Simon Whiteside, a self-supporting curate, joined us for a 13 week placement which was extended to 5 months and he left us in November. He involved himself in all aspects of the Church including children's work and Parish administration.

Angie Wright and Kevin Clare both undertook a course held at St Philip's Church in April, May and June called Leading Worship, which will enable them to lead services in church. This involves a 6 week course, an assessment of actually leading a service and completion of the Safeguarding Leadership Training. They will complete all this early in 2025.

Les Padfield undertook some training and an assessment to be able to preach at some services.

A Goodbye Tea Party was held at St Lawrence to say goodbye to Elizabeth & Stephen Hills in the summer to which all at Christ Church were invited.

On 2nd June, Sharon Copestake, Archdeacon of Tonbridge attended Christ Church and was interviewed during the service.

Mission

Christ Church has 5 main missions which it supports both financially and through prayer – Education for Life in Kenya, Sovereign World Trust, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), CrossTeach and Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS). A number of smaller charities are also supported throughout the year on an ad-hoc basis. All our 5 main Missions each received £958 from our tithing.

A Mission Gift day was held in October which raised £1,648 for our 5 mission partners – Education for Life £290, MAF £247, Sovereign World Trust £377, CrossTeach £367 and CPAS £367. Glyn & Jane from Education for Life visited us in July and Sam & Abby visited in June to update on their missions and touch base with us.

Every Christmas we make a collection for Education for Life for a specific need at that particular time. In 2024 we raised £536 which was put towards a project to recommission a house previously used for rental to become a stand alone nursery.

In the summer, Max & Genevieve Allen with their 2 children Inayah & Effie, who had been active members of Christ Church for a number of years, moved to Kathmandu in Nepal to work for KISC (Kathmandu International Study Centre) whose mission is *“To be living witnesses of Christ’s love through excellent education.”* During the devastating floods in the country in October which killed over 200 and left many people without homes, KISC was able to assemble and distribute 160 relief packages which Max & Genevieve were actively involved in. £500 from our tithing fund was sent to Max & Genevieve to support them in their work.

We also participated in Operation Christmas Child, operated by Samaritan’s Purse, whereby shoe-boxes filled with presents are sent to children worldwide.

The trend is now that these boxes are donated online but there are still a large number collected in church.

Community Larder

The Community Larder, started in November 2020 as a 6 week project, is still required in the community with the need and number of users constantly rising. The Café after the Larder also continues to thrive.

Patrick Grice has overall responsibility for the Larder and it is going from strength to strength. The Larder received £14,493 in grants and donations during 2024 - £3,333 from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, £5,500 from Neighbourly, £400 from Churches for Tunbridge Wells, £4,000 from the Tunbridge Wells Community Support Fund, £200 from the Mayor of Southborough's Quiz and £1,060 from private donations.

Many volunteers help at this event either by manning the tables on a Thursday, providing refreshments in the café, or being involved in one of the many pick-ups from supermarkets that are necessary to provide this service to the community. Whilst many of these volunteers are members of our congregation there are also a number of volunteers from other churches and the wider community.

Life Groups

Life Groups continue to be an integral part in the life of the Church and there are currently 5 groups. They are held every fortnight during the day or in the evening to enable people to worship and pray together, explore their faith, ask questions to gain a greater understanding of both the Bible and Christianity and form a closer relationship with God and each other. Many Life Groups also had social meetings during the year.

During Life Groups we had sessions on Paul's 1st and 2nd journeys in Acts, Biblical Prayers and studies on the theme of "Compassionate God". There was also a session on how to tell your testimony to non-Christians. Many thanks to Sheila Syms for faithfully producing the study notes throughout the year.

In April, Les Padfield started a Men's Study Group on a Saturday morning twice a month – called "Toast & Study" which has a steady participant group.

Electoral Roll

At the end of the year there were 128 members on the Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll Secretary (Lesley Clare) reports the number on the Roll at the time of the APCM (which was 128) and it is this number, given to the Diocese, which is used to calculate the number of representatives we have on Deanery Synod. Electoral Roll additions, deletions and rolling totals are reported at each PCC meeting.

Ecumenical Life

We have strong links to the ecumenical aspect to church life within the borough of Tunbridge Wells. We are a member of Churches for Tunbridge Wells, support the Annual Week of Prayer for Tunbridge Wells and we are a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

The Group Ministry within Southborough called ACTS (Anglican Churches Together in Southborough) comprising ourselves, St Thomas, St Lawrence & St Peter continued to be involved in community events.

“Bridge Building”

We seek to ensure that the church is a visible and valuable presence in the community by welcoming and serving as many people as we can.

Prayer

Prayer remains a fundamental role in the ministry of the Parish and is at the centre of all we do. Regular monthly Women and Men’s prayer are held throughout the year. Staff prayers are held every Monday and regularly prayer for members of the congregation. There are always designated people available to pray after the morning services and during the year training was given for more people to be able to provide this service.

The monthly prayer and praise evening service continued and prayer before the morning services continued. The small prayer groups continued to meet through the year and Sue continued to produce the monthly prayer diaries.

Jamie held quarterly prayer meetings for Children & Youth Work.

School Governors

We continue to maintain and strengthen the good relationship we have with our local school – Southborough CE Primary School. During 2024, we had 2 Foundation Governors – Les Padfield and Rebecca Large. Rebecca Large was

approved to run for a second term of office. In addition Rev Nick Cornell is an ex-officio Governor. Lin Hutchinson from St Peter's is also a Foundation Governor.

Nick and Jamie continued to regularly run Collective Worship at the school.

During the year services were held in Church for specific year groups which included parents and there were year group visits by the children as part of their RE lesson. A School Leavers Service was held for Year 6.

Friday Lunch Club

This club runs every Friday with Rita Morland, Judy Stevens & Lesley Grice providing the catering from the church kitchen. This activity is aimed at the elderly in the Parish. The lunches exist for fellowship for the elderly but also to minister to those in their latter years as many attendees are not members of the Sunday congregation. Volunteers provide transport to allow people to attend. Although numbers had started to reduce during the earlier part of the year, there are now around 20/23 people who regularly attend.

Tea and Toys

A term-time toddler group for parents and carers to bring their pre-school children to play in a friendly and safe environment. This provides fun activities with lots of toys and opportunities to sing songs and listen to stories.

These sessions have continued to be extremely popular. A Christmas party was held in December.

Youth & Children

Children & Families Pastor

Jamie Roddy continues as our Children & Families Pastor. During 2024 he attended a Growing Young Disciples Conference for Youth Workers based on the theme of "Christ."

Youth Activities

The Acts 29 Youth Life Group run by Angie Wright, Pole Voisey and Wenonah Bubb continued to meet on a weekly basis in the evening and the Pathfinders Group meet during Sunday morning services. The ACTS Group had a 10-pin bowling evening in the autumn.

Jamie maintains links with Unite (Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ) and has taken young people to Unite services and music events during the year. He also maintains a link with CrossTeach and assists with leading the Christian Union at Skinners School.

A Jungle Themed Light Party was held on 31st October to celebrate Jesus the Light of the World and give an alternative for parents to trick and treating. This was aimed at primary age children with their parents and it was much appreciated as a safe space during the evening. Over 270 people passed through the doors at this event.

The Noise, a Church Youth Community Project was hosted by New Life Church in Southborough and the youth from Christ Church attended over the three days.

Sunday School/JAM/Family Events

JAM (Jesus and Me) continues every week with the exception of the first Sunday of the month. All children of primary age meet together in the Annexe. The under 5's group also continues. A "Together Time" was introduced for JAM and the under 5s where they sing, learn a memory verse and play games together.

During the August School holidays, children attending services were provided with "Busy Bags" which included activities to do during the service.

Toddler Praise

The numbers at the Toddler Praise Group reduced in 2024 due to many of the children starting school and reluctantly the decision was made in July to pause this group for the foreseeable future.

Holiday Club

A Holiday Club was held in 2024 and run over three mornings – the theme for this was Heroes Academy Club. This was attended by approximately 35 children each day. Not all could attend every day but great fun was had by all. A Holiday Club service was held on the Sunday following the event to share the experiences with the congregation.

"Life Building"

We believe that we are created to have a relationship with Jesus Christ by His Spirit. We seek therefore to give opportunities for people to discover for themselves the relevance of Jesus in their lives and to demonstrate this through our communal life and care for one another.

Community Events

Many events took place during 2024, some were focussed on outreach whilst the aim of others is to strengthen the community of the church.

Coffee – tea & coffee is served every week after church on Sundays and people are encouraged to stay and chat with other members of the congregation.

Coffee & Chat - a small group of predominately women meet every week for a time to enjoy fellowship and chat, coffee and biscuits! This group supported the charity Grassroots Rwanda during the year and from September has been supporting Max & Genevieve in Nepal. They also put on a MacMillan Coffee Morning in October and raised £268.

Friday Café – a weekly café designed for parents and carers to come for a chat and coffee prior to picking up their children from school. Due to small numbers this café was put on pause after the summer. The café is still held on specific weeks, eg, in September for the parents of Reception children or where the PTA hold a uniform sale in the church hall.

Men's Events – included a couple of Men's Breakfasts, a visit to a "Secret Nuclear Bunker" in Essex and a trip to a Cricket T20 match at Canterbury.

Men's Curry Nights – these continue on a monthly basis. Due to no local Restaurant being available the group meet at Junahki in St John's which is a car ride away. Numbers are fairly small but there is a committed group of around 6-10 attendees each month. In December there was a curry evening for both men and women.

Christmas Fair – the annual Christmas Fair, organised by Sue Shrubbs, was held again in November. This has always been an event for the community as well as fund-raising and was well supported raising over £2,000. Tony Denyer's men's singing group again provided entertainment during the Fair.

Harvest – a Harvest Supper and Quiz was held in October with various dishes of chilli and puddings made by members of the congregation. Over 100 people

attended which included church members and also members of the community.

Women's Advent Evening – held in December, this was an evening of meditation with wine and nibbles.

Women's Weekend Away – a women's weekend away was held in March at West Watch when a weekend of fun, study, encouragement and reflection was enjoyed by approximately 20 ladies.

Sunday Lunches – Judy Stevens has regularly provided Sunday Lunches for the congregation in the Church Hall plus a BBQ in the summer. These have all been extremely well attended.

Other Events

Two Games Evenings were held during the year which were a great success.

Ice Cream Sunday appears to be becoming an annual event and was held in June when everyone enjoyed an ice-cream after the service.

Sue Shrubb, Rita Morland, Lindy Voisey and Jamie Roddy were involved in running Christian camps over the summer holidays.

The Brownie pack continued to meet on a weekly basis.

Little Learning Tree Nursery held a Nativity Service in the church.

Jamie Roddy participated in the annual Ride & Stride event and walked to 19 churches in and around Tunbridge Wells.

Pastoral Care

Where people have not been able to attend church due to sickness, members of the clergy or the Staff Team have visited them to celebrate communion or to pray with them. Many lifts have been provided by members of the congregation to church, church events, hospital appointments and other medical appointments.

Bereavements

Unfortunately during 2024 we had to say goodbye to a number of our current congregation - Colin Clarkson, Jim Walker and Hazel Sterling. Both Colin and

Jim were Readers Emeritus at Christ Church and in their younger years had been highly active in the life of the Church. We will miss them enormously and are thankful for their many, many years of faithful service. Hazel had been a member of our congregation for a number of years and had many friends at church – again she will be greatly missed. As will Stan Waters and Ann Macallum who also died during the year. Prior to Covid both had been regular attenders at Christ Church but had recently had health issues which prevented them from attending.

Collette Marsh also left us during the year. She had previously been the Mayor of Southborough and had attended a service just prior to her death.

Funeral services for all were held in church.

In addition Bobby Waters, a member of the Friday Lunch Club died during the year.

Communications

The Christ Church Facebook page continues which now has 66 followers and services and events are regularly advertised via this medium. The Christ Church, Southborough YouTube Channel also has 151 subscribers. Our Sunday morning services continue to be live-streamed and is watched by around 30 people each week. Regular e-mails are sent to all the people on the church data-base (ChurchSuite) which now totals 154.

We continue to have a weekly notice sheet in addition to notices given out during services and Sue Shrubbs regularly sends round by email anything of interest to the congregation. In addition all information is provided on the web-site.

Buildings

Both the Hall and the Annexe are normally hired out for community use with the Annexe proving to be particularly popular in the community. Although lettings were slightly less than the record year of 2023, they are still extremely high and we have many regular weekly hirers who have been hiring with us for many years.

The properties we own – 32B London Road and 38 Azure Court – are both rented and help to fund the employment of our Children & Families Pastor. Both are managed through Estate Agents Wood & Pilcher.

54 Holden Park Road – this house is owned by ourselves (70%) and St Peter's (30%) and historically houses the curate if appropriate. However since Dave & Jane Bubb left in August 2023, the house has been rented on a commercial basis. Again Wood & Pilcher manage this on our behalf.

Wood & Pilcher inspected all our rental properties during 2024 and reported that all are in good order.

Re-ordering – the re-ordering project continues to move slowly. The Diocesan DAC Committee visited in the summer to discuss the proposals and the way forward and we are likely to be able to apply for a faculty in 2025.

James Ford from Claque Architects has been appointed as Architect for the Re-ordering project and he has provided plans and drawings. The DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches) visited Christ Church in the summer and generally agreed with our proposals with a number of amendments. We are currently waiting to hear formally from the DAC to see whether we can start to apply for faculties.

Boiler Fund – following the gas works last year, the contractors advised us that the 3 domestic boilers which heat the church are starting to fail and will need replacing in the short-term. As they had already failed in December 2023, we made the decision to start a Boiler Fund and ask the congregation for contributions. The target for the works was £13,200 and we reached this by the autumn thanks to the generosity of the congregation. Following lengthy discussions with the Diocese's planning committees, it has eventually been approved that we can instal a new commercial gas boiler and this will be installed in January 2025.

Fire Inspection – In January there was a Fire Inspection and from this a number of recommendations were given. This has resulted on the appointment of Graham Syms as Fire Officer. He tests the Fire Alarms weekly and the Emergency Lighting monthly.

Masonry – a largish piece of masonry fell from the window by the main door. This was checked and there are no other loose parts of masonry. However, this is awaiting repair.

Garden of Remembrance – following a request from a member of the congregation, the Diocese were consulted regarding setting aside some land in the garden to provide a Garden of Remembrance. There are a number of regulations over this and the Architect was asked to quote for him to prepare a faculty including the drawings.

The following upgrades were made or purchased:

- The purple chairs which had originally been purchased for the Annexe but increasingly used in the Hall, were starting to wear at the edges and new seats and backs were bought in a dark blue material to match the chairs in the church and in the hall
- A drone was hired to take a video of the church spire and tower so it can be seen if any repairs are required
- The Lightning Conductor was checked
- The dishwasher, which had been causing the electrics to regularly trip out was examined and the decision made to repair the current dishwasher (required a new PCB and pump) rather than buy a new one
- The External back door was sanded down and repainted
- The Boiler Room Roof was sealed
- Tony Denyer provided a Sound Bar for use with the additional TV in the Annexe
- The trees overhanging Broomhill Park Road were trimmed back
- Tony Denyer provided a report on the state of the trees on Broomhill Park Road
- The Annexe was internally painted
- The gate at Broomhill Park Road was treated and a pillar re-sited so that the bolt is now working
- Mice were sighted in the building but the Pest Control Company have dealt with this
- The Electrical Repairs specified in the Electrical Report for the Quinquennial Inspection took place in January and the Electrical Certificate has been received
- A plug was installed in the corridor outside the office so that the Larder could have a separate freezer for their products

In addition:

- There has been a problem with the rubbish bin on Prospect Road as foxes have been removing food bags from the bin and leaving a mess all over the pavement. The Council were contacted to see if they could put

a cover over the bin but we were told the only thing they could do was remove it!

