

Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish

St. Michael and All Angels Church, Withyham



with All Saints Church, Blackham



For the year ended 31 December 2023

St. Michael & All Angels Church, Withyham, Hartfield, East Sussex TN7 4BA
All Saints Church, Oak Lane, Blackham, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9UD

Incumbent: The Revd Canon James M. Campbell,
The Rectory, Withyham, Hartfield, East Sussex TN7 4BA

Independent Examiner: Charles Lamb, 3 Blacklands Crescent, Forest Row RH18 5NN

Banks: NatWest, 89 Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1QJ

Barclays, 8 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2TB

Website: www.withyhamchurch.org

Annual Report 2023

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Canon James Campbell, in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical;
- To know Jesus better and make him better known;
- Practical support and care for people in the parish and the wider church community, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need;
- Providing financial support for those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

Structure and Governance and Management

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission and is governed by the Parochial Church Councils (Power) Measure 1956.

During the year 2023/2024, the following were PCC members:

Ex Officio members

Rector	Revd Canon James Campbell	Chairman
Churchwarden	Jill Pardey	
Churchwarden	Gillian Halcrow	
Reader	Donald Yonge	also Parish Safeguarding Officer
Deanery Synod reps	Jill Pardey	(elected May 2023)
	Alison Hunnan	(elected May 2023)
		also Hon. Secretary
	Janet Funnell	(elected May 2023)

Elected Members

Anne Barker	Hon. Treasurer
Robert Clark	
Sue Cooper	
Paul Radford	
Sue Schooling	
Meg Stafford	
Jackie Watson	
Richard Lindsay	(elected May 2023)
Jane Osman	(elected May 2023)

Membership of the PCC is determined under Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members - the Incumbent, Reader, the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod - together with members of the Church elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Achievements during the Year

At the beginning of July James Campbell will have worked in the Parish for eight years, having been inducted as the Rector by the Bishop of Chichester on 6th July 2016.

Sunday Worship

2023 was the first year that Parish life returned to normality after the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The principal service at 11.00am (weekly Matins, apart from Holy Communion on the first Sunday) continued unchanged. It was preceded by a service on Zoom on first and third Sundays at 9.45am. Unfortunately, numbers attending the 'Half Hour Service' at 9.45am on the alternate Sundays dwindled and was discontinued. Evensong was held on first and third Sunday evenings. On three of the four Fifth Sundays in the year – excluding December - Matins was held at Blackham.

There was the familiar pattern of special services held through the year: Plough Sunday; Mothering Sunday; Passover Meal (held in the Kings' Hall) on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day; Rogation Sunday (outside); a Pet Service; Harvest Festival was followed by a lunch; Remembrance Sunday Service; and the Christmas services including Carol Services in Church and at Buckhurst Park, an Outdoor Nativity at the Rectory, Crib Service and Midnight on Christmas Eve and the Christmas Day service. There was also special service to mark the Coronation of King Charles on 6th May.

Those who were devotees of the main 11 o'clock continued to attend regularly, with numbers normally ranging from roughly 28-44. A faithful group of up to 8-10 households continue to meet for the regular Zoom services. However, the lack of children attending regularly is a major issue which the PCC have discussed at length.

We remain indebted to our Organist Sue Stone, Assistant Organist Peter Ellefsen who deputises when Sue is away and who also plays at Evensong. Bob Hessey played at the Half Hour Service and is available for other services. The Choir faithfully lead the worship at 11.00am, singing an anthem and leading the singing of the psalm and canticles at Matins; the majority return for Evensong.

Donald Yonge and his wife Janice returned briefly to sing in the Choir before Christmas but otherwise had to continue to isolate for health reasons. Donald was able to partly resume his role as a Reader and lead two services in the summer. Adrian Leak also returned to lead two services ten years after retiring from the Parish.

The Rector's Sunday sermons continue to be emailed to the 50+ on the Parish list, together with the Midweek Bulletin which is normally issued every Wednesday and circulated to nearly 90 electronically, and a further number receive it by post.

Blackham

Regular worship continued to be held on three 5th Sundays in the month (excluding December). In addition, there was an evening Harvest Festival service, the Act of Remembrance by the Lychgate, together with a Carol Service.

Church Electoral Roll

At the 2023 APCM, the number on the Electoral Roll was 112.

Two names have been deleted, both of whom have died; four names have been added.

