

Report and Accounts
The Parochial Church Council
Of St Peter, Balsall Common
Year ended 31st December 2022

Registered charity number 1184291

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

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Trustee Report

Aim and purposes

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Balsall Common ("PCC") has the responsibility of promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church and church hall buildings and grounds.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to ensuring that as many residents of the parish as possible are able to worship at the church, and to become part of our church community. The PCC's charitable objects are primarily focused on the advancement of religion, which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit. All regular worship is provided free of charge and is open to all. In addition the PCC's activities include:

- The provision of sacred space for private prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools
- Promoting the whole mission of the Church through provision of activities for parents and babies and young children
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas
- Provision and maintenance of a hall for regular public worship and other church activities, and also as a community facility available to all for recreational activities when not in use by the church

To facilitate our whole mission it is important to maintain the fabric of the church and the hall.

The PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children (under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016). Dr Mark Johnson is appointed Safeguarding Officer.

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Achievements and Performance

Ministry

The ministry team during the year ended 31 December 2022 consisted of the Reverend Peter Thomas, assisted by Moira Johnson, Alison Bennett and Chris Price as readers. Reverend Peter Thomas has retired from ministry, leaving the parish on 9th April 2023. This means that we have entered a period of interregnum as the parish waits for a new incumbent to be appointed.

Worship and Prayer

Services throughout the past year have returned to much as they were in the years before Covid, with the restrictions on meeting now behind us. The PCC has made the decision to continue live streaming the main services and we know that people are accessing them particularly those unable to join us in person due to ill-health. Highlights from the year include Reverend Thomas's 40th anniversary of ministry in the summer of 2022, the late Queen Elizabeth II's platinum Jubilee and then of course the marking of Her Majesty's death. A condolence book was opened, with 18 pages of condolence messages from the community coming into the church. The PCC hosted a farewell service on behalf of the Solihull Deanery for Right Reverend David Urquhart as he took retirement as Bishop of Birmingham.

During the last year it was pleasing to be welcomed back into the Balsall Common Primary School with a revitalized Open the Book team and to be able to once again put on Christmas Through the Keyhole. We had 300 or more children coming into the church for this.

Our three separate teams continue to prepare and produce our non-eucharistic services, SWITCH (Sunday Worship in the Church Hall), and two more informal services held at 11am in church. These are aimed at young families although many older members also enjoy them, and both the young and older take their part in leading some of the prayers, activities, and worship. A developing band provides the music for these services. Café Church on 5th Sundays offers another informal service opportunity and is well received by those who come.

We are also serving the community through the Warm Hub initiative and through providing English conversation classes for Ukrainian guests living locally. A decision has been made to continue the Thursday warm hub beyond the initial period as it is providing a space of welcome for people to come together, chat and socialize.

We must continue praying for our work with the children and their parents and new people.

Throughout 2022 we have continued to offer the ministry of occasional offices, baptisms, weddings, funerals and burial of ashes services, which are significant occasions for many members of the parish and beyond.

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Church Centre

This year we continued to open the church daily, for all who seek a place for quiet contemplation and prayer. The hall is usually used not only for church events but is hired out to a range of community groups, including exercise, drama and activities for the retired, as well as being available for private parties. Letting of the Hall is moving back towards pre-Covid levels, which is pleasing as a service to the local community, but also for funds to maintain and improve the Hall.

Pastoral

We organise several groups who meet regularly to learn more about Christianity, ask questions and express fears and doubts in a safe environment. This year these groups have moved back to meeting in person, which has been a great joy. Each group has a different audience and structure, so that as many as possible can attend one or more. Home communions are also available for the sick and housebound.

Mission and Evangelism

We have a small but active branch of the Mothers' Union at St Peters, who take part in activities such as knitting clothes for premature babies, and blankets and teddies. Through the Mothers' Union we have a strong link with our sister diocese in Malawi and this year we arranged a large donation of clothes, blankets, tools and school necessities via the container that the Diocese organises. A weekly group called Teenies, Tinies and Toddlers meets during the school terms to provide support and company for parents and carers of pre-school children. We also run a monthly tea party, proving a friendly place to meet particularly for older members of our community. We fundraise on a regular basis for The Childrens' Society, including at the annual Christingle service. We have continued to collect food and other essentials for Helping Hands, a local food bank.

We are active on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and we have a church website where people can contact and connect with the church. In addition we have introduced a YouTube channel, where members of the congregation, and others who would not normally attend church, may access recordings of our services, along with activities for families.

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Ecumenical Relationships

We are members of Churches Together in Balsall and Berkswell, joining with other churches in the area for coffee mornings, Lenten breakfasts, and other social activities, as well as fundraising for local and international charities.

Volunteers

The church would be unable to function without the hard work and dedication of a band of volunteers, and the PCC would like to place on record our heartfelt thanks to them all. There are too many to mention by name, but the Churchwardens, Chris Hornsby and Sarah Roth bear a huge responsibility in organising the life of the church, particularly in this period of interregnum.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The current incumbent is ex officio chair of the PCC, and the Churchwardens and Deanery Synod members are ex officio members of the PCC. Other members are elected to the PCC by members of the electoral roll at the Annual General Meeting, and may also be co-opted during the year. Members of the congregation are actively encouraged to register on the electoral roll, and to stand for membership of the PCC.