- Christmas Lights were again put up around the church to light up the area

Voluntary Helpers

The PCC wishes to extend their enormous thanks to all people who have helped in the smooth working of the church and although there are too many voluntary workers across the Parish to mention everyone, it is these people who are the backbone of Parish life. These include service leaders, children and youth workers, flower arrangers, cleaners, our gardener, the music group, life group leaders, providers of tea/coffee, event organisers, sides people/welcomers, people who carry out any pastoral care, people on the prayer teams, those on the reading and prayer rota, plus many others.

We are extremely grateful for everybody's time/skills/efforts during 2024.

Stewardship/Financial Review

A big thank you to the congregation for their generosity and faithful giving to the work of Christ Church over the last year particularly in light of the financial challenges we still continue to face.

Your giving has allowed us to continue to support our Mission partners as well as our own outreach groups within Christ Church. We have also been able to continue the Community Larder which helps so many local families.

The Parish Giving Scheme whereby an external company deals with all the regular direct debits and associated gift aid is working well for us and the majority of our regular givers income comes through this system.

Our total income for 2024 was £181,659 (including restricted funds of £30,843) and our expenses were £152,701 (which included £12,112 of restricted funds) meaning that we made an overall surplus of £28,958. However, our actual operating position is a loss of £4,987 after taking into account income designated for the Larder and for the New Boiler Fund. However, we believe that this is another good achievement as the budgeted loss was £8,626. We were again blessed by some large generous one-off gifts.

Our reserves remain healthy and we have sufficient reserves for 3 to 6 months of expenses. Our reserves policy states that “it would be wise, in case of unforeseen expense or temporary reduction of income, to maintain reserves of unrestricted net current assets, insofar as these are within the PCC’s control, at a level of between three and six months “normal” expenditure, ie, excluding items of large special or project expenditure.”

In addition our Restricted Project Funds now stand at £44,411. (This is money which has been stipulated can only be used for building/lighting/re-ordering projects).

A copy of our independently reviewed accounts for 2024 is available on our website.

The Trustees Report and Financial Accounts adopted by the PCC on 7th April 2025 and approved at the APCM on 11th May 2025.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Jonathan Taylor

Rita Morland

Churchwardens

Date 7th April 2025

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of Christ Church, Southborough**

Charity no 1184093

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st December 2024

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUGHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.24 £	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year to 31.12.23 £</i>
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	84,154	30,543	114,697	97,729	3,973	101,702
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	23,411	300	23,711	32,317	407	32,724
Investment income	2(c)	43,251	-	43,251	36,041	885	36,926
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		150,816	30,843	181,659	166,087	5,265	171,352
RESOURCES USED							
Charitable activities	3	140,589	12,112	152,701	167,240	4,241	171,481
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		140,589	12,112	152,701	167,240	4,241	171,481
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		10,227	18,731	28,958	(1,153)	1,024	(129)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	14,760	(14,760)	-
Net movement in funds		10,227	18,731	28,958	13,607	(13,736)	(129)
Balances at 1.1.24		888,634	45,322	933,956	875,027	59,058	934,085
Balances at 31.12.24	10	898,861	64,053	962,914	888,634	45,322	933,956

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

		31.12.24			31.12.23		
		£	£	£	£	£	£
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
FIXED ASSETS	Notes						
Tangible fixed assets	6	671,400	-	671,400	671,400	-	671,400
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	7	1,142	-	1,142	2,367	-	2,367
Bank	8	255,617	64,053	319,670	258,396	28,869	287,265
		256,759	64,053	320,812	260,763	28,869	289,632
CREDITORS:							
Due within one year	9	29,298	-	29,298	27,076	-	27,076
NET CURRENT ASSETS		227,461	64,053	291,514	233,687	28,869	262,556
CREDITORS:							
Due after more than one year		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		898,861	64,053	962,914	905,087	28,869	933,956
Represented by:							
FUNDS							
Funds		898,861	64,053	962,914	888,634	45,322	933,956
Total	11	898,861	64,053	962,914	888,634	45,322	933,956

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 7th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Jonathan Taylor

Chair of Trustees

Mr Jonathan Taylor - Churchwarden

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice as the applicable standard to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind (i.e. the church and vicarage) is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not classified in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic life other than where insufficient cost information is available. In this case the item is not capitalised, but all items are included within the Church inventory.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity (functional fixed assets)

Larger items are capitalised and written off over their useful lives. Smaller items are written off as incurred.

Any expenditure on maintenance or improvements on fixed assets is written off as incurred.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit with the Diocese.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted.

INCOMING RESOURCES

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving under covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the related income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its entitlement and the likely amount due.

Funds raised by church events and activities are accounted for gross, i.e. before any associated expenses.

Other ordinary income

Rental from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Parochial fees due to the PCC for weddings, funerals etc. are accounted for when the event occurs.

Income from investments

Interest is accounted for when received.

RESOURCES USED

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly related to the work of the Church

The Diocesan Parish Offer in respect of clergy and diocesan costs are accounted for when paid.

Any additional amounts agreed by the PCC but not paid across as at 31st December are shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

DEBTORS

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

Diocesan Church Repair Fund - Quinquennial Funds

The Diocesan Church Repair Fund consists of funds designated by the PCC for future repairs.

A contribution rate into the fund is agreed to pay for these repairs. The repairs specified in the survey report are funded by the Diocesan Church Repair Fund. Where insufficient funds are available, a loan (currently interest free) may be obtained from the diocese which is repayable over five years.

Pensions

PCC contributes to a pension scheme for its lay staff. Contributions are accounted for as they are paid. Contributions paid in the year were £756 (2023: £ 720).

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds Year to 1.12.24 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.24 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.24 £	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year to 31.12.23 £</i>
2(a) Donations and legacies						
Donations	65,371	15,013	80,384	75,104	3,973	79,077
Income tax recoverable	14,616	2,297	16,913	17,770	-	17,770
Grants received	4,167	13,233	17,400	4,855	-	4,855
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
	84,154	30,543	114,697	97,729	3,973	101,702
2(b) Income from charitable activities						
Church activities	23,411	300	23,711	32,317	407	32,724
	23,411	300	23,711	32,317	407	32,724
2(c) Investment income						
Property Rental Income	32,219	-	32,219	27,734	-	27,734
Interest	11,032	-	11,032	8,307	885	9,192
	43,251	-	43,251	36,041	885	36,926
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	150,816	30,843	181,659	166,087	5,265	171,352

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Charitable activities	31.12.24	31.12.24	31.12.24	31.12.23	31.12.23	31.12.23
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	37,042		37,042	35,116		35,116
Utilities	4,238		4,238	11,381		11,381
Insurance	2,737		2,737	2,657		2,657
Parish share	70,044		70,044	66,711		66,711
Repairs & renewals	4,400	1,344	5,744	17,341	485	17,826
Church costs	8,511		8,511	9,292		9,292
Church activities	1,470	8,449	9,919	12,309	513	12,822
Property costs	5,181		5,181	5,062		5,062
Independent examination	750		750	650		650
Mission giving	6,216	2,319	8,535	6,721	3,243	9,964
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	140,589	12,112	152,701	167,240	4,241	171,481

4. GRANTS - Missionary and charitable giving

	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Total
	£	£	£
Paid to organisations	6,216	2,319	8,535
	<u>6,216</u>	<u>2,319</u>	<u>8,535</u>
Acting as Agent			<u>-</u>

5. STAFF COSTS AND PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL AND RELATED PARTIES

Staff costs (excluding clergy)

	2024	2023
Wages and salaries	36,286	34,396
Employers NI	-	-
Employers pension contributions	756	720
	<u>37,042</u>	<u>35,116</u>

No employees earn more than £60,000.

	Number of employees		
	2024	FTE	2023
Administrator	1.00	0.40	1.00
Youth worker	1.00	1.00	1.00
Cleaner	1.00	0.15	1.00
Total	3.00	1.55	3.00

Payments to members of the Parochial Church Council and related parties

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from the Charity (2023 - none).

No trustees' expenses were incurred in the year (2023 - none).

There have been no transactions with persons or entities that are closely connected to the charity or its trustees (2023 - none).

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings	Total
	£	£
Cost		
Brought forward	671,400	671,400
Additions	-	-
Carried forward	<u>671,400</u>	<u>671,400</u>
Depreciation		
Brought forward	-	-
In year	-	-
Carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Book Value	<u>671,400</u>	<u>671,400</u>

Property cost £36,400 (70% ownership) was donated by the previous charity at cost. No depreciation is provided as the current value is greater than cost.

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. DEBTORS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	366	-	-	366	453
Other debtors	776	-	-	776	1,914
	<u>1,142</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,142</u>	<u>2,367</u>

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Bank accounts

	2024 £	2023 £
DBF Building Fund	29,577	28,437
DBF Church Repair Fund	23,818	20,958
DBF General Account	8,286	7,967
DBF Tithing Account	14,780	14,211
Lloyds Current Account	6,998	2,859
Lloyds Savings Account	89,161	72,764
Affirmative Deposit Account	138,844	132,137
DBF 54 HPR	8,206	7,932
	<u>319,670</u>	<u>287,265</u>

Of the total, £255,618 is for unrestricted purposes, and £64,052 for restricted purposes.

9. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Creditors and accruals	18,266	16,970
Tithe	11,032	10,106
	<u>29,298</u>	<u>27,076</u>

Of the total, £29,299 is for unrestricted purposes.

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	671,400	-	671,400
Current assets	256,759	64,053	320,812
Current liabilities	(29,298)	-	(29,298)
Fund Balance	<u>898,861</u>	<u>64,053</u>	<u>962,914</u>

11. FUNDS

	Balance 1.1.24 £	Movement in Funds Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers	Balance 31.12.24 £
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
General fund	882,747	150,816	(140,589)	-	892,974
New toys fund	5,887	-	-	-	5,887
	<u>888,634</u>	<u>150,816</u>	<u>(140,589)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>898,861</u>
<u>Restricted funds</u>					
Friday Lunch Club Fund	911	300	(299)	-	912
Lighting Fund	118	-	-	-	118
Screens	1,530	-	-	-	1,530
Building Project Fund	42,763	-	-	-	42,763
Gift day	-	2,319	(2,319)	-	-
Boiler fund	-	13,731	(1,344)	-	12,387
Larder donations	-	14,493	(8,150)	-	6,343
	<u>45,322</u>	<u>30,843</u>	<u>(12,112)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,053</u>
	<u>933,956</u>	<u>181,659</u>	<u>(152,701)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>962,914</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Parochial Church Council of Christ Church Southborough**

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed: *Zachary Ramsden*

Name: Zachary Ramsden FCA

Chartered Accountant

63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JT

Date: 17th April 2025

Accounts

Christ Church Southborough



2023 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council **of Christ Church, Southborough**

After 3 years of restrictions and difficult circumstances, 2023 was a year when real growth could start to happen and we continued to return to normal activity in society. The PCC took the opportunity to think about which activities/events should be re-started or what new initiatives should happen instead and this was a year of re-establishment.

Aims and Purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for cooperating with the incumbent, Rector Nick Cornell, 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 Christ Church, the attached Church Hall and Annexe in addition to having a majority ownership of the curate's house at 54 Holden Park Road, Southborough and full ownership of 2 rental properties - 32B London Road in Southborough and 38 Azure Court in Tonbridge.

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 Christ Church. 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 local 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
- Mission and outreach work

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of Christ Church.

Reporting Public Benefit

The “Our Vision” section of the Trustees Report provides a brief summary of the activities undertaken by Christ Church, Southborough to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. This section of the report also provides confirmation that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning our activities.

The report specifically addresses the two key principles:

1. There must be an identifiable benefit – and the Trustees have explained the activities and benefits which flow from them to the Parish community.
2. The benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public – and the Trustees have explained their commitment to enable as many people as possible to worship and become part of the Parish community.

Reference and Administrative Information

Rector:	Rev Nick Cornell
Curate:	Rev Dave Bubb (until end July 2023)
Clergy – PTO:	Rev Jim Stevens
Licensed Lay Minister:	Sheila Syms
Churchwardens:	Rita Morland Jonathan Taylor
Deanery Synod Representative:	Barbara Bourne Graham Syms

Representation on the Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the Church. Deanery Synod Representatives are elected for a period of 3 years. Elections took place at the APCM in 2023 and therefore Representatives are eligible to serve until May 2026.

Bank:	Lloyds Bank Plc, Tunbridge Wells Branch
Independent Examiner:	Zachary Ramsden, 63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2JT
Charitable Status:	The PCC is a corporate body (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number: 1184093
Web-site:	www.christchurchsouthborough.com
Correspondence Addresses:	Christ Church Office Prospect Road Southborough TN4 0EG
Patronage Board includes:	Church Pastoral Aid Society and The Mabledon Trust

Structure & Governance

PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC consists of the clergy, the Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod Representatives and the following elected members:

Parish Treasurer:	Lesley Clare
PCC Secretary & Electoral Roll Officer:	Lesley Clare
Representatives:	Len Morland (until APCM 2023) Judy Stevens

Tony Denyer
Sue Shrubbs
Jamie Roddy

In addition to her duties as Churchwarden, Rita Morland is also our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Christ Church PCC met 7 times during 2023 and also made further decision via e-mail on occasions. Members of the PCC have personal and legal liability for the activities within the Parish. The average attendance at the full PCC meetings was 86%. An Away-Day was held in November at St Thomas' Church to allow the PCC plus Jim Stevens and Sheila Syms to discuss the future vision for the church.

A Standing Committee is required under Church Representation Rules and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the Clergy, both Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator. This Committee did not meet during 2023.

APCM – the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 14th May 2023 after the Sunday service and was also live-streamed for those who couldn't attend.

Committees – committees have been set up to make recommendations to the PCC on specific areas. These committees are:

1. Standing Committee
2. Youth & Children's Work
3. Sundays - Worship/Prayer/Discipleship
4. Life Groups
5. Buildings
6. Lettings/Risk Assessments
7. Finance
8. Mission/tithe
9. Mission/Outreach
10. Pastoral Care

- 11.Re-ordering Committee
- 12.Safeguarding Committee
- 13.Representation on ACTS Group

Safeguarding

Rita Morland has been appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and she is the first point of call for all safeguarding issues and ensures that all DBS clearances and training are kept up to date. During 2023 there were 18 volunteers with DBS clearances available to do children/youth work. There were 5 new DBS clearances applied for in 2023 and 2 people renewed their DBS.

Every year, parents are asked to complete the parental consent forms for groups, activities, trips and photographs and all children and youth volunteers are issued with a written code of conduct and safeguarding policy. The Church of England Safeguarding Handbook is kept in the vestry and displayed on the main Noticeboard, on the Noticeboard in the office and a summary document given to all volunteers in September. A credit card sized guide, Safeguarding – A Pocket Guide was issued to all volunteers and a credit card size guide for children Safeguarding Contact Cards were purchased and supplied to all children and youth. We had no Safeguarding incidents during 2023.

The PCC has agreed and are committed to comply with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 which confirms that we will have regard to the House of Bishop's Safeguarding policies and good practice guidance.

The Safeguarding Committee have adopted the Safer Recruitment requirements and continue to review policies using the Diocesan Dashboard system. We have currently completed Level 1 and almost completed Level 2. All role descriptions have been rewritten. Rita Morland, Nick Cornell and Jamie Roddy have all completed the Safer Recruitment Training.