There are now 114 names on the ER of whom 31 (27%) are resident in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Withyham whilst the remainder live outside, mainly in neighbouring villages and in Crowborough.

Mission Action Plan

Following the discussions at each PCC Meetings during 2022, at which members discussed three actions from the 12, during the year the principal focus was on exploring what might be able to be offered to Children and Young People.

Parish Personnel

Jill Pardey and Gilly Halcrow, who took over from her husband Richard at the 2023 APCM, worked together as **Churchwardens**, with Jill being mainly responsible for the Churchyard and Gilly for the building. Anne Barker continued as Hon. Treasurer and Ali Hunnam Hon. Secretary.

Bridget Clayton continued as the Church Administrator, usually working three and a half hours per week at The Rectory on Tuesday mornings, as well as assisting with the other matters including for the Treasurer.

Teaching & Nurture

The incumbent places an emphasis on preaching and teaching in his ministry.

The Church Buildings

St. Michael and All Angels Church, **Withyham** is a fine Grade One building. It has a long association for over 800 years with the Sackville family, owners of the surrounding Buckhurst Estate.

Following the restrictions of past few years, the Church was open again from 9.00am daily until nightfall. The floodlights were on for approximately two hours during longer evenings.

The Churchwardens ensured that the building remained in good condition.

No major work was carried out. The major exercise of refixing the mid-Victorian wooden blue and gold **ceiling tiles** in the Chancel and Nave – and the temporary closure of the Church – was due to be carried during April this year.

Further improvements to the Church **Sound System** have been carried out during the current year by Ed Mainwaring of EMCommunications, Tunbridge Wells.

The **cleaning** firm 'Busy Bees' from Hartfield continue to clean the Church and loos fortnightly, although there has been a change of personnel this year; Anne Radford has co-ordinated this. A small group of Church members remain available to supplement this prior to major festivals, weddings and funerals.

The **Flower** Guild continues to be co-ordinated by Jill Pardey. When requested, flowers for weddings and funerals can arranged by Kath Stillwell; Mollie Packer retired during the year.

The **Bellringers** are mainly drawn from Withyham, Crowborough, Speldhurst, Penshurst and Leigh; monthly practices take place on Wednesdays. Julie Richardson remains the Bell Tower Captain, assisted by her husband Peter.

All Saints Church, Blackham remained locked when not in use, although the resumption of weekend opening is planned for 2024.

No major work has been carried out recently.

Churchyards

Withyham

McNaughton's continue to mow and strim the **grass** each week.

The annual Spring **Churchyard Clear-up** took place in March and the autumn one November, with a simple lunch by the Church Porch / Rectory.

The **hedge** at the top of the Churchyard, which had been reduced in height to 3'/1m in February, was again cut in January this current year. This results in less interference with the graves nearest to it, as well as enjoyment of the fine view.

John Collins continued to assist James Campbell in the allocation of **graves** and related enquiries.

Blackham

The **grass mowing** was again done by a local Blackham contractor.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

There were four **Baptisms**, the same number as in 2022.

There were six **Weddings**, four at Withyham and two at Blackham, together with one Blessing service. In 2022 there was a total of eight service: five weddings and two Blessing services at Withyham and one wedding at Blackham.

11 **Funerals** took place, all at Withyham; this compares with 14 in 2022. Five services in Church were followed by a burial in the Churchyard; and five services in Church either before or after a cremation – in two cases unattended; all the cremations took place at the Kent & Sussex Crematorium in Tunbridge Wells. There were also four interments of ashes.

During the year, the funerals took place of a number of long-standing Church members, including Colin Ruck, Peter Baker and Ann Haig-McVitty; and at the beginning of 2024 Tom Wild whose outstanding contribution to the Church spanned 50 years.

Parish Events

The annual **Church & Village Fete** took place on the Buckhurst Cricket Ground.

On 30th September a **concert** was held in the Church. The evening consisted of a mixed programme of traditional and more contemporary music put together by Alexander Crowe, who runs the Edenbridge Music & Arts Trust. The soloists were Tom Fesmer (baritone) and Imogen Baker (soprano) from the Royal Academy of Music, accompanied by Alec on the keyboard. Refreshments were enjoyed during the interval and the proceeds shared between the Trust and the Church; the event was organised by Sue Cooper and Gilly Halcrow.