The PCC are responsible for making all decisions concerning the general running of the church, the raising of funds, and the use of those funds. The PCC met 5 times during the year, and discussed a range of issues including Safeguarding, discussing the Diocese's "People and Places" initiative, and fundraising. The Standing Committee, comprising of the incumbent, Churchwardens, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer also meet outside PCC meetings when there are urgent issues to discuss. There are also a number of sub-groups which meet on a regular basis, such as the Hall Committee, who are granted powers to make decisions on particular areas, and to report back regularly to the main PCC.

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Administrative Information

The church is situated in Holly Lane, Balsall Common, CV7 7EA. It is part of the Diocese of Birmingham, within the Church of England. The church does not have a parish office phone number, but emails can be sent to spcbalsall@outlook.com. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measures 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1184291.

PCC members who have served at any time since 1st January 2021 to the date of this report are:

Ex Officio Members

The Reverend Peter Thomas (resigned 9th April 2023)
Mrs Christine Hornsby (Churchwarden)
Sarah Roth (elected as Churchwarden 20th March 2022)
Mrs Eileen Lamb (Deanery Synod member)

Elected Members

Mrs Alla Pavuk (Honorary Secretary appointed 26th March 2023)
Mrs Christine Lee (Honorary Treasurer)
Dr Margaret Eyre
Mrs Christine Hunnisett
Dr Mark Johnson
Mrs Moira Johnson
Mrs Amy Kershaw
Mr Bryan Marlow
Mrs Susan Clinton (resigned 26th March 2023)
Mrs Rachel Westwood
Mr Robert Farmer
Mr Ted Perkin
Mrs Rosemary Birse (appointed 26th March 2023)
Mrs Margaret Mayhew (appointed 26th March 2023)
Dr Leslie de Chernatony (appointed 26th March 2023)

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the members / trustees of St Peter Balsall Common Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustee and Independent Examiner

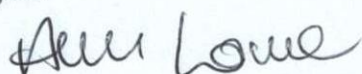
As trustees of the charity the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signed



Alison Lowe

October 2023

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Financial Review

The accounts for the year show a deficit of incoming to outgoing resources for the year of £10,342 as opposed to a deficit of £7,350 in the previous year. This is principally caused by a gradual increase in revenue as the church and hall return to pre-coronavirus pandemic activity levels, offset by increases in exceptional maintenance costs.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary giving, excluding legacies, decreased by £8,367, mainly due to lower charitable donations following the cessation of our Children and Family Mission project. The increase of £7,749 in Income from charitable activities is due to increased levels of hall rental income as the hall returns to pre-coronavirus pandemic activity levels.

Expenditure

Day-to-day running costs are generally under control. There was expenditure of £8,219 on repairs to the exterior of the church and £3,608 on an upgrade to our lighting system to allow the use of energy efficient bulbs.

Reserves Policy

Following our significant refurbishment project in 2013, our reserves policy is to rebuild our financial reserves to cover our commitments, particularly in respect of necessary maintenance of the church building.

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2022

		2022		2021	
	Note:	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	2	66,815	1,357	68,172	76,539
Income from charitable activities	3	18,801	1,061	19,862	12,113
Other trading activities	4	1,493	0	1,493	1,260
Total income and endowments		<u>87,109</u>	<u>2,418</u>	<u>89,527</u>	<u>89,912</u>
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds		192	0	192	0
Cost of generating funds for voluntary income		0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	5	96,904	2,863	99,767	97,262
		<u>97,096</u>	<u>2,863</u>	<u>99,959</u>	<u>97,262</u>
Transfer Unrestricted Funds to Restricted Funds		0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		<u>-9,987</u>	<u>-445</u>	<u>-10,432</u>	<u>-7,350</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward		30,665	3,798	34,463	41,813
Funds carried forward		<u>20,678</u>	<u>3,353</u>	<u>24,031</u>	<u>34,463</u>

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BALANCE SHEET

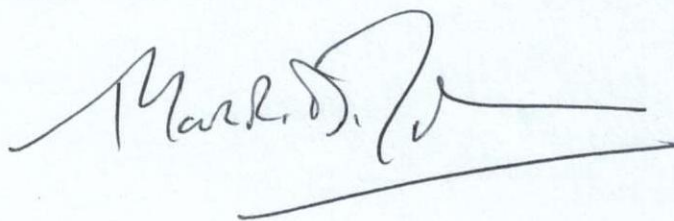
As at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts at HSBC	23,804	34,237
Bank Accounts at CBF	<u>227</u>	<u>226</u>
	24,031	34,463
 Current Liabilities		
Creditors	0	0
 Net Current Assets	<u>24,031</u>	<u>34,463</u>
 Net Assets	<u>24,031</u>	<u>34,463</u>
 Represented by		
Unrestricted Funds	20,678	30,665
Restricted Funds	<u>3,353</u>	<u>3,798</u>
	<u>24,031</u>	<u>34,463</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

And signed on its behalf by: Dr M Johnson

Acting Chairman



The notes on pages 11 to 12 form part of these accounts



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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

1) ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations (2006) together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. The financial statements contain all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

Funds

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific purpose and may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any surplus of income over expenditure must be carried forward to the following year, to be expended on the same object.

Unrestricted funds represent donations or grants which may be used for the PCC's ordinary purposes.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are accounted for when they are received. Tax refunds are accounted for when they are received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when they are received. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure

Donations are accounted for when they are awarded or collected. The Common Fund is accounted for when it is due. All other liabilities are recognised when they are due and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts, in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the incumbent Vicar and the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a special faculty for disposal