Safeguarding is always on the PCC Meeting Agenda and any Diocesan or National developments are discussed.

During 2023, 6 people undertook safeguarding training at either Basic Level or Level 1. Nick, Jim, Sheila, Rita and Jonathan have all completed their Safeguarding Leadership Course.

All PCC members have Enhanced DBS clearances.

Serious Incident Reporting

Charities are required to report to the Charity Commission any serious incidents, both safeguarding and non-safeguarding.

The PCC agreed to delegate authority to the Diocesan Secretary to submit safeguarding Serious Incident Reports to the Charity Commission and to the PCC Secretary to submit non-safeguarding Serious Incident Reports.

Employees

During 2023, Christ Church employed three members of staff, Sue Shrubbs, Church Administrator, Clair Tighe, Cleaner and Jamie Roddy as Families & Children's Pastor.

Sue is often the first point of contact and she ensures the smooth running of the Church, assists the clergy and co-ordinates all aspects of church administration, whilst Clair ensures the Annexe and the Hall are clean and tidy for our hirers and hoovers the church. Jamie's role is to oversee all activities relating to children & youth and to build relationships with the school and the families attending any of the events we put on.

Major Risks

The Trustees consider that major risks have been identified. Those which are not covered by insurance through EIG plc are namely Health & Safety and Child Protection. These topics are reviewed regularly by the PCC.

Our Vision

"Faith Building, Bridge Building, Life Building"

The above "strap line" summarises the vision statement adopted by Christ Church in 2011. These three features are intended to focus all that we do as a Church.

"Faith Building"

We believe that the Bible reveals God's will by His Spirit and we seek to enable people to understand its true meaning and apply it to their lives as true disciples of Christ. We seek also to create a worship environment in which the reality of God is experienced.

As a CPAS patronage Parish our tradition is evangelical. We place a high value on biblical preaching, mission and worship. We stand firmly on the authority of the Bible as the revealed Word of God and believe that the Bible speaks to each new generation afresh and the Holy Spirit is at work in our world today.

Services

There is a morning service every week. The morning services include a monthly All Age Service which sees children and adults remain together with something for everyone and the emphasis on sharing the gospel through fun. Other morning services include Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. There is an evening service once a month for Prayer and Praise which is a reflective type service. This service is preceded by a short act of Holy Communion. At the start of 2023 our communion services operated with the celebrant dipping the wafer into the wine. In March we started using the Communion Rail again so the congregation could kneel whilst receiving the bread and wine. We returned to the practice of sharing the communal cup in October and Communion Assistants were re-appointed.

We also have further communion services – on the 4th Sunday after the main service and before the Prayer & Praise Service on the 2nd Sunday in the evening.

Family Church on Sunday afternoons which had proved very popular during times of restrictions, became less well attended and in June the bi-monthly services ceased. Family Church events are now on an ad-hoc basis as and when appropriate.

On average 72 adults attended Sunday morning services each week and 15 children. Live streaming still takes place for all Sunday morning services.

During 2023, 13 adults started attending the church and 18 left, 6 children started attending while 12 left. There are 241 people attached to the church with the age break-down as follows:

Between 0 – 10 years	=	45
Between 11-17 years	=	34

Between 18 – 69 years	=	96
70+ years	=	66

In addition about 30 people watched the services from home,

Special Services

During 2023, 2 adults and 3 children were baptised. There were no weddings nor any services of Prayer & Dedication after a civil marriage. There were no funerals held in church, but the clergy conducted 6 funerals at the Crematorium and 1 Service of Thanksgiving following a cremation was held.

Seasonal Services

Christmas

Leaflets were distributed to the community detailing the Christmas services.

In addition to the standard weekly services, there were special Christmas services including a Nativity Service at a special Family Church in the afternoon, a Christingle Service as part of the usual Sunday service, an Evening of Favourite Carols and Carols by Candlelight. There was a Christmas Eve Communion and an All-age Christmas Day communion service. A total number of 543 people attended the special services up to 23rd December and 243 people attended the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day services.

Easter

A reflective Ash Wednesday service was held and a Maundy Thursday Communion Service. Two services were held on Good Friday – an All Age service plus a more meditative service of an Hour at the Cross, in addition to the usual service on Easter Sunday. The men's singing group sang an anthem at the Easter Sunday service. 104 people attended Easter services. The Church was decorated with lilies over the Easter period which had mainly been donated by members of the congregation in memory of a loved one.

Hope Explored

A Hope Explored Course was run during Lent – 3 sessions held over 6 weeks. On average 20 people attended each session.

Others

An all age Harvest Festival was held in church with the produce being donated to the Community Larder and Nourish. This was also our annual Mission Gift

Day. During the Harvest Service the men's singing group joined with the Music Group and some additional ladies to sing a John Rutter anthem.

A service was held on Mothering Sunday and posies of daffodils distributed to the ladies in the congregation. In November a Remembrance Sunday service was held where we joined in with the national 2 minutes silence at 11.00 am. Nick, along with other local clergy, held a service of remembrance at the Southborough War Memorial.

A special Coronation themed service was held in May followed by a cream tea.

Clergy/Lay Ministers

In April, Nick took over the role of Area Dean following the retirement of Douglas Wren.

Dave Bubb, Curate, continued to support Nick in the running of the Parish spending one week a month assisting St Lawrence and St Peter until the end of July. Following the completion of his curacy he accepted a role as Associate Minister at Christ The Servant King, Hampton, Peterborough. We held a farewell service for him followed by a presentation and a bring and share lunch in July. He was commissioned in his new role in September and a number of the congregation travelled to Hampton to support Dave and Jane in their new roles.

Rev Jim Stevens (retired) is licensed as Clergy PTO for the Parish and continues to assist with services at Christ Church and during the year also assisted at other churches within the Diocese covering illness and vacancies.

Sheila Syms is a Licensed Lay Minister and also regularly assists in services. Colin Clarkson, Michael Wightwick and Jim Walker are also Readers Emeritus at Christ Church.

Mission

Christ Church has 5 main missions which it supports both financially and through prayer – Education for Life in Kenya, Sovereign World Trust, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), Crossteach and Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS). A number of smaller charities are also supported throughout the year on an ad-hoc basis. All our 5 main Missions received £958 from our tithing. £400 was paid to Tearfund for the situation in the Middle East and £400 to The Red Cross for aid in Ukraine out of the "emergency" pot.

A Mission Gift day was held in October which raised £2043 for our 5 mission partners – Education for Life £363, MAF £338, Sovereign World Trust £443, Crossteach £443 and CPAS £456.

Every Christmas we make a collection for Education for Life for a specific need at that particular time. In 2023 the money was raised to purchase combined desk and chairs units and we sent them £1,055 for this purpose which we believe kitted out one whole classroom.

We also participated in Operation Christmas Child, operated by Samaritan's Purse, whereby shoe-boxes filled with presents are sent to children worldwide. The trend is now that these boxes are donated online but there are still a large number collected in church.

Gifts were also collected in Church to be given to Colebrook Road Hostel for their resident's Christmas Stockings. Colebrook Road Hostel provides accommodation for single homeless people.

Community Larder

The Community Larder, started in November 2020 as a 6 week project, is still required in the community with the need and number of users constantly rising. The Café after the Larder still continues to thrive. Dave Bubb had responsibility for the Larder and it's operation since it was started but after July, Patrick Grice took over the overall responsibility. The Larder received a grant of £2,500 from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to support its work plus an amount of £400 from Churches for Tunbridge Wells. Many volunteers help at this event either by manning the tables on a Thursday, providing refreshments in the café, or being involved in one of the many pick-ups from supermarkets that are necessary to provide this service to the community. Whilst many of these volunteers are members of our congregation there are also a number of volunteers from the community.

Life Groups

Life Groups continue to be an important event in the life of the Church and there are currently 5 groups. They are held every fortnight during the day or in the evening to enable people to worship and pray together, explore their faith, ask questions to gain a greater understanding of both the Bible and Christianity and form a closer relationship with God and each other.

During Life Groups we had sessions on Amazing Grace, the Psalms and the Acts of the Apostles. Many thanks to Sheila Syms for faithfully producing the study notes.

Electoral Roll

At the end of the year there were 126 members on the Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll Secretary (Lesley Clare) reports the number on the Roll at the time of the APCM (which was 126) and it is this number, given to the Diocese, which is used to calculate the number of representatives we have on Deanery Synod. Electoral Roll additions, deletions and rolling totals are reported at each PCC meeting.

Ecumenical Life

We have strong links to the ecumenical aspect to church life within the borough of Tunbridge Wells. We are a member of Churches for Tunbridge Wells, support the Annual Week of Prayer for Tunbridge Wells and we are a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

Jim Stevens is a Street Pastor in the Tunbridge Wells Street Pastor Scheme run through Holy Trinity with Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells and Judy Stevens is part of the Prayer Pastor team.

The Group Ministry within Southborough called ACTS (Anglican Churches Together in Southborough) comprising ourselves, St Thomas, St Lawrence & St Peter continued to be involved in community events. In December the ACTS ran a chill-out zone during the Southborough Winter Festival which provided refreshments and cakes. The ACTS group also provided refreshments at the Southborough May Festival held at the Civic Centre.

A Memorial Service was held at St Peters in November which gave an opportunity to remember family and friends whom we have loved and lost and there was an opportunity to light a candle in memory.

We have 2 lay representatives on the Committee of this Group in addition to the clergy.

In July, Christ Church hosted a Confirmation service where 11 people were confirmed (5 from Christ Church, 1 from Langton Green, 6 from St Peter/St Lawrence) and there were 6 Baptisms with full immersion. This service was presided over by Bishop Jonathan.

“Bridge Building”

We seek to ensure that the church is a visible and valuable presence in the community by welcoming and serving as many people as we can.

Prayer

Prayer remains a fundamental role in the ministry of the Parish and is at the centre of all we do. Regular monthly Women and Men’s prayer are held throughout the year. Staff prayers are held on every Monday. Prayer after the Sunday morning services was re-introduced during the year. The staff team meet for prayer every Monday and regularly prayer for members of the congregation.

The monthly prayer and praise evening service continued and prayer before the morning services continued. The small prayer groups continued to meet through the year and Sue continued to produce the monthly prayer diaries.

Jamie held quarterly prayer meetings for Children & Youth Work.

School Governors

We continue to maintain good relations and a strong presence with our local school – Southborough CE Primary School. During 2023, we had 2 Foundation Governors – Les Padfield (taking over from Helen Burns) and Rebecca Large. In addition Rev Nick Cornell is an ex-officio Governor. Lin Hutchinson from St Peter’s is also a Foundation Governor and it was agreed that she would serve another term of office.

Nick, Dave (prior to July) and Jamie regularly run Collective Worship at the school.

During the year services were held in Church for specific year groups which included parents and there were year group visits by the children. A School Leavers Service was held for Year 6.

Friday Lunch Club

This club runs every Friday with Rita Morland & Judy Stevens providing the catering from the church kitchen. Lesley Grice joined the team during the year. This activity is aimed at the elderly in the Parish. The lunches exist for fellowship for the elderly but also to minister to those in their latter years as

many attendees are not members of the Sunday congregation. Volunteers provide transport to allow people to attend.

Tea and Toys

A term-time toddler group for parents and carers to bring their pre-school children to play in a friendly and safe environment. This provides fun activities with lots of toys and opportunities to sing songs and listen to stories.

These sessions have continued to be extremely popular and a booking system is in place to ensure everyone is kept safe.

A Christmas party was held in December.

Youth & Children

Children & Families Pastor

Jamie Roddy continues as our Children & Families Pastor. During 2023 he attended a Growing Young Disciples Conference for Youth Workers based on the theme of "Setting Your Eyes on Eternity."

Youth Activities

The Acts 29 Youth Life Group run by Angie Wright, Pole Voisey and Wenonah Bubb continued to meet on a weekly basis in the evening and the Pathfinders Group meet during Sunday morning services. ACTS 29 had their own Christmas Party.

A Youth Weekend Away was held in November at West Watch attended by 6 Young people plus leaders.

Jamie maintains links with Unite (Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ) and has taken young people to Unite services and music events.

A Light Party was held on 31st October run jointly with New Life church to celebrate Jesus the Light of the World. This was aimed at primary age children and over 80 attended the event.

The Noise, a Church Youth Community Project was hosted by Christ Church. 47 young people attended over the three days from various churches.

Sunday School/JAM/Family Events

JAM (Jesus and Me) continues to grow in numbers. All children of primary age meet together in the Annexe. JAM and Pathfinders meet on all Sundays with the exception of the first Sunday of the month which is an All-Age service. The under 5's group also continues.

During the August School holidays, children attending services were provided with "Sunday School in a Bag" which included activities to do during the service.

Toddler Praise

The new Toddler Praise Group started in 2022 continues with small but steady numbers.

Holiday Club

A Holiday Club was held in 2023 and run over three mornings. This was fully booked with 42 children booked in every day. Not all could attend every day but great fun was had by all. A Holiday Club service was held on the Sunday following the event to share the experiences with the congregation and this service was followed by ice cream afterwards – now known as "Ice-cream Sunday".

A family Film afternoon was held in December with popcorn and was well attended.

"Life Building"

We believe that we are created to have a relationship with Jesus Christ by His Spirit. We seek therefore to give opportunities for people to discover for themselves the relevance of Jesus in their lives and to demonstrate this through our communal life and care for one another.

Community Events

Many events took place during 2023, some were focussed on outreach whilst the aim of others is to strengthen the community of the church.

Warm Space Initiative – from January we operated a "Warm Space" where members of the community could come and have refreshments, play games and chat with others. Unfortunately there was very little uptake on this initiative and the space was closed at the end of February.

Coffee – tea & coffee is served every week after church on Sundays.

Coffee & Chat - a small group of predominately women meet every week for a time to enjoy fellowship and chat, coffee and biscuits! This group also support the charity Grassroots Rwanda.

Friday Café – a new café started after Easter which was designed for parents and carers to come for a chat and coffee prior to picking up their children from school. A coffee morning was held in September for the parents of Reception children.

Men's Events – included a Men's Breakfast and a Wine Tasting event

Men's Curry Nights – these continued on a monthly basis. However, due to the closure of the local Indian Restaurant the venue had to change to a local Indian café which did not lend itself to this type of evening. New plans are in place for 2024. In December there was a curry evening in the Church Hall for both men and women with over 30 people attending.

Christmas Fair – the annual Christmas Fair, organised by Sue Shrubbs, was held again in November. This has always been an event for the community as well as fund-raising and was well supported raising over £2,000. Tony Denyer's men's singing group again provided entertainment during the Fair.

Harvest – a Harvest Supper was held in October with a ploughman's supper and entertainment provided by Les Padfield's singing vicars, Wilson Tse on his violin and Tony Denyer's male singing group. Invitations were extended to our customers from the Community Larder and a number of the 105 attendees were through this route.

Women's Advent Evening – held in December, this was an evening of meditation with wine and cheese refreshments

Men's Bowling – Len Morland re-created the men's bowling league which he ran some years ago and a number of men attend this monthly event

The "Big Knit" – we participated in The Making Miracles Big Knit 2023 by members of the congregation knitting squares and these were sent to Rochester Cathedral to make into blankets.

Christmas Lunch - Len & Rita Morland provided a Christmas lunch in the Church Hall which was open to members of the congregation and the wider community.

Other Events

Both Sue Shrubbs and Jamie Roddy were involved in running Christian camps over the summer holidays.

The Brownie pack continued to meet on a weekly basis.

Members of the congregation participate in Ride & Stride. Steve & Annette Cole took over the organisation of this from Alan Peggs.