Pastoral Care

James Campbell visited a number of elderly members of the congregation at home and in care homes, as well as the residents of The Elizabeth, Countess De La Warr's Almshouses where he is one of the trustees. Monthly Communion was taken to a number of house-bound Church members including Elizabeth Carden (formerly Parish), a resident of Fountains Care Home in Southborough, and Arthur and Hazel Harris.

St. Michael's Primary School, Withyham

James Campbell continued to take assemblies, usually visiting fortnightly but weekly in the lead up to major festivals.

Numbers at the School are c. 80; Mrs Katie O'Shea continues as the Headteacher.

Safeguarding

Donald Yonge continued as our Parish Safeguarding Representative; there was little to report and our policies up-to-date. Any training was done online.

Data Protection

The Parish has continued to seek to comply with the requirements of the legislation introduced in May 2018.

Health & Safety

Risk Assessments are routinely carried out for special services and events.

Support for the wider Church and Community

Family Support Work

The parish remains active in supporting this Diocesan-run work which is co-ordinated by Miriam Boobier.

Crowborough Foodbank

With the significant increases in the cost of living, requests for food from the local Foodbank has grown. Whilst there is a collection box at the back of Church, most donors leave contributions at supermarkets or collection points in the town.

Charitable Donations

During the year, Withyham Church made a number of donations to local, national and international charities in line with previous years:

Christian Aid; Church Mission Society; the College of St. Barnabas, Lingfield; Chichester Association for Family Support Work; Friends of Chichester Cathedral; Friends of Crowborough Hospital; Hospice in the Weald; The Children's Society; Open Doors; 'Acts 435'; First Responders; and the

In addition, donations are made locally to King's Hall, Withyham and St. Michael's School, Withyham.

Blackham Church made donations to Blackham Village Hall and the Royal British Legion.

Overall, a total of c. £2,500 was given from PCC funds. In addition, £500 was given to the Royal British Legion as well as the proceeds of collections at funerals given to charities chosen by the families.

The Parish Magazine

Robert Veitch continued as **Editor**. With his knowledge of magazine printing, he initiated a number of innovations to the layout; the front cover was changed with the introduction of colour photographs of the two churches. Interviews with various long-standing residents were included.

Janet Funnell continued to co-ordinate the **distribution** (with about 20 volunteers), and Meg Stafford responsible for the **advertising**. Approximately 375 hard copies are printed each month (with the double issue in December/January); a small number receive it by post and the online version which is also available via the Church's website.

Church Web Site (withyhamchurch.org)

As part of her role as Parish Administrator, Bridget Clayton continues to maintain the website, including the weekly Midweek Bulletin and Calendar of Services and much else.

Withyham Parish Charity

The Charity was established with the Charity Commission in 1981, being the amalgamation of various older village charities. The Rector and Churchwardens are trustees together with two representatives from the Parish Council. Currently only the Rector and Churchwardens are trustees as Jill Pardey is also as Parish Counsellor.

The Charity's remit covers Withyham Civil Parish which includes the Ecclesiastical parishes of New Groombridge (St. Thomas') and St. John's, Crowborough.

Grants are available to assist those under the age of 25 with training for a profession, trade or business, or to further their education in other ways, as well as those suffering hardship or distress. In June a grant was given to the Squirrels, younger members of 1st Groombridge Scouts.

Village Hall Activities

Although not specifically a Church initiative, a number of Church members regularly help with the popular monthly lunches held at the Kings' Hall, as well as the Warm Hub weekly over the winter and the monthly Friday Club.

Deanery

Rev. Julie Sear, Vicar of Hartfield & Coleman's Hatch continued as the **Rural Dean**.

The Archdeacon of Hastings, Edward Dowler, remained Priest-in-Charge of **St. John's, Crowborough** where he lives.

Rev. Nicholas Henshall, the former Dean of Chelmsford, was appointed Vicar of St. Thomas', **Groombridge** in February; as Rector of Withyham, James Campbell acted as the Patron.

Rev Andrew Goy was appointed Associate Vicar of **Wadhurst** (Tidebrook and Stonegate) in June working with Rev. Paul Ratcliff.

Rev. Judith Wilkinson was inducted as the Vicar of **Jarvis Brook** on 4th September.

Both **Rotherfield** (and Mark Cross) and **Ticehurst** (and Flimwell) became vacant on 8th October with the retirements of Rev. Nigel Mason and Rev. Ashley Evans respectively.