The Lions held a Pensioners Party in the Hall available for all members of the community.

Len Morland organised a church walk on Whit Sunday.

Pastoral Care

Where people have not been able to attend church due to sickness, members of the clergy have visited them to celebrate communion or to pray with them. Many lifts have been provided by members of the congregation to church, church events, hospital appointments and other medical appointments.

Bereavements

Unfortunately during 2023 we had to say goodbye to a very long-term member of our congregation who had contributed so much to both the children's work at Christ Church and also providing catering on many occasions – Tina Peggs. A service to celebrate her life was held on 1st November.

Earlier in the year we also lost another member of our congregation and regular attendee at the Friday Lunch Club – Alec Taylor.

There were two members of the lunch club who we also lost during the year - Brenda Boyce and Brenda Marchant.

Communications

The Christ Church Facebook page continues which now has 507 followers and services and events are regularly advertised via this medium. The Christ Church, Southborough YouTube Channel also has 141 subscribers. Our Sunday

morning services continue to be live-streamed. Regular e-mails are sent to all the people on the church data-base (ChurchSuite) which now totals 149.

We continue to have a weekly notice sheet in addition to notices given out during services and Sue Shrubbs regularly sends round by email anything of interest to the congregation. In addition all information is provided on the web-site.

Buildings

Both the Hall and the Annexe are normally hired out for community use with the Annexe proving to be particularly popular in the community. Lettings reached a new high during 2023 and we have many regular weekly hirers.

The properties we own – 32B London Road and 38 Azure Court – are both rented and help to fund the employment of our Children & Families Pastor. Both are managed through Estate Agents Wood & Pilcher.

54 Holden Park Road – this house is owned by ourselves (70%) and St Peter's (30%) and historically houses the curate if appropriate. However since Dave & Jane left in August, as we have no curate for 2023 intake, the house has been repainted throughout, a new carpet laid in one bedroom and from September was let on a commercial basis. Again Wood & Pilcher manage this on our behalf.

Re-ordering – James Ford from Claque Architects has been appointed as Architect for the Re-ordering project and he has been working on pulling the whole project together ready to consult with the congregation and apply for a faculty. Preferred suppliers have been appointed and the only hold up at the moment is the supplier of the light fittings as the original supplier has gone out of business. Our preferred lighting contractor is working on alternatives.

The 5 yearly Quinquennial Inspection took place in July and a full Electrical Inspection was also made.

Gas Works – during the year we have had issues with our gas supply. In February there was a gas leak which left us without any heating for a week. Four convector heaters were purchased so that the lets could still take place. Historically the church has been on a separate meter to the Hall/Annexe and we were therefore paying 2 sets of standing charges. The decision was made to merge these meters together but to do this we had to have some remedial

work done to the gas pipes to bring them up to the current safety standards. Finally, we also had issues with the boilers during December and we have been told that they are in need of replacement! The cost of all these gas works amounted to over £12,000.

Break-In – In June there was a break-in via the Broomhill Park Road entrance. New locks were fitted and a new more secure lock-box, where the code can be changed remotely, was purchased. A ring door bell was also fitted to the office door.

The following upgrades were made or purchased:

- Church Boilers were serviced and repaired yet again!
- A gooseneck microphone was purchased to aid the sound balance in the church and to help with the sound on the livestream
- A further TV screen was bought for use in the Annexe when the room is split into 2
- Following issues with mice in the church, we entered into an annual agreement with JLM Pest Control to ensure we stay free of pests particularly as food is stored on the premises
- A new door for the Boiler Room was made (thanks to Graham Syms) and fitted
- Various radiators leaks were fixed
- Some outside LED light bulbs were replaced
- The taping around the base of the toilets was reaffixed
- Mesh was put over the gutters to stop leaves getting in
- Coat hooks were installed in the Annexe
- Repairs were made to the paintwork outside the Annexe and was repainted
- The Larder purchased an outdoor storage shed so people have access to the food collection trays without having to come into the church
- Wooden racking was made and installed in the corridor outside the office to store all the Larder store cupboard items. Many thanks to Sherwood Man's Shed for arranging this.

In addition:

- There have been a couple of working parties to have general clear-ups both inside and outside of church
- A morning for leaf clearing and gutter clearance was arranged by the Churchwardens
- Christmas Lights were put up around the church to light up the area

Voluntary Helpers

The PCC wishes to extend their enormous thanks to all people who have helped in the smooth working of the church and although there are too many voluntary workers across the Parish to mention everyone, it is these people who are the backbone of Parish life. These include children and youth workers, flower arrangers, cleaners, our gardener, the music group, life group leaders, providers of tea/coffee, event organisers, sides people/welcomers, people who carry out any pastoral care, people on the prayer teams, those on the reading and prayer rota, plus many others.

We are extremely grateful for everybody's time/skills/efforts during 2023.

Stewardship/Financial Review

A big thank you to the congregation for their generosity and faithful giving to the work of Christ Church over the last year particularly in light of the financial challenges we still continue to face.

Your giving has allowed us to continue to support our Mission partners as well as our own outreach groups within Christ Church. We have also been able to continue the Community Larder which helps so many local families.

The Parish Giving Scheme whereby an external company deals with all the regular direct debits and associated gift aid is working well for us and the majority of our regular givers have signed up to this.

Our income for 2023 (including restricted funds) was £171,352 and our expenses were £171,481 meaning that we made a small loss of £129. However, this figure should actually show an operating loss of £6,268. In the final accounts, a realignment of an income account from a creditor account and some corrections in the Trade Creditors amounts were made. Even so, we believe that this is another good achievement due to the amount which had to be paid to gas works and repairs during the year. We were again blessed by some large generous one-off gifts.

Our reserves remain healthy and we have sufficient reserves for 3 to 6 months of expenses. Our reserves policy states that "it would be wise, in case of unforeseen expense or temporary reduction of income, to maintain reserves of unrestricted net current assets, insofar as these are within the PCC's control, at

a level of between three and six months “normal” expenditure, ie, excluding items of large special or project expenditure.”

In addition our Restricted Project Funds now stand at £44,411. (This is money which has been stipulated can only be used for building/lighting/re-ordering projects).

A copy of our independently reviewed accounts for 2023 is available on our website.

The Trustees Report and Financial Accounts adopted by the PCC on 22nd April 2024 and approved at the APCM on 28th April 2024.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Rev Nick Cornell

Date 22nd April 2024

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of Christ Church, Southborough**

Charity no 1184093

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st December 2023

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUGHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.23 £	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year to 31.12.22 £</i>
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	97,729	3,973	101,702	87,079	1,976	89,055
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	32,317	407	32,724	26,384	-	26,384
Investment income	2(c)	36,041	885	36,926	20,788	6,828	27,616
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		166,087	5,265	171,352	134,251	8,804	143,055
RESOURCES USED							
Charitable activities	3	167,240	4,241	171,481	147,469	6,087	153,556
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		167,240	4,241	171,481	147,469	6,087	153,556
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(1,153)	1,024	(129)	(13,218)	2,717	(10,501)
Transfers between funds		14,760	(14,760)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		13,607	(13,736)	(129)	(13,218)	2,717	(10,501)
Balances at 1.1.23		875,027	59,058	934,085	888,245	56,341	944,586
Balances at 31.12.23	10	<u>888,634</u>	<u>45,322</u>	<u>933,956</u>	<u>875,027</u>	<u>59,058</u>	<u>934,085</u>

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

		31.12.23			31.12.22		
		£	£	£	£	£	£
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
FIXED ASSETS	Notes						
Tangible fixed assets	6	671,400	-	671,400	671,400	-	671,400
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	7	2,367	-	2,367	1,573	-	1,573
Bank	8	241,943	45,322	287,265	227,997	65,393	293,390
		244,310	45,322	289,632	229,570	65,393	294,963
CREDITORS:							
Due within one year	9	27,076	-	27,076	25,943	6,335	32,278
NET CURRENT ASSETS		217,234	45,322	262,556	203,627	59,058	262,685
CREDITORS:							
Due after more than one year		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		888,634	45,322	933,956	875,027	59,058	934,085
Represented by:							
FUNDS							
Funds		888,634	45,322	933,956	875,027	59,058	934,085
Total	11	888,634	45,322	933,956	875,027	59,058	934,085

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 22nd April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Chair of Trustees
Rev Nick Cornell

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice as the applicable standard to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind (i.e. the church and vicarage) is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not classified in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic life other than where insufficient cost information is available. In this case the item is not capitalised, but all items are included within the Church inventory.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity (functional fixed assets)

Larger items are capitalised and written off over their useful lives. Smaller items are written off as incurred.

Any expenditure on maintenance or improvements on fixed assets is written off as incurred.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit with the Diocese.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted.

INCOMING RESOURCES

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving under covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the related income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its entitlement and the likely amount due.

Funds raised by church events and activities are accounted for gross, i.e. before any associated expenses.

Other ordinary income

Rental from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Parochial fees due to the PCC for weddings, funerals etc. are accounted for when the event occurs.

Income from investments

Interest is accounted for when received.

RESOURCES USED

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly related to the work of the Church

The Diocesan Parish Offer in respect of clergy and diocesan costs are accounted for when paid.

Any additional amounts agreed by the PCC but not paid across as at 31st December are shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

DEBTORS

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

Diocesan Church Repair Fund - Quinquennial Funds

The Diocesan Church Repair Fund consists of funds designated by the PCC for future repairs.

A contribution rate into the fund is agreed to pay for these repairs. The repairs specified in the survey report are funded by the Diocesan Church Repair Fund. Where insufficient funds are available, a loan (currently interest free) may be obtained from the diocese which is repayable over five years.

Pensions

PCC contributes to a pension scheme for its lay staff. Contributions are accounted for as they are paid. Contributions paid in the year were £720 (2022: £ 675).

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.23 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.23 £	<i>Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £</i>	<i>Total Funds Year to 31.12.22 £</i>
2(a) Donations and legacies						
Donations	75,104	3,973	79,077	70,726	1,976	72,702
Income tax recoverable	17,770	-	17,770	16,353	-	16,353
Grants received	4,855	-	4,855	-	-	-
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
	97,729	3,973	101,702	87,079	1,976	89,055
2(b) Income from charitable activities						
Church activities	32,317	407	32,724	26,384	-	26,384
	32,317	407	32,724	26,384	0	26,384
2(c) Investment income						
Property Rental Income	27,734	-	27,734	18,771	6,629	25,400
Interest	8,307	885	9,192	2,017	199	2,216
	36,041	885	36,926	20,788	6,828	27,616
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	166,087	5,265	171,352	134,251	8,804	143,055

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. RESOURCES USED	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Charitable activities	31.12.23	31.12.23	31.12.23	31.12.22	31.12.22	31.12.22
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	35,116		35,116	32,937		32,937
Utilities	11,381		11,381	8,823		8,823
Insurance	2,657		2,657	2,304		2,304
Parish share	66,711		66,711	67,452		67,452
Repairs & renewals	17,341	485	17,826	4,105	6,013	10,118
Church costs	9,292	-	9,292	7,000		7,000
Church activities	12,309	513	12,822	13,133	74	13,207
Property costs	5,062		5,062	4,485		4,485
Independent examination	650		650	525		525
Mission giving	6,721	3,243	9,964	6,705	-	6,705
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	167,240	4,241	171,481	147,469	6,087	153,556

4. GRANTS - Missionary and charitable giving

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £
Paid to organisations	6,721	3,243	9,964
	6,721	3,243	9,964
Acting as Agent			0

5. STAFF COSTS AND PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL AND RELATED PARTIES

Staff costs (excluding clergy)

	2023	2022
Wages and salaries	34,396	32,262
Employers NI	0	0
Employers pension contributions	720	675
	<u>35,116</u>	<u>32,937</u>

No employees earn more than £60,000.

	Number of employees	
	2023	2022
Administrator	1.00	1.00
Youth worker	1.00	1.00
Total	2.00	2.00

Payments to members of the Parochial Church Council and related parties

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from the Charity (2022 - none).

No trustees' expenses were incurred in the year (2022 - none).

There have been no transactions with persons or entities that are closely connected to the charity or its trustees (2022 - none).

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings	Total
	£	£
Cost		
Brought forward	671,400	671,400
Additions	0	0
Carried forward	<u>671,400</u>	<u>671,400</u>
Depreciation		
Brought forward	0	0
In year	0	0
Carried forward	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Book Value	<u>671,400</u>	<u>671,400</u>

Property cost £36,400 (70% ownership) was donated by the previous charity at cost. No depreciation is provided as the current value is greater than cost.

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. DEBTORS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	453	-	-	453	315
Other debtors	1,914	-	-	1,914	1,258
	<u>2,367</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,367</u>	<u>1,573</u>

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	2023 £	2022 £
------------------------------------	-------------------	-------------------

Bank accounts

DBF Building Fund	28,437	27,552
DBF Church Repair Fund	20,958	19,789
DBF General Account	7,967	7,719
DBF Tithing Account	14,211	13,768
Lloyds Current Account	2,859	12,242
Lloyds Savings Account	72,764	78,093
Affirmative Deposit Account	132,137	126,517
DBF 54 HPR	7,932	7,710
	<u>287,265</u>	<u>293,390</u>

Of the total, £241,943 is for unrestricted purposes, and £45,322 for restricted purposes.

9. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2023 £	2022 £
Creditors and accruals	16,970	18,106
Tithe	10,106	8,974
Other creditors	-	5,198
	<u>27,076</u>	<u>32,278</u>

Of the total, £27,076 is for unrestricted purposes.

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	671,400	-	671,400
Current assets	244,310	45,322	289,632
Current liabilities	(27,076)	-	(27,076)
Fund Balance	<u>888,634</u>	<u>45,322</u>	<u>933,956</u>

11. FUNDS

	Balance 1.1.23 £	Movement in Funds Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers	Balance 31.12.23 £
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
General fund	875,027	160,200	(167,240)	14,760	882,747
New toys fund	-	5,887	-	-	5,887
	<u>875,027</u>	<u>166,087</u>	<u>(167,240)</u>	<u>14,760</u>	<u>888,634</u>
<u>Restricted funds</u>					
Friday Lunch Club Fund	1,017	407	(513)	-	911
Lighting Fund	118	-	-	-	118
Screens	1,530	-	-	-	1,530
Building Project Fund	41,633	1,615	(485)	-	42,763
54 HPR	14,760	-	-	(14,760)	-
Gift day	-	3,243	(3,243)	-	-
	<u>59,058</u>	<u>5,265</u>	<u>(4,241)</u>	<u>(14,760)</u>	<u>45,322</u>
	<u>934,085</u>	<u>171,352</u>	<u>(171,481)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>933,956</u>

54 HPR is a fund relating to 54 Holden Park Road, a property owned 70% by the PCC. Previously this was treated as a restricted fund, but it has now been established that it is not restricted, so the balance on the fund has been transferred back to general funds.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Parochial Church Council of Christ Church Southborough**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed: *Zachary Ramsden*

Name: Zachary Ramsden FCA

Chartered Accountant

63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JT

Date: 25th April 2024

Accounts

Christ Church Southborough



2022 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Southborough

2022 started with some restrictions still in place most noticeably that wearing of masks in public places was still compulsory and the office was closed to callers. At the end of February the Government removed all restrictions and we could at last sing without masks during services! The remainder of the year was a process of rebuilding previous events and activities and starting new initiatives.

Aims and Purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for cooperating with the incumbent, Rector Nick Cornell, 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 Christ Church, the attached Church Hall and Annexe in addition to having a majority ownership of the curate's house at 54 Holden Park Road, Southborough. Following a very generous legacy left to us by Maggie Voller we bought a property in December 2021 (32B London Road) and also purchased a further property (32 Azure Court) in January 2022.

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 Christ Church. 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 local 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
- Mission and outreach work

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of Christ Church.

Reporting Public Benefit

The "Our Vision" section of the Trustees Report provides a brief summary of the activities undertaken by Christ Church, Southborough to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. This section of the report also provides confirmation that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning our activities.

The report specifically addresses the two key principles:

1. There must be an identifiable benefit – and the Trustees have explained the activities and benefits which flow from them to the Parish community.
2. The benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public – and the Trustees have explained their commitment to enable as many people as possible to worship and become part of the Parish community.

Reference and Administrative Information

Rector:
Curate:

Rev Nick Cornell
Rev Dave Bubb

Clergy - PTO: Rev Jim Stevens
Licensed Lay Minister: Sheila Syms
Churchwardens: Rita Morland
Jonathan Taylor
Deanery Synod Representative: Barbara Bourne
Graham Syms (from July 2022)

Representation on the Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the Church. Deanery Synod Representatives are elected for a period of 3 years. Elections took place at the APCM in 2020 and therefore Representatives are eligible to serve until May 2023.

Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc, Tunbridge Wells
Branch

Independent Examiner: David Stephens FCCA, 13
Newlands Road, Tunbridge Wells,
Kent, TN4 9AS.

Charitable Status: The PCC is a corporate body (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number: 1184093

Web-site: www.christchurchsouthborough.com

Correspondence Addresses: Christ Church Office
Prospect Road
Southborough TN4 0EG

Patronage Board includes: Church Pastoral Aid Society and
The Mabledon Trust

Structure & Governance

PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC consists of the clergy, the Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod Representatives and the following elected members:

Parish Treasurer:	Carla Pearce (until August 2022)
	Lesley Clare (from September 2022)
PCC Secretary & Electoral Roll Officer:	Lesley Clare
Representatives:	Len Morland Judy Stevens Tony Denyer Sue Shrubbs Jamie Roddy (from May 2022)

In addition to her duties as Churchwarden, Rita Morland is also our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Christ Church PCC met 7 times during 2022 and also made further decision via e-mail on occasions. Members of the PCC have personal and legal liability for the activities within the Parish. The average attendance at the full PCC meetings was 92%.

A Standing Committee is required under Church Representation Rules and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the Clergy, both Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator. This Committee did not meet during 2022.

APCM – the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 8th May 2022 after the Sunday service and was also live-streamed for those who couldn't attend.

Committees –committees have been set up to make recommendations to the PCC on specific areas. These committees are:

1. Standing Committee
2. Youth & Children's Work
3. Sundays - Worship/Prayer/Discipleship
4. Life Groups
5. Buildings
6. Lettings/Risk Assessments
7. Finance
8. Mission/tithe
9. Mission/Outreach
10. Pastoral Care
11. Re-ordering Committee
12. Safeguarding Committee
13. Representation on ACTS Group

Safeguarding

Rita Morland has been appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and she is the first point of call for all safeguarding issues and ensures that all DBS clearances and training are kept up to date. During 2022 there were 21 volunteers with DBS clearances available to do children/youth work. There were 4 new DBS clearances applied for in 2022 and 13 people renewed their DBS.

Every year, parents are asked to complete the parental consent forms for groups, activities, trips and photographs and all children and youth volunteers are issued with a written code of conduct and safeguarding policy. We had no Safeguarding incidents during 2022.

The PCC has agreed and are committed to comply with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 which confirms that we will have regard to the House of Bishop's Safeguarding policies and good practice guidance.

The Safeguarding Committee have adopted the Safer Recruitment requirements and continue to review policies using the Diocesan Dashboard system. All role descriptions have

been rewritten. Rita Morland, Dave Bubb, Nick Cornell and Jamie Roddy have all completed the Safer Recruitment Training.

Safeguarding is always on the PCC Meeting Agenda and any Diocesan or National developments are discussed.

During 2022, 13 people undertook safeguarding training at either Basic Level or Level 1. Jim, Dave, Sheila, Rita and Jonathan have all completed their Safeguarding Leadership Course. 11 people completed the Domestic Abuse training.

All PCC members have Enhanced DBS clearances.

Serious Incident Reporting

Charities are required to report to the Charity Commission any serious incidents, both safeguarding and non-safeguarding.

The PCC agreed to delegate authority to the Diocesan Secretary to submit safeguarding Serious Incident Reports to the Charity Commission and to the PCC Secretary to submit non-safeguarding Serious Incident Reports.

Employees

During 2022, Christ Church employed three members of staff, Sue Shrubbs, Church Administrator, Clair Tighe, Cleaner and Jamie Roddy as Families & Children's Pastor.

Sue is often the first point of contact and she ensures the smooth running of the Church, assists the clergy and co-ordinates all aspects of church administration, whilst Clair ensures the Annexe and the Hall are clean and tidy for our hirers and hoovers the church. Jamie's role is to oversee all activities relating to children & youth and to build relationships with the school and the families attending any of the events we put on.

Major Risks

The Trustees consider that major risks have been identified. Those which are not covered by insurance through EIG plc are namely Health & Safety and Child Protection. These topics are reviewed regularly by the PCC.

Our Vision

“Faith Building, Bridge Building, Life Building”

The above “strap line” summarises the vision statement adopted by Christ Church in 2011. These three features are intended to focus all that we do as a Church.

“Faith Building”

We believe that the Bible reveals God’s will by His Spirit and we seek to enable people to understand its true meaning and apply it to their lives as true disciples of Christ. We seek also to create a worship environment in which the reality of God is experienced.

As a CPAS patronage Parish our tradition is evangelical. We place a high value on biblical preaching, mission and worship. We stand firmly on the authority of the Bible as the revealed Word of God and believe that the Bible speaks to each new generation afresh and the Holy Spirit is at work in our world today.

Services

There is a morning service every week. The morning services include a monthly All Age Service which sees children and adults remain together with something for everyone and the emphasis on sharing the gospel through fun. Other morning services include Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. There is an evening services once a month for Prayer and Praise which is a reflective type service. Throughout 2022 our communion services continued with the celebrant dipping the wafer into the wine. We have not yet resumed the practice of sharing the communal cup.

However further communion services were introduced – after the main service on the 4th Sunday and before Prayer & Praise on the 2nd Sunday in the evening.

Family Church on Sunday afternoons proved very popular and became a monthly event during the year. These services appeal to both regular church families and also other families in the community who don't always attend the usual Sunday services. There was a special Family Church Jubilee Tea Party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in May.

On average 68 adults attended Sunday morning services each week and 18 children. This figure is the average and attendances have been rising steadily throughout the year as more people gradually started to return to church and new families started to attend. Live streaming still takes place for all Sunday morning services.

During 2022, 22 adults started attending the church and 14 left, 24 children started attending while 6 left. There are 245 people attached to the church with the age break-down as follows:

Between 0 - 10 years	=	50
Between 11-17 years	=	34
Between 18 - 69 years	=	101
70+ years	=	60

About 8 included in these numbers are people who watch the services from home and no longer physically attend church.

Special Services

During 2022, 2 Baptisms took place in church, one for an infant and one for a child between 1-4 years. There were no weddings nor any services of Prayer & Dedication after a civil marriage, but there was a Thanksgiving Service for Marriage held. 2 funerals were held in church and the clergy conducted 4 funerals at the Crematorium.

Seasonal Services

Christmas

Leaflets were distributed to the community detailing the Christmas services.

In addition to the standard weekly services, there were special Christmas services including a Nativity Service, a Christingle

Service and Carols by Candlelight. There was a Christmas Eve Communion and an All-age Christmas Day communion service. A total number of 527 people attended these special services and 103 people attended the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day services.

Easter

A reflective Ash Wednesday service was held with a special focus on the invasion of Ukraine and a service on Maundy Thursday in the evening. Two services were held on Good Friday – an All Age service plus a more meditative service of an Hour at the Cross, in addition to the usual service on Easter Sunday. 100 people attended Easter services. The Church was decorated with lilies over the Easter period which had mainly been donated by members of the congregation in memory of a loved one.

Lent Course

A Lent Course comprising 3 sessions was held during Life Group Meetings based on a series by Andy Stanley - A Whole World Still in His Hands.

Alpha

An Alpha course was run in May consisting of 6 sessions to explore the basics of the Christian faith

Others

An all age Harvest Festival was held in church with the produce being donated to the Community Larder and Nourish. This was also our annual Mission Gift Day.

A Mothering Sunday was held and posies of daffodils distributed to the ladies in the congregation. This service was attended by local Beaver, Cub and Scout groups who paraded their flags in and out of church. In November a Remembrance Sunday service was held.

The Church was opened after the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September, to give people time to pray, reflect, give thanks and mourn together and a book of condolence was opened. A service was held dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II.

Clergy/Lay Ministers

Dave Bubb, Curate, continues to support the Rector, Rev Nick Cornell in the running of the Parish and also spends one week a month assisting St Lawrence and St Peter.

Rev Jim Stevens (retired) is licensed as Clergy PTO for the Parish and continues to assist with services at Christ Church and during the year also assisted at St Mary's, Sundridge whilst the Minister there was unwell.

Sheila Syms is a Licensed Lay Minister and also regularly assists in services. Colin Clarkson, Michael Wightwick and Jim Walker are also Readers Emeritus at Christ Church.

Geoff Baker was an Evangelist attached to our Parish for over 20 years, but reluctantly decided in 2022 not to renew his licence and stepped down from this role. We held a thank you and special celebration of Geoff to say thank you for his many years of service at a morning service in February.

Mission

Christ Church has 5 main missions which it supports both financially and through prayer – Education for Life in Kenya, Sovereign World Trust, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), Crossteach and Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS). A number of smaller charities are also supported throughout the year on an ad-hoc basis.

A Mission Gift day was held in October which raised £2020 for our 5 mission partners – Education for Life £372, MAF £498, Sovereign World Trust £375, Crossteach £395 and CPAS £380.

Every Christmas we make a collection for Education for Life for a specific need at that particular time. In 2022 the money was raised to provide the children at the school with pens, pencils and exercise books. £646 was raised for this purpose.

We also participated in Operation Christmas Child, operated by Samaritan's Purse, whereby shoe-boxes filled with presents are sent to children worldwide. The trend is now that these boxes

are donated online but there are still a large number collected in church.

Gifts were also collected in Church to be given to Colebrook Road Hostel for their resident's Christmas Stockings. Colebrook Road Hostel provides accommodation for single homeless people.

We were blessed with a visit from Sam and Abby Beguma and their 2 children, Rachel & Rebecca from MAF in June. They spoke to us about life in Uganda and the work of MAF and joined the congregation for a bring and share lunch.

Cross Teach held a supporters evening at church to thank us for all the support they have received which was well attended.

Community Larder

The Community Larder started in November 2020 as a 6 week project is still required in the community with the need and number of users constantly rising. The Café after the Larder still continues to thrive. The Larder received a grant of £750 from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to support the work of the larder. Many volunteers help at this event either by manning the tables on a Thursday, providing refreshments in the café, or being involved in one of the many pick-ups from supermarkets that are necessary to provide this service to the community.

Life Groups

Our Life Group programme re-commenced in January and two new groups were established, making the total number of groups 5. They are held every fortnight during the day or in the evening to enable people to worship and pray together, explore their faith, ask questions to gain a greater understanding of both the Bible and Christianity and form a closer relationship with God and each other.

During Life Groups we had sessions on 4 of the Parables, the Lent Course and the books of 1 Peter and Jonah.

Electoral Roll

At the end of the year there were 122 members on the Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll Secretary (Lesley Clare) reports

the number on the Roll at the time of the APCM (which was 118) and it is this number, given to the Diocese, which is used to calculate the number of representatives we have on Deanery Synod. Electoral Roll additions, deletions and rolling totals are reported at each PCC meeting.

Ecumenical Life

We have strong links to the ecumenical aspect to church life within the borough of Tunbridge Wells. We are a member of Churches for Tunbridge Wells, support the Annual Week of Prayer for Tunbridge Wells and we are a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

Jim Stevens is a Street Pastor in the Tunbridge Wells Street Pastor Scheme run through Holy Trinity with Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells and Judy Stevens is part of the Prayer Pastor team.

The Group Ministry within Southborough called ACTS (Anglican Churches Together in Southborough) comprising ourselves, St Thomas, St Lawrence & St Peter continued to be involved in community events. At Easter the group gave away hot-cross buns outside the Civic Centre. In December the ACTS ran a chill-out zone during the Southborough Christmas Festival which provided refreshments and cakes. Also in December the ACTS group held an outdoor carol service in the Town Square and afterwards sang carols.

We have 2 lay representatives on the Committee of this Group in addition to the clergy although during the year it was only the clergy who met.

Bishop Jonathan had a service of Welcome and Inauguration in September at Rochester Cathedral.

In April we were visited by Pastor Amos from Rwanda. He has links with Grassroots Rwanda, a charity where both Jim and Judy Stevens are Trustees, and he was interviewed about his life and work during a Sunday service.

A course around the Living in Love & Faith initiative was held at Bennett Memorial Diocesan School for the Tunbridge Wells Deanery to reflect together about questions of identity,

sexuality, relationships and marriage. This was attended by a number of people from Christ Church.

“Bridge Building”

We seek to ensure that the church is a visible and valuable presence in the community by welcoming and serving as many people as we can.

Prayer

Prayer remains a fundamental role in the ministry of the Parish and is at the centre of all we do. Regular monthly Women and Men’s prayer are held throughout the year. Staff prayers are held on every Monday.

In May, we supported the nationwide initiative “Thy Kingdom Come” and in 2022 this was done through pledging to 24 hours of prayer and also holding a prayer breakfast on Ascension Day.

The monthly prayer and praise evening service continued and prayer before the morning services was re-introduced in May. The small prayer groups continued to meet through the year and Sue continued to produce the monthly prayer diaries.

Prayers via Zoom were introduced for Children & Youth Work and a quarterly prayer meeting to pray for Children & Families and events was introduced in September.

At the Ash Wednesday service, special prayers were said for Ukraine at the beginning of the war.

School Governors

We continue to maintain good relations and a strong presence with our local school – Southborough CE Primary School. During 2022, we had 2 Foundation Governors – Helen Burns and Rebecca Large. In addition Rev Nick Cornell is an ex-officio Governor. Lin Hutchinson from St Peter’s is also a Foundation Governor and it was agreed that she would serve another term of office. Regrettably Helen Burns stood down from this role in December as she has moved away from Tunbridge Wells and there is currently a vacancy.

The clergy provided videos for regular assemblies at the school (collective worship) until May when they again took Collective Worship in person.

In discussions with the school, it has been agreed to trial new style services from September and throughout the school year and a Year 2 service was held in Church for the whole of that year group and their parents.

A Year 6 leaving party was held in the Church Hall.

Friday Lunch Club

This club had started up again in December 2021 with members of the congregation (Rita Morland & Judy Stevens) providing the catering from the church kitchen. This activity is aimed at the elderly in the Parish. The lunches exist for fellowship for the elderly but also to minister to those in their latter years as many attendees are not members of the Sunday congregation. Volunteers provide transport to allow people to attend.

Tea and Toys

A term-time toddler group for parents and carers to bring their pre-school children to play in a friendly and safe environment. This provides fun activities with lots of toys and opportunities to sing songs and listen to stories.

These sessions have continued to be very popular and growing throughout the year to the extent that by December the event was at full capacity and a booking system is being introduced. A Christmas party was held in December.

Youth & Children

Children & Families Pastor

Jamie Roddy, who started his full-time position with us in September 2021 was commissioned as Children & Families Pastor in July at Rochester Cathedral.