Plans were finalised for **Cowden** to join the Deanery and become part of the Benefice of Hartfield and Coleman's Hatch; a House-for Duty priest will start work in mid-2024.

Rotherfield **Deanery Synod** met four times during 2023, including the Annual Finance Meeting:

- 7th March at Hartfield: the principal item was an account of Archdeacon Edward Dowler's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.
- 28th June at All Saints, Crowborough: the principal item was 'Growing our Children's, Youth and Families' ministry' with input from three local Children's / Youth workers, preceded by supper.
- 5th October at Hartfield: the annual Finance Meeting with a presentation of the Diocesan finances by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Diocesan Secretary.
- 21st November at Groombridge: the principal item a talk on 'Supporting our older generation with hope and love'.

Diocese

The Bishop of Chichester, Rt. Rev. Martin Warner, the Suffragan Bishop of Lewes, Rt. Rev. Will Hazlewood, and the Archdeacon of Hastings, Ven. Edward Dowler, all continue in post.

Having survived the financial crises suffered by some other dioceses to date, Chichester is now facing a budget deficit of £1.5m for 2025 and is having to make cuts.

James Campbell remains the Companion Links Officer of the **Diocesan Overseas Committee** which has responsibility for Chichester Diocese's Overseas Links: six dioceses in nine countries in West Africa; and five dioceses in the Rift Valley in Kenya in East Africa.

The National Church

Issues surrounding 'Living in Love and Faith' and related matters concerning human sexuality have dominated debate and exposed deep divisions within the Church of England at every level. The proposal to make major financial recompense to reflect the fact that the Church of England benefitted significantly from the Slave Trade has met with a very mixed reaction.

Meanwhile, many smaller parishes with mainly elderly members face declining congregations, a struggle to find Church officers and increasing costs to maintain and repair their buildings, many of which are listed Grade One or Two. Some of these concerns have been voiced by the campaigning group 'Save our Parish' whose emphasis reflects the desire of many local Churchgoers for the retention of clergy and less central expenditure.

The Rectory

Following the latest Quinquennial Inspection, the redecoration of the exterior was carried out over four weeks during June and early July.

The Parish continues to assist with some of household expenditure including contributions toward the cost of electricity and oil.

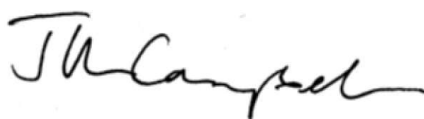
Visits have been made from Church groups from elsewhere.

The Rector's Future Ministry

The Diocese has a rolling programme of Ministerial Development Review. At the time of James Campbell's review in November 2019, the Bishop of Chichester explained his policy that all clergy, including 'House-for-Duty' priests, must retire by the age of 70.

The Bishop visited the Parish for Harvest Festival in September and was invited to lunch at Buckhurst Park after the service. At the end of lunch, he was asked to clarify this policy by the Patron. He explained that he was now prepared to grant a licence for clergy to continue in post if both the PCC and he agreed that this was appropriate.

As things stand, James is willing to continue working in the Parish beyond his 70th birthday on 8th April 2025. This will be discussed at the PCC meeting in July; the Churchwardens will then consult the Patron before writing to the Bishop requesting that he licence James for a further year from 8th April 2025 to 8th April 2026. It is envisaged that this arrangement will be reviewed annually.



James M. Campbell

Financial Statement for the Year 2023

The 2023 PCC Accounts are attached as appendices.

Report by Anne Barker (Hon. Treasurer)

Withyham

This year we have seen an increase in the income from the Parish Giving Scheme and a big increase in the service collections. I would like to thank everyone for their continuing support.

There is also an increase in the Magazine donations and our share of the Fete income. This has enabled us to transfer money from the current account into the General deposit account loss in receipts, which was lowered during Covid and enable us to gain interest. As a result, there is a loss in receipts over payments. This could have been avoided if I had transferred money from the Ottley Trust fund which had be due for work done on the fabric of the church, but it is better to leave it in the deposit account and gain interest as the current account is quite healthy. The investment accounts continue to flourish.

I would like to thank Alison Hunam for her support with the banking of the weekly takings and Bridget Clayton for taking over the management of the Fees Account.

Blackham

We are very grateful to Withyham Parish Council for the grant of £700 to cover the cost of the upkeep of the Church yard, We still rely on fees to keep Blackham solvent and these were lower in 2023.