During 2022 he attended a Growing Young Disciples Conference for Youth Workers run by based on the theme of "How to instil a sacrificial Christ centred model to our Young People."

Youth Activities

The Acts 29 Youth Life Group run by Angie Wright, Pole Voisey and Wenonah Bubb continued to meet on a weekly basis in the evening and during the services on Sunday mornings (Pathfinders group). Acts 29 followed the Youth Alpha course.

A Youth Weekend Away was held in July at West Watch attended by 8 Young people plus leaders.

Jamie maintains links with Unite (Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ) and has taken young people to Unite services and a Unite music event.

A Light Party was held on 31st October run jointly with New Life church to celebrate Jesus the Light of the World. This was aimed at primary age children and over 80 attended the event.

The Youth also visited the local cinema to see the film Chosen.

A number of our youth were involved in the Noise which was based at Tunbridge Wells Christian Fellowship and The Youth Centre.

Sunday School/JAM/Family Events

JAM (Jesus and Me) continues to grow in numbers. All children of primary age meet together in the Annexe. JAM and Pathfinders meet on all Sundays with the exception of the first Sunday of the month which is an All-Age service. In July an under 5's group was also created so that activities could be more age related.

During the August School holidays, children attending services were provided with "Sunday School in a Bag" which included activities to do during the service.

JAM and ACTS 29 both had mid-week Christmas Parties

In November a new group was initiated – Toddler Praise – designed to be next step after attending Tea & Toys and attendance has been very promising.

A family Film afternoon was held in August and again in December with popcorn – both these events were well attended.

“Life Building”

We believe that we are created to have a relationship with Jesus Christ by His Spirit. We seek therefore to give opportunities for people to discover for themselves the relevance of Jesus in their lives and to demonstrate this through our communal life and care for one another.

Community Events

During 2022 we managed to rebuild a number of community events. Some of these events are focussed on outreach whilst others are to strengthen the community of the church.

Coffee – tea & coffee is served every week after church on Sundays.

Coffee & Chat - a small group of predominately women meet every week for a time to enjoy fellowship and chat, coffee and biscuits! This group also support Grassroots Rwanda.

Men’s Curry Nights – these continued on a monthly basis and was opened up to women as well for the December meal which had over 30 people attending.

Christmas Fair – the annual Christmas Fair returned and was held in November. This has always been an event for the community and although hadn’t been run for 2 years had large community support. The event raised over £2,000. Tony Denyer had brought together a group of male singers from Christ Church and other local churches and they sang during the Christmas Fair which was very well received.

Women’s Weekend Away – this was held in March at West Watch when 18 women spent the weekend together for fellowship, friendship and reflection.

Other Events

A Harvest Supper and Quiz was held in October

There was a Ladies Advent Breakfast in December with an outside speaker and this was attended by over 25 ladies.

Len & Rita Morland provided a Christmas lunch in the Church Hall which was open to members of the congregation and the wider community.

Both Sue Shrubb and Jamie Roddy were involved in running Christian camps over the summer holidays.

The brownie pack continued to meet on a weekly basis.

Pastoral Care

Where people have not been able to attend church due to sickness, members of the clergy have visited them to celebrate communion or to pray with them. Many lifts have been provided by members of the congregation to hospital appointments and other medical appointments.

Bereavements

Unfortunately during 2022 we had to say goodbye to a very long-term member of our congregation who over the years had acted as Churchwarden and Church Treasurer – Eric Bowen. His funeral service was held in Church and he is greatly missed by all.

Towards the end of the year we also lost another member of our congregation – Carol-Grace Buckman

There were two members of the lunch club who we also lost during the year – Janet Lott and George Smith.

Communications

The Christ Church Facebook page continues which now has 68 members. The Christ Church, Southborough YouTube Channel also has 128 subscribers. Our Sunday morning services continue to be live-streamed.

We continue to have a weekly notice sheet in addition to notices given out during services and Sue Shrubb regularly

sends round by email anything of interest to the congregation. In addition all information is provided on the web-site.

Buildings

Both the Hall and the Annexe are normally hired out for community use with the new Annexe proving to be particularly popular in the community. Lettings started the year slowly but increased throughout the year and were a very welcome addition to our income.

An offer had been made at the end of 2021 for a 2 bed-roomed flat in Tonbridge, 38 Azure Court and this purchase was completed in January 2022. Both properties were let during the year and helped to fund the employment of our Children & Youth Pastor. Both 38 Azure Court and 32B London Road are managed through Estate Agents Wood & Pilcher.

The Re-ordering Committee have finalised the requirements for the re-ordering project and made recommendations to the PCC for preferred suppliers. Following a meeting with the new Archdeacon – Sharon Copestake - have started to speak to suppliers about specific needs and quotes. The plan is that we will be able to apply for a faculty to carry out improvements in the lighting and AV systems during 2023.

The following upgrades were made or purchased:

- Church Boilers were repaired
- Paid the Council to paint white lines across the Rectory and Church drive ways to assist with access at busy times
- Installed wooden strip on 2nd stair on chancel to improve visibility and security for people moving up and down from the chancel
- New locks placed on cupboard door in Hall
- Further outside lights were purchased following a donation which will extend further the lighting of the Church at Christmas
- A new camera was purchased and installed professionally by mounting behind sound desk which meant we were able to remove existing cameras from the front of church reducing the clutter and making it look much neater
- Beading was put up in the Hall to repair some holes which were causing draughts

- The Fire extinguishers were checked and a couple replaced
- A new substantial ladder was purchased in light of changes to health & safety policy around working at height
- Flat-bed trolley to assist transfer of larger goods

In addition:

- There have been a couple of working parties to have general clear-ups both inside and outside of church
- A morning for leaf clearing and gutter clearance was arranged by the Churchwardens

Voluntary Helpers

The PCC wishes to extend their enormous thanks to all people who have helped in the smooth working of the church and although there are too many voluntary workers across the Parish to mention everyone, it is these people who are the backbone of Parish life. These include children and youth workers, flower arrangers, cleaners, our gardener, the music group, life group leaders, providers of tea/coffee, event organisers, sides people/welcomers, people who carry out any pastoral care, people on the prayer teams, those on the reading and prayer rota, plus many others.

It has been another difficult year for volunteers and also for the clergy and we are extremely grateful for everybody's time/skills/efforts during 2022.

Stewardship/Financial Review

A big thank you to the congregation for their generosity and faithful giving to the work of Christ Church over the last year particularly in light of the financial challenges we continue to face.

Your giving has allowed us to continue to support our Mission partners as well as our own outreach groups within Christ Church. We have also been able to continue the Community Larder which helps so many local families.

During the year Alan Peggs stood down from the role of Planned Giving Officer. Alan had undertaken this role with care and

dedication for a number of years and for this the PCC are very grateful and thank Alan for his service.

Carla Pearce also stood down as Church Treasurer and Lesley Clare took up this role in September. Carla had been the Treasurer since the current Parish was formed and we thank her for setting up the new processes and procedures.

In July we introduced the Parish Giving Scheme whereby an external company deals with the regular direct debits and associated gift aid making our administration much smoother.

Our general operational income for 2022 (excluding restricted funds) was £134,251 and our expenses were £147,469 meaning that we made a loss of £13,218 which was covered by our reserves. We believe that this is another good achievement due to the prevailing conditions and cost of living pressures during the year. We were again blessed by some large one-off donations which was very generous.

Our reserves remain healthy and we have sufficient reserves for 3 to 6 months of expenses. Our reserves policy states that "it would be wise, in case of unforeseen expense or temporary reduction of income, to maintain reserves of unrestricted net current assets, insofar as these are within the PCC's control, at a level of between three and six months "normal" expenditure, ie, excluding items of large special or project expenditure."

In addition our Restricted Building Project Fund now stands at £41,751. (This is money which has been stipulated can only be used for building projects).

A copy of our independently reviewed accounts for 2022 is available on our website.

The Trustees Report and Financial Accounts adopted by the PCC on 17th April 2023 and approved at the APCM on 14th May 2023.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Rev Nick Cornell

Date

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of Christ Church, Southborough**

Charity no 1184093

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st December 2022

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUGHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.22 £	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.21 £
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	87,079	1,976	89,055	89,269	2,220	91,489
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	26,384	-	26,384	4,442	6,659	11,101
Investment income	2(c)	20,788	6,828	27,616	243	77	320
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		134,251	8,804	143,055	93,954	8,956	102,910
RESOURCES USED							
Charitable activities	3	147,469	6,087	153,556	109,561	2,057	111,618
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		147,469	6,087	153,556	109,561	2,057	111,618
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(13,218)	2,717	(10,501)	(15,907)	6,899	8,708
Transfers between funds			-	-		-	-
Net movement in funds		(13,218)	2,717	(10,501)	(15,607)	6,899	8,708
Balances at 1.1.22		888,245	56,341	944,586	903,852	49,442	953,294
Balances at 31.12.22	10	875,027	59,058	934,085	888,245	56,341	944,586

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

		£	31.12.22	£	31.12.21	£
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
FIXED ASSETS	Notes					
Tangible fixed assets	6	671,400	-	671,400	371,400	371,400
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	7	1,573	-	1,573	35,575	35,575
Bank	8	227,997	65,393	293,390	499,240	559,986
		229,570	65,393	294,963	534,815	595,561
CREDITORS:						
Due within one year	9	25,943	6,335	32,278	17,970	22,375
NET CURRENT ASSETS		203,627	59,058	262,685	516,845	573,186
CREDITORS:						
Due after more than one year		-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		875,027	59,058	934,085	888,245	944,586
Represented by:						
FUNDS						
General funds		875,027	59,058	934,085	888,245	944,586
Total	10	875,027	59,058	934,085	888,245	944,586

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 17th April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Chair of Trustees
Rev Nick Cornell

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice 2016 as the applicable standard to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind (i.e. the church and vicarage) is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not classified in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic life other than where insufficient cost information is available. In this case the item is not capitalised, but all items are included within the Church inventory.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity (functional fixed assets)

Larger items are capitalised and written off over their useful lives. Smaller items are written off as incurred.

Any expenditure on maintenance or improvements on fixed assets is written off as incurred.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit with the Diocese.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted.

INCOMING RESOURCES

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving under covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the related income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its entitlement and the likely amount due.

Funds raised by church events and activities are accounted for gross, i.e. before any associated expenses.

Other ordinary income

Rental from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Parochial fees due to the PCC for weddings, funerals etc. are accounted for when the event occurs.

Income from investments

Interest is accounted for when received.

RESOURCES USED

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly related to the work of the Church

The Diocesan Parish Offer in respect of clergy and diocesan costs are accounted for when paid.

Any additional amounts agreed by the PCC but not paid across as at 31st December are shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

DEBTORS

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

Diocesan Church Repair Fund - Quinquennial Funds

The Diocesan Church Repair Fund consists of funds designated by the PCC for future repairs.

A contribution rate into the fund is agreed to pay for these repairs. The repairs specified in the survey report are funded by the Diocesan Church Repair Fund. Where insufficient funds are available, a loan (currently interest free) may be obtained from the diocese which is repayable over five years.

Pensions

PCC contributes to a pension scheme for its lay staff. Contributions are accounted for as they are paid. Contributions paid in the year were £ 675 (2021: £ 217).

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.22 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.22 £	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.21 £
2(a) Donations and legacies						
Donations	70,726	1,976	72,702	71,208	2,220	73,428
Income tax recoverable	16,353	-	16,353	18,061	-	18,061
Legacies	0	-	0	0	-	0
	87,079	1,976	89,055	89,269	2,220	91,489
2(b) Income from charitable activities						
Church activities	26,384	0	26,384 0	4,442	6,659	11,101
	26,384	0	26,384	4,442	6,659	11,101
2(c) Investment income						
Property Rental Income	18,771	6,629	25,400	0	0	0
Interest	2,017	199	2,216	243	77	320
	20,788	6,828	27,616	243	77	320
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	134,251	8,804	143,055	93,954	8,956	102,910

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. RESOURCES USED	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Charitable activities	31.12.22	31.12.22	31.12.22	31.12.21	31.12.21	31.12.21
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	32,937		32,937	16,882		16,882
Utilities	8,823		8,823	8,246		6,998
Insurance	2,304		2,304	2,394		2,394
Parish share	67,452		67,452	62,468		62,468
Repairs & renewals	4,105	6,013	10,118	3,094	2,028	5,122
Church costs	7,000	-	7,000	7,296		8,544
Church activities	13,133	74	13,207	2,584	29	2,613
Property costs	4,485		4,485	6,092		6,092
Independent examination	525		525	505		505
Mission giving	6,705		6,705	-	-	-
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	147,469	6,087	153,556	109,561	2,057	111,618

4. GRANTS - Missionary and charitable giving

	2022 Unrestricted	2022 Restricted	2022 Total
	£	£	£
Paid to organisations	6,705		6,705
	6,705	-	6,705
Acting as Agent			2,817

5. STAFF COSTS AND PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL AND RELATED PARTIES

Staff costs (excluding clergy)

	2022	2021
Wages and salaries	32,262	13,999
Employers NI	0	0
Employers pension contributions	675	217
	<u>32,937</u>	<u>14,216</u>

No employees earn more than £60,000.

	2022	2021
Administrator	1.00	1.00
Youth worker	1.00	1.00
Total	<u>2.00</u>	<u>2.00</u>

Payments to members of the Parochial Church Council and related parties

There was no trustee remuneration in the year and no trustee expenses paid relating to trustee services.

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings	Total
	£	£
Cost		
Brought forward	371,400	371,400
Additions	300,000	300,000
Carried forward	<u>671,400</u>	<u>671,400</u>
Depreciation		
Brought forward	-	0
In year	-	0
Carried forward	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Book Value	<u>671,400</u>	<u>671,400</u>

Property cost £36,400 (70% ownership) was donated by the previous charity at cost. No depreciation is provided as the current value is greater than cost.

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. DEBTORS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	315	-	-	315	0
Other debtors	1,258	-	-	1,258	35,575
	<u>1,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,573</u>	<u>35,575</u>

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Bank accounts

	2022 £	2021 £
DBF Building Fund	27,552	27,390
DBF Church Repair Fund	19,789	17,594
DBF General Account	7,719	7,674
DBF Tithing Account	13,768	13,687
Lloyds Current Account	12,242	282,848
Lloyds Savings Account	78,093	78,053
Affirmative Deposit Account	126,517	125,068
DBF 54 HPR	7,710	7,672
	<u>293,390</u>	<u>559,986</u>

Of the total, £227,997 is for unrestricted purposes, and £ 65,393 for restricted purposes

9. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Creditors and accruals	18,106	9,572
Tithe	8,974	7,943
Other creditors	5,198	4,860
	<u>32,278</u>	<u>22,375</u>

Of the total, £25,943 is for unrestricted purposes, and £6,335 for restricted purposes.

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	671,400	-	671,400
Current assets	229,570	65,393	294,963
Current liabilities	(25,943)	(6,335)	(32,278)
Fund Balance	<u>875,027</u>	<u>59,058</u>	<u>934,085</u>

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 1.1.22 £	Movement in Funds Incoming £	Outgoing £	Balance 31.12.22 £
Friday lunch club Christmas Fund	553	538	(74)	1,017
Lighting fund	-	118	-	118
Screens	1,530	-	-	1,530
Building Project Fund	43,967	1,482	(3,816)	41,633
54 HPR	10,291	6,666	(2,197)	14,760
				-
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>56,341</u>	<u>8,804</u>	<u>(6,087)</u>	<u>59,058</u>

The restricted funds comprise gifts given for specific purposes and the fund names describe that purpose.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF
CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of
Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.
The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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.