My thanks go to Chris and Sue Schooling for their hard work throughout the year. The fitting of a smart meter was meant to ease their load, but unfortunately it frequently fails and is not the asset we thought!

Thank you to Charles Lamb for auditing the accounts.

Appendix 1 - St. Michael & All Angels Church, Withyham

1A - Receipts and Payments Accounts

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023				
Receipts and Payments Accounts	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary receipts:				
Parish Giving Scheme	19,401	0	19,401	18,051
Gift Aid Donations	2,478	0	2,478	3,605
Service Collections	7,834	0	7,834	4,793
Other Miscellaneous Donations	0	0	0	2,455
Legacies	7,163	0	7,163	31,476
Grants	60	0	60	60
Gift Aid recovered	5,304	0	5,304	6,202
	<u>42,240</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42,240</u>	<u>66,642</u>
Activities for generating funds:				
Investment income:				
Bank & CCLA Deposit Interest	11,822	0	11,822	2,797
Dividends on CCLA Investment Fur	4,089	24,351	28,440	28,284
Dividends on Rathbone Investmen	0	19,392	19,392	18,026
Church activities:				
PCC Fees	6,310	0	6,310	6,012
Other receipts:				
Magazine/Literature	4,012	0	4,012	3,164
Fete	5,902	0	5,902	4,838
Other Fundraising	1,158	0	1,158	136
Total receipts	<u>75,533</u>	<u>43,743</u>	<u>119,276</u>	<u>129,899</u>
PAYMENTS				
Church activities:				
Diocesan Parish Share	31,800	0	31,800	31,800
Clergy Fees	1,521	0	1,521	1,066
Clergy Expenses	572	0	572	778
Rectory Costs	6,501	0	6,501	6,475
Churchyard Upkeep	7,021	0	7,021	6,718
Church Upkeep	2,257	0	2,257	5,950
Church Utilities	2,850	0	2,850	3,607
Choir & Music	3,754	0	3,754	2,906
Services Upkeep	4,452	0	4,452	445
Magazine/Literature	4,007	0	4,007	3,887
Insurance	3,316	0	3,316	2,935
Administration	3,225	0	3,225	2,839
DBF Fees	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising	221	0	221	311
Miscellaneous	602	0	602	698
Major church repairs & maintenanc	0	0	0	0
Mission giving and donations	4,258	0	4,258	3,200
	<u>76,357</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>76,357</u>	<u>73,615</u>
Total payments	<u>76,357</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>76,357</u>	<u>73,615</u>
Excess of receipts over payments	<u>-824</u>	<u>43,743</u>	<u>42,919</u>	<u>56,284</u>
Transfer	0	0	0	0
Sale of CCLA Accumulation Shares	0	0	0	0
Purchase of CCLA Income Shares	0	0	0	0
(Management Trust Fund)				
Transfer to Blackham Church	678	0	678	563
	<u>-1,502</u>	<u>43,743</u>	<u>42,241</u>	<u>55,721</u>
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January	71,431	196,764	268,195	212,474
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December	<u>69,929</u>	<u>240,507</u>	<u>310,436</u>	<u>268,195</u>

1B – Statement of Assets and Liabilities

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Restricted			
	General	Ottley	Totals	
	Fund	Fund	2022	2022
	£	Fabric	£	£
Monetary assets				
CBF Deposit Fund	48,767	240,507	289,274	225,531
Bank current accounts	21,932	0	21,932	42,664
Less: Income received in advance	-770	0	-770	0
Cash in hand	0	0	0	0
	<u>69,929</u>	<u>240,507</u>	<u>310,436</u>	<u>268,195</u>
Investments at valuation				
CBF Investment Fund - Income shares	149,601	890,849	1,040,450	950,978
Investments with Rathbones	0	584,985	584,985	564,922
CBF Investment Fund - Accumulation shares	0	0	0	0
	<u>149,601</u>	<u>1,475,834</u>	<u>1,625,435</u>	<u>1,515,900</u>
Other Assets at cost				
Due from HMRC Gift Aid	0	0	0	0
Total assets	<u>219,530</u>	<u>1,716,341</u>	<u>1,935,871</u>	<u>1,784,095</u>
Liabilities				
Due for payment in 2023	0	0	0	0
Total liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Approved by the Standing Committee on behalf of the Parochial Church Council and signed by



22nd April 2024

Rev. Canon James Campbell (PCC Chairman)

1C – Notes to the Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WITHYHAM

Year to 31 December 2023

Notes to the accounts

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

2 The investments are shown at mid-market value on 31st December 2023.

3 The movements in the restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Bal c/fwd
Ottley Fund - CBF Deposit	196,764	43,743	0	0	240,507
	<u>196,764</u>	<u>43,743</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>240,507</u>

The Ottley Fund was created from the proceeds of the sale of pictures in 2016.