David Stephens FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
13 Newlands Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN9 4AS

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF
CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of
Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.
The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of
the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity
Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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.

D. Stephens

17 April 2023

David Stephens FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
13 Newlands Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN9 4AS

Accounts

Christ Church Southborough



2021 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Southborough

2021 was another difficult year for the Parish and the community. The year started in total lock-down and although church services could legally be held in person, Rochester Diocese and local councils were advising not to do so and we therefore continued to provide on-line services only until March. From March onwards events started to be reintroduced but by the end of the year not all activities had fully re-started.

Aims and Purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for cooperating with the incumbent, Rector Nick Cornell, 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 Christ Church, the attached Church Hall and Annexe in addition to having a majority ownership of the curate's house at 54 Holden Park Road, Southborough. In addition in December 2021 we bought a property (32B London Road) using the very generous legacy left to us by Maggie Voller.

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 Christ Church. 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 local 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 maintain the fabric of Christ Church.

Reporting Public Benefit

The "Our Vision" section of the Trustees Report provides a brief summary of the activities undertaken by Christ Church, Southborough to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. This section of the report also provides confirmation that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning our activities.

The report specifically addresses the two key principles:

1. There must be an identifiable benefit – and the Trustees have explained the activities and benefits which flow from them to the Parish community.
2. The benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public – and the Trustees have explained their commitment to enable as many people as possible to worship and become part of the Parish community.

Reference and Administrative Information

Rector:
Curate:
Clergy - PTO:

Rev Nick Cornell
Rev Dave Bubb
Rev Jim Stevens

Licensed Lay Minister: Sheila Syms
Churchwardens: Rita Morland
Jonathan Taylor
Deanery Synod Representative: Barbara Bourne

From October 2020 we only had one member of the Deanery Synod and one of our two places remains unfilled. Representation on the Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the Church. Deanery Synod Representatives are elected for a period of 3 years. Elections took place at the APCM in 2020 and therefore Representatives are eligible to serve until May 2023.

Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc, Tunbridge Wells
Branch

Independent Examiner: David Stephens FCCA, 13
Newlands Road, Tunbridge Wells,
Kent, TN4 9AS.

Charitable Status: The PCC is a corporate body (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number: 1184093

Web-site: www.christchurchsouthborough.com

Correspondence Addresses: Christ Church Office
Prospect Road
Southborough TN4 0EG

Patronage Board includes: Church Pastoral Aid Society and
The Mabledon Trust

Structure & Governance

PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC consists of the clergy, the Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod Representatives and the following elected members:

Parish Treasurer:	Carla Pearce
PCC Secretary & Electoral Roll Officer:	Lesley Clare
Representatives:	Louise Frost (until May 2021)
	Len Morland
	Judy Stevens
	Tony Denyer (from May 2021)
	Sue Shrubbs (from May 2021)

In addition to her duties as Churchwarden, Rita Morland is also our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Christ Church PCC met 9 times during 2021 (6 times via video link using zoom and 3 times in person) and also made a further decision via e-mail. Members of the PCC have personal and legal liability for the activities within the Parish. The average attendance at the full PCC meetings was 90%.

The PCC also had an Away-Day in November to discuss the impact of Covid on our church and how we should move forwards in 2022 and 3 priorities were identified for the next year – the Community Larder, how to become a more person centred church and our work with children and families.

A Standing Committee is required under Church Representation Rules and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the Clergy, both Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Treasurer and Len Morland until May 2021 when he was replaced by Sue Shrubbs. This Committee did not meet during 2021.

APCM – the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 16th May 2021 after the Sunday service and was also live-streamed for those who couldn't attend.

Committees – four committees had been set up in 2020 to make recommendations to the PCC on specific things and in 2021, further committees were also established to cover the main priorities of the church. This committee system has essentially replaced the former Ministry Leadership Team which was formally disbanded. The following committees are now in existence:

1. Standing Committee
2. Youth & Children's Work
3. Sundays - Worship/Prayer/Discipleship
4. Life Groups
5. Buildings
6. Lettings/Risk Assessments
7. Finance
8. Mission/tithe
9. Community/Outreach
10. Pastoral Care
11. Representation on ACTS Group

Safeguarding

Rita Morland has been appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and she is the first point of call for all safeguarding issues and ensures that all DBS clearances and training are kept up to date. During 2021 there were 26 volunteers with DBS clearances available to do children/youth work. There were 3 new DBS clearances applied for in 2021 and 1 person renewed their DBS.

Every year, parents are asked to complete the parental consent forms for groups, activities, trips and photographs and all children and youth volunteers are issued with a written code of conduct and safeguarding policy. All children and youth workers however were sent a copy of the latest Diocesan Code of Practice for working with children in addition to the Church of England Code of Safer Working Practices. We had no Safeguarding incidents during 2021.

The PCC has agreed and are committed to comply with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 which confirms that we will have regard to the House of Bishop's Safeguarding policies and good practice guidance.

Whether held by Zoom or meeting in person, Safeguarding is still always on the PCC Meeting Agenda and any Diocesan/National developments are discussed.

During 2021, 14 people undertook safeguarding training at either Basic Level or Level 1. In addition to Jim, Dave and Sheila who finished this training in 2020, Rita and Jonathan both completed their Safeguarding Leadership Course during 2021.

All PCC members have Enhanced DBS clearances.

Serious Incident Reporting

Charities are required to report to the Charity Commission any serious incidents, both safeguarding and non-safeguarding.

The PCC agreed to delegate authority to the Diocesan Secretary to submit safeguarding Serious Incident Reports to the Charity Commission and to the PCC Secretary to submit non-safeguarding Serious Incident Reports.

Employees

At the end of 2021, Christ Church employed three members of staff, Sue Shrubbs, Church Administrator, Clair Tighe, Cleaner and from 6th September 2021, Jamie Roddy as Families & Children's Pastor.

Sue is often the first point of contact and she ensures the smooth running of the Church, assists the clergy and co-ordinates all aspects of church administration, whilst Clair ensures the Annexe and the Hall are clean and tidy for our hirers and hoovers the church. Jamie's role is to oversee all activities relating to children & youth and to build relationships with the school and the families attending any of the events we put on.

Major Risks

The Trustees consider that major risks have been identified. Those which are not covered by insurance through EIG plc are namely Health & Safety and Child Protection. These topics are reviewed regularly by the PCC.

Our Vision

“Faith Building, Bridge Building, Life Building”

The above “strap line” summarises the vision statement adopted by Christ Church in 2011. These three features are intended to focus all that we do as a Church.

“Faith Building”

We believe that the Bible reveals God’s will by His Spirit and we seek to enable people to understand its true meaning and apply it to their lives as true disciples of Christ. We seek also to create a worship environment in which the reality of God is experienced.

As a CPAS patronage Parish our tradition is evangelical. We place a high value on biblical preaching, mission and worship. We stand firmly on the authority of the Bible as the revealed Word of God and believe that the Bible speaks to each new generation afresh and the Holy Spirit is at work in our world today.

Services

During 2020 we generally only had one service each week and this has continued into 2021. The morning services include a monthly All Age Service which sees children and adults remain together with something for everyone and the emphasis on sharing the gospel through fun. Other morning services include Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. There is an evening services once a month for Prayer and Praise. During 2020 and most of 2021, communion services were not possible but they were re-introduced in June with just wafers and later the wine was also re-introduced with the celebrant dipping the wafer into

the wine. We hope to resume full communion by sharing the communal cup during 2022.

The church re-opened on 21st March 2021 for services with full masking, no communal singing, pre-booking was required with pre-assigned seats socially distanced and the livestreaming continued. A large part of our congregation returned, however there were some members who felt safer watching from their own home. Singing (with masks) was allowed from 25th June when the pre-booking system also ceased and the congregation were allowed to sit where they wanted.

On average 50 adults attended each week and 12 children whilst the church was open. This figure is the average and attendances have been rising steadily throughout the year as people gradually started to return to church. During 2021, 18 adults started attending the church and 6 left, 14 children started attending while 2 left. There are 220 people attached to the church with the age break-down as follows:

Between 0 - 10 years	= 38
Between 11-17 years	= 31
Between 18 - 69 years	= 96
70+ years	= 55

About 30 included in these numbers are people who watch the services from home and no longer physically attend church. At the special Christmas services a total number of 399 people attended. 68 attended the Christmas Day & Christmas Eve services whilst 54 attended the Easter Day & Good Friday services.

Special Services

During 2021, no Baptisms, weddings or services of Prayer & Dedication after a civil marriage took place. There was one funeral in church and 3 funerals were conducted at the Crematorium.

Seasonal Services

Christmas

Leaflets were distributed to the community detailing the Christmas services.

In addition to the standard weekly services, there were special Christmas services including a socially distanced Nativity Service and Messy Christingle Service. Carols by Candlelight made a welcome return although the church was not as full as in pre-pandemic years but this seemed to be the story in every church. There was a Christmas Eve Communion and an All-age Christmas Day communion service.

Easter

We were able to have Easter Services again in 2021 after being closed last year. There was a Good Friday All Age service and a service on Easter Day. For Maundy Thursday, a reflection of words and music was provided online.

Lent Reflections

During Lent there were daily reflections where different members of the congregation shared their thoughts on different Bible verses via a recorded video. Jim Stevens who had organised similar reflections during Advent again organised the readings and the people.

A Lent course held on zoom over 5 Tuesdays. Around 24 people participated in this with the emphasis being on a Spiritual Health Check.

Others

An all age Harvest Festival was held in church with most of the proceeds being donated to the Community Larder. This was also our Mission Gift Day and if people hadn't yet returned to church physically they were able to donate online.

Mothering Sunday was an on-line service so no posies of daffodils could be distributed for the second year running.

A Remembrance Sunday service was held in church but there were no lighting of candles.

A special service was held in April to mark the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Philip.

Clergy/Lay Ministers

Dave Bubb was priested in Rochester Cathedral in September and again as there were restricted numbers allowed in the Cathedral, members of the congregation were not able to attend to support Dave but the service was live-streamed by the Diocese.

Rev Jim Stevens (retired) is licensed as Clergy PTO for the Parish and continues to assist with services at Christ Church and during the year also assisted at St Mary's, Sundridge whilst the Minister there was unwell.

Sheila Syms is a Licensed Lay Minister and also regularly assists in services. Colin Clarkson, Michael Wightwick and Jim Walker are also Readers Emeritus at Christ Church.

Geoff Baker is an Evangelist attached to our Parish.

Mission

Christ Church has 5 main missions which it supports both financially and through prayer – Education for Life in Kenya, Sovereign World Trust, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), Crossteach and Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS). A number of smaller charities are also supported throughout the year on an ad-hoc basis.

A Mission Gift day was held in October which raised £1,813 for our 5 mission partners – Education for Life £630, MAF £333, Sovereign World Trust £279, Crossteach £279 and CPAS £291.

Every Christmas we make a collection for Education for Life for a specific need at that particular time. In 2021 the money was raised to put towards a major renovation of the school kitchens which are used for the massive feeding programme. £300 was raised for this purpose.

We also participated in Operation Christmas Child, operated by Samaritan's Purse, whereby shoe-boxes filled with presents are sent to children worldwide. Many people donated online this year but we still had a large number of boxes to be picked up!

Gifts were also collected in Church to be given to Colebrook Road Hostel for their resident's Christmas Stockings. Colebrook

Road Hostel provides accommodation for single homeless people.

Community Larder

The Community Larder had been started in November 2020 and this continued throughout 2021 with the need in the community getting larger, not diminishing. More supermarkets were added to the list for collection of food. From June refreshments started to be provided free of charge to people using the Larder and this was very well received and gave our volunteers a chance to sit and talk to the people coming each week and get to know their needs.

The Community Larder received a rating of 5 (highest score) from the Tunbridge Wells Environmental Health Office.

Larder volunteers were invited to an afternoon tea in November to celebrate a year of the Larder and to say thank you.

The Larder was initially set up for a period of 6 weeks but during the year it became obvious that there is more need for this community service rather than less and it continues into 2022.

Life Groups

Prior to the Covid pandemic, there were 3 Life Groups in the Parish meeting together every fortnight during the day or in the evening to enable people to worship and pray together, explore their faith, ask questions to gain a greater understanding of both the Bible and Christianity and form a closer relationship with God and each other.

Life Groups were re-established towards the end of the year and a campaign to increase the numbers attending resulted in two new groups being formed, taking the total number of groups to 5.

Electoral Roll

At the end of the year there were 110 members on the Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll Secretary (Lesley Clare) reports the number on the Roll at the time of the APCM and it is this number, given to the Diocese, which is used to calculate the

number of representatives we have on Deanery Synod. Electoral Roll additions, deletions and rolling totals are reported at each PCC meeting.

Ecumenical Life

We have strong links to the ecumenical aspect to church life within the borough of Tunbridge Wells. We are a member of Churches for Tunbridge Wells, support the Annual Week of Prayer for Tunbridge Wells and we are a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

Jim Stevens is a Street Pastor in the Tunbridge Wells Street Pastor Scheme run through Holy Trinity with Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells and Judy Stevens is part of the weekly Prayer Pastor team. Although the Street Pastors had to cease their activities at the beginning of the year, by the year end they had returned to their pastoral care of revellers on Friday and Saturday nights.

The Group Ministry within Southborough called ACTS (Anglican Churches Together in Southborough) comprising ourselves, St Thomas, St Lawrence & St Peter continued to be involved in community events. In September, the ACTS Group hosted a chill-out zone during the Southborough Festival to celebrate the opening of the Civic Centre. This involved giving people a space to have a few minutes relaxation and providing refreshments and cakes. At the Southborough Winter Festival in December the ACTS group held a carol service in the Town Square and afterwards sang carols.

We have 2 lay representatives on the Committee of this Group in addition to the clergy.

Messy Church/Family Church

This event used to take place monthly on a Sunday afternoon. In February there was an on-line interactive Family Service held via zoom and throughout the rest of the year there was a number of Family services which appeal not only to regular church families but also other families in the community who don't always attend the usual Sunday services.

“Bridge Building”

We seek to ensure that the church is a visible and valuable presence in the community by welcoming and serving as many people as we can.

Prayer

Prayer still remains a fundamental role in the ministry of the Parish. Regular monthly Women and Men's prayer were held either by Zoom or at the Church throughout the year.

In May, we supported the nationwide initiative "Thy Kingdom Come" and in 2021 this was done through pledging to prayer for 11 days. There was a designated page on the web-site for this.

The monthly prayer and praise evening service was continued either via Zoom or in church.

The small prayer groups continued to meet through the year.

During the live stream of the service, people watching were encouraged to email through any prayers to be read out during the service.

In August a full evening prayer meeting was held for the whole congregation.

Sue continued to produce the monthly prayer diaries.

School Governors

We continue to maintain good relations and a strong presence with our local school – Southborough CE Primary School. During 2021, we had 2 Foundation Governors – Helen Burns and Rebecca Large. In addition Rev Nick Cornell is an ex-officio Governor. Lin Hutchinson from St Peter's is also a Foundation Governor.

The clergy have been providing videos for regular assemblies at the school (collective worship).

Friday Lunch Club

Following the country's lock-down, Age UK were no longer able to provide the catering for the Friday Lunch Club. This activity is

aimed at the elderly in the Parish. The lunches exist for fellowship for the elderly but also to minister to those in their latter years as most attendees are not members of the Sunday congregation.

An afternoon tea for the elderly was held in July and the full Friday Lunch Club re-started in December with members of the congregation (Rita Morland & Judy Stevens) doing the catering in the church kitchen every two weeks and pre-cooked food being purchased for the other week.