Other investments are shown at market valuation as at 31 December 2023 on the statement of Assets & Liabilities

The Ottley Trust Investment with the CBF Investment Fund was purchased in October 2013 with £480,000 and amounts to 39,408.87 shares. During the year there no changes to this holding.

The account with Rathbones was opened in October 2013 with a transfer amounting to £450,000

4 No payments were made to PCC members or connected persons.

ID – Independent Examiner's Report

The Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Michael and All Angels, Withyham

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are attached to this report.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of the Church Accounting Regulations and Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") do not apply.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under the Church Accounting Regulations and Section 145 of the Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions of the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this Report

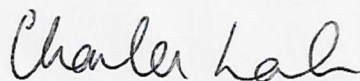
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General directions given by the Charity Commission and to be found in the Church guidance. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matter. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Charles Lamb
Chartered Accountant
3, Blacklands Crescent
Forest Row
East Sussex, RH18 5NN

22 April 2024

Appendix 2 – All Saints Church, Blackham

2A - Receipts and Payments

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts and Payments Account

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Voluntary Receipts				
Planned Giving	300		563	
Collections and other Giving	232		136	
Income Tax Recovered	123		165	
	<u> </u>	655	<u> </u>	864
Other Voluntary Receipts				
Donations	100		0	
Legacies	0		0	
	<u> </u>	100	<u> </u>	0
Receipts from Church Activities				
Fees (Gross)	310		1,154	
	<u> </u>	310	<u> </u>	1,154
Receipts from Investments				
Bank Interest & Dividends	468		132	
	<u> </u>	468	<u> </u>	132
Other Receipts				
Grant	700		500	
	<u> </u>	700	<u> </u>	500
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<u>£2,233</u>		<u>£2,650</u>
Payments				
Church Activities				
Charitable Giving		0		50
Diocesan Parish Contribution		0		0
Church Upkeep		784		0
Church Running Expenses - Utilities		206		206
Insurance		917		809
Clergy Expenses		0		0
Rectory Expenses		0		0
Church Fabric		0		0
Organ & Music		246		0
Churchyard Upkeep		1,157		762
Administration		0		0
		<u>£3,310</u>		<u>£1,827</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		-1,077		823
Bank Current and Deposit Accounts at 1 January		17,397		16,574
Bank Current and Deposit Accounts at 31 December		16,320		17,397

2B – Assets and Liabilities

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

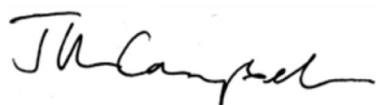
	General Fund £	Fabric Fund £	Totals 2023 £	Totals 2022 £
Monetary Assets				
CBF Deposit Fund	10,656	14,962	25,618	24,494
Bank Current Account	5,664	0	5,664	7,209
	<u>16,320</u>	<u>14,962</u>	<u>31,282</u>	<u>31,703</u>
Investments at Valuation				
Investments	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Other Assets at Cost	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>16,320</u>	<u>14,962</u>	<u>31,282</u>	<u>31,703</u>
Liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Notes

1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts and Payments basis

2 No payments were made to PCC members or connected persons

Approved by the Standing Committee on behalf of the Parochial Church Council and signed by



22nd April 2024

Rev. Canon James Campbell (PCC Chairman)

2C – Independent Examiner’s Report

The Independent examiner’s report to the PCC of All Saints, Blackham

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are attached to this report.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of the Church Accounting Regulations and Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (“the Act”) do not apply.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under the Church Accounting Regulations and Section 145 of the Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions of the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this Report

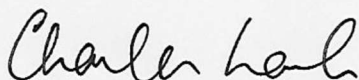
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General directions given by the Charity Commission and to be found in the Church guidance. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matter. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner’s Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Charles Lamb
Chartered Accountant
3, Blacklands Crescent
Forest Row
East Sussex, RH18 5NN

22 April 2024