Prior to meeting again in December every lunch club member was phoned on a weekly basis by Sue Shrubbs in the office and this has continued into 2022.

Tea and Toys

A term-time toddler group for parents and carers to bring their pre-school children to play in a friendly and safe environment. This provides fun activities with lots of toys and opportunities to sing songs and listen to stories.

This activity restarted in July for an initial 3 weeks with limited numbers prior to the summer holidays and fully re-started in September. These sessions have continued to be very popular with most of those attending not being part of the regular Sunday congregation.

Youth & Children

Children & Families Pastor

In February 2021, we advertised for a Children & Families Pastor and had a number of applicants. Interviews were held over zoom by a selected panel which included Cheryl Trice from the Diocese. Applicants were also given the opportunity to visit the church, meet a number of people and ask any questions they had. Subsequently Jamie Roddy was offered this full-time position and he started employment in September.

Youth Activities

The Acts 29 Youth Life Group run by Angie Wright and Pole Voisey continued to meet on a weekly basis in the evening

either via Zoom or in person when possible. They also met again in church on Sunday mornings from May (Pathfinders)

A Youth Pizza evening was held in July and in October, Jamie took a number of our youth to a Unite event run by Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ.

A Family Light Service was held on 31st October.

Sunday School/JAM

JAM (Jesus and Me) re-started in May. All children of primary age meet together in the Annexe. JAM and Pathfinders meet on all Sundays with the exception of the first Sunday of the month which is an All-Age service.

During the August School holidays, children attending services were provided with "Sunday School in a Bag" which included activities to do during the service.

Family Worship Activities were emailed around the congregation for use at home each week until JAM re-opened.

"Life Building"

We believe that we are created to have a relationship with Jesus Christ by His Spirit. We seek therefore to give opportunities for people to discover for themselves the relevance of Jesus in their lives and to demonstrate this through our communal life and care for one another.

Community Events

Again in 2021, we were not able to run most of the community and fellowship events that we would normally do. Some of these events are focussed on outreach whilst others are to strengthen the community of the church.

The Annual Christmas Fair was cancelled for a second year. The monthly men's curry nights ran when they could while the restaurants were open and the event was opened up to women for the Christmas outing. The brownie pack have now started to meet again on a weekly basis.

Coffee – we were able to return to having refreshments after church on Sundays in May although this was held outside until the cooler autumn weather forced us to return to the church hall! Until May we continued to have “virtual coffee” via zoom.

Coffee & Chat - a small group of predominately women meet every fortnight for a time to enjoy fellowship and chat. This was either held on zoom, in the church garden or in the Annexe.

MILD (Men In Lock Down) – this was a weekly group for men via zoom when we were not able to meet together. It was designed for men to chat together, keep in touch and to pray. However once restrictions meant we could meet in person the group came to a natural conclusion.

Other Events

Neither the Women’s Weekend Away nor the Annual Church Away-Day took place during 2021.

However a church walk and picnic was organised in August and a quiz was run over Zoom in February which worked very well.

There was a Ladies Advent Evening in November and August 15th was designated Ice Cream Sunday and after the church service ice creams were available for the whole congregation.

At Easter, goodie bags were delivered to all members of the congregation from the Ministry Team which included Easter Eggs, adult & children’s booklets about Easter, a Palm Cross, children’s activities and a bookmark.

Pastoral Care

Where people have not been able to attend church due to sickness, members of the clergy have visited them to celebrate communion or to pray with them. Many lifts have been provided by members of the congregation to hospital appointments and other medical appointments.

Bereavements

Unfortunately during 2021 we had to say goodbye to a long-term member of our congregation as well as members of our

wider community. Mary Wardrop died in November with her funeral held in church.

There were two members of the lunch club who we also lost during the year – Ethel Funnell and Sadie Kane.

Communications

The Christ Church Facebook page continues which now has 67 members. The Christ Church, Southborough YouTube Channel also has 119 subscribers.

We continue to have a weekly notice sheet in addition to notices given out during services and Sue Shrubbs regularly sends round by email anything of interest to the congregation. In addition all information is provided on the web-site.

In the summer Nick distributed a questionnaire to the whole congregation to obtain their views on how to move forward and whether any people not belonging to a life group wished to join one.

Buildings

Both the Hall and the Annexe are normally hired out for community use with the new Annexe proving to be particularly popular in the community. Lettings were severely restricted during 2021 and it was only in the latter part of the year that we started to re-hire the rooms. Obviously this made a dent in the church finances.

An offer was made and accepted on a 3 bed-roomed property at 32B London Road. The property completed at the end of the year and a tenant moved in during December. A further offer was made on a 2 bed-roomed flat in Tonbridge, 38 Azure Court and we expect to be able to complete on this property in January 2022.

The Lighting and AV projects were put on hold during 2021 although a meeting was held with the DAC Secretary and acting Archdeacon to start to move this forward.

The following upgrades were made or purchased:

- New wireless network was installed so that there is now wi-fi coverage across the whole church
- Contactless card payment system was introduced for donations
- The congregation were asked to contribute to the purchase of outside lights to make the church a focal point in the community over the Christmas period and to show that the Church is alive and loves Christmas
- A new laptop was purchased for Sue Shrubbs
- Jamie was provided with a laptop and phone
- The Hive system was installed
- The gas certificate for 54 HPR was completed
- A 55" TV screen was installed in the Annexe for use when showing videos or presentations
- The water in the church was tested for Legionnaires Disease as the system had been dormant for a while

In addition:

- A morning for leaf clearing and gutter clearance was arranged by the Churchwardens
- In May a church tidy-up day was held involving both the inside and outside of the church and a skip was filled with the results

Voluntary Helpers

The PCC wishes to extend their enormous thanks to all people who have helped in the smooth working of the church and although there are too many voluntary workers across the Parish to mention everyone, it is these people who are the backbone of Parish life. These include children and youth workers, flower arrangers, cleaners, our gardener, the music group, life group leaders, providers of tea/coffee, event organisers, sides people/welcomers, people who carry out any pastoral care, people on the prayer teams, those on the reading and prayer rota, plus many others.

It has been another difficult year for volunteers and also for the clergy and we are extremely grateful for everybody's time/skills/efforts during 2021.

Stewardship/Financial Review

A big thank you to the congregation for their generosity and faithful giving to the work of Christ Church over the last year particularly in light of the financial challenges we faced during 2021.

Your giving has allowed us to continue to support our Mission partners as well as our own outreach groups within Christ Church. We have also been able to continue the Community Larder which helps so many local families.

Our general operational income for 2021 was £93,954 and our expenses were £109,561 meaning that we made a loss of £15,607 which was covered by our reserves. We believe that this is quite a remarkable achievement for a second year running when there were minimal lettings and fundraising which affected our overall income levels. We were blessed by a number of large one-off donations during the year which was very generous.

Our reserves remain healthy and we have sufficient reserves for 3 to 6 months of expenses. Our reserves policy states that “it would be wise, in case of unforeseen expense or temporary reduction of income, to maintain reserves of unrestricted net current assets, insofar as these are within the PCC’s control, at a level of between three and six months “normal” expenditure, ie, excluding items of large special or project expenditure.”

In addition our Restricted Building Project Fund now stands at £43,966. (This is money which has been stipulated can only be used for building projects).

A copy of our independently reviewed accounts for 2021 is available on our website.

The Trustees Report and Financial Accounts adopted by the PCC on 19th April 2022 and approved at the APCM on 8th May 2022.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Rev Nick Cornell

Date

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of Christ Church, Southborough**

Charity no 1184093

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st December 2021

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUGHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.20 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.20 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.20 £
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	89,269	2,220	91,489	889,772	12,220	901,992
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	4,442	6,659	11,101	8,104	6,271	14,375
Investment income	2(c)	243	77	320	829	125	954
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		93,954	8,956	102,910	898,705	18,616	917,321
RESOURCES USED							
Charitable activities	3	109,561	2,057	111,618	98,935	8,319	107,254
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		109,561	2,057	111,618	98,935	8,319	107,254
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(15,607)	6,899	(8,708)	799,770	10,297	810,067
Transfers between funds			-	-		-	-
Net movement in funds		(15,607)	6,899	(8,708)	799,770	10,297	810,067
Balances at 1.1.20		903,852	49,442	953,294	104,082	39,145	143,227
Balances at 31.12.20	10	888,245	56,341	944,586	903,852	49,442	953,294

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021

		£	31.12.21	£	31.12.20	£
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
						Total
						Funds
FIXED ASSETS	Notes					
Tangible fixed assets	6	371,400	-	371,400	36,400	-
						36,400
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	7	35,575	7,672	43,247	4,632	7,659
Bank	8	499,240	53,074	552,314	884,390	44,203
		534,815	60,746	595,561	889,022	51,862
						940,884
CREDITORS:						
Due within one year	9	17,970	4,405	22,375	21,570	2,420
						23,990
NET CURRENT ASSETS		516,845	56,341	573,186	867,452	49,442
						916,894
CREDITORS:						
Due after more than one year		-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		888,245	56,341	944,586	903,852	49,442
						953,294
Represented by:						
FUNDS						
General funds		888,245	56,341	944,586	903,852	49,442
Total	10	888,245	56,341	944,586	903,852	49,442
						953,294

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf by

Trustee

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice 2016 as the applicable standard to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind (i.e. the church and vicarage) is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not classified in the financial statements.

Moveable church furnishings

These are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic life other than where insufficient cost information is available. In this case the item is not capitalised, but all items are included within the Church inventory.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity (functional fixed assets)

Larger items are capitalised and written off over their useful lives. Smaller items are written off as incurred.

Any expenditure on maintenance or improvements on fixed assets is written off as incurred.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit with the Diocese.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted.

INCOMING RESOURCES

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving under covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the related income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its entitlement and the likely amount due.

Funds raised by church events and activities are accounted for gross, i.e. before any associated expenses.

Other ordinary income

Rental from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Parochial fees due to the PCC for weddings, funerals etc. are accounted for when the event occurs.

Income from investments

Interest is accounted for when received.

RESOURCES USED

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly related to the work of the Church

The Diocesan Parish Offer in respect of clergy and diocesan costs are accounted for when paid.

Any additional amounts agreed by the PCC but not paid across as at 31st December are shown as creditors in the balance sheet.

DEBTORS

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

Diocesan Church Repair Fund - Quinquennial Funds

The Diocesan Church Repair Fund consists of funds designated by the PCC for future repairs.

A contribution rate into the fund is agreed to pay for these repairs. The repairs specified in the survey report are funded by the Diocesan Church Repair Fund. Where insufficient funds are available, a loan (currently interest free) may be obtained from the diocese which is repayable over five years.

Pensions

PCC contributes to a pension scheme for its lay staff. Contributions are accounted for as they are paid. Contributions paid in the year were £ 217 (2020: £ nil).

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.21 £	Unrestricted Funds Year to 31.12.20 £	Restricted Funds Year to 31.12.20 £	Total Funds Year to 31.12.20 £
2(a) Donations and legacies						
Donations	71,208	2,220	73,428	99,446	12,220	111,666
Income tax recoverable	18,061	-	18,061	16,194 -		16,194
Legacies	0	-	0	774,132 -		774,132
	89,269	2,220	91,489	889,772	12,220	901,992
2(b) Income from charitable activities						
Church activities	4,442	6,659	11,101 0	8,104	6,271	14,375 0
	4,442	6,659	11,101	8,104	6,271	14,375
2(c) Investment income						
Interest	243	77	320	829	125	954
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	93,954	8,956	102,910	898,705	18,616	917,321

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds 31.12.21 £	Restricted Funds 31.12.21 £	Total Funds 31.12.21 £	Unrestricted Funds 31.12.20 £	Restricted Funds 31.12.20 £	Total Funds 31.12.20 £
Charitable activities						
Staff costs	16,882		16,882	9,221		9,221
Utilities	6,998		6,998	7,203		7,203
Insurance	2,394		2,394	3,141		3,141
Parish share	62,468		62,468	62,468		62,468
Repairs & renewals	3,094	2,028	5,122	1,861	8,126	9,987
Church costs	8,544		8,544	9,990		9,990
Church activities	2,584	29	2,613	4,561	193	4,754
Property costs	6,092		6,092	0		0
Independent examination	505		505	490		490
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	109,561	2,057	111,618	98,935	8,319	107,254

4. GRANTS - Missionary and charitable giving

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £
Paid to organisations	6,825		6,825
	<u>6,825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,825</u>
Acting as Agent			<u>1,811</u>

5. STAFF COSTS AND PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL AND RELATED PARTIES

Staff costs (excluding clergy)

	2021	2020
Wages and salaries	13,999	9,221
Employers NI	0	0
Employers pension contributions	217	0
	<u>14,216</u>	<u>9,221</u>

No employees earn more than £60,000.

	2021	2020
Administrator	1.00	1.00
Youth worker	1.00	0.00
Children's worker	-	0.00
Total	<u>2.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>

Payments to members of the Parochial Church Council and related parties

There was no trustee remuneration in the year and no trustee expenses paid relating to trustee services.

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Land and Buildings £	Total £
Cost		
Brought forward	36,400	36,400
Additions	335,000	335,000
Carried forward	<u>371,400</u>	<u>371,400</u>
Depreciation		
Brought forward	-	0
In year	-	0
Carried forward	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Book Value	<u>371,400</u>	<u>371,400</u>

Property cost £36,400 (70% ownership) was donated by the previous charity at cost. No depreciation is provided as the current value is greater than cost.

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. DEBTORS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments		-	-	0	0
Other debtors	35,575	7,672	-	43,247	12,291
	<u>35,575</u>	<u>7,672</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,247</u>	<u>12,291</u>

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Bank accounts

	2021 £	2020 £
DBF Building Fund	27,390	27,327
DBF Church Repair Fund	17,594	15,465
DBF General Account	7,674	7,656
DBF Tithing Account	13,687	13,655
Lloyds	282,848	11,643
Lloyds Savings Account	78,053	78,046
Affirmative Deposit Account	<u>125,068</u>	<u>774,801</u>
	<u>552,314</u>	<u>928,593</u>

Of the total, £499,240 is for unrestricted purposes, and £ 53,074 for restricted purposes

9. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Creditors and accruals	9,572	10,842
Tithe	7,943	7,922
Other creditors	4,860	5,226
	<u>22,375</u>	<u>23,990</u>

Of the total, £17,970 is for unrestricted purposes, and £4,405 for restricted purposes.

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets	371,400	-	371,400
Current assets	534,815	60,746	595,561
Current liabilities	(17,970)	(4,405)	(22,375)
Fund Balance	<u>888,245</u>	<u>56,341</u>	<u>944,586</u>

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 1.1.21 £	Movement in Funds Incoming £	Outgoing £	Balance 31.12.21 £
Friday lunch club	282	300	(29)	553
Screens	1,530	-	-	1,530
Building Project Fund	41,983	1,984	-	43,967
54 HPR	5,647	6,672	(2,028)	10,291
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>49,442</u>	<u>8,956</u>	<u>(2,057)</u>	<u>56,341</u>

The restricted funds comprise gifts given for specific purposes and the fund names describe that purpose.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF
CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of
Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.
The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of
the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity
Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

I report in respect of my examination of the Foundation'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.
The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the
examination by being a qualified member of the Chartered Association of Certified
Accountants.

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.

David Stephens FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
13 Newlands Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN9 4AS

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF
CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of
Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.
The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

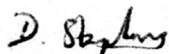
I report in respect of my examination of the Foundation's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants.

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.



David Stephens FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
13 Newlands Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN9 4AS

19 April 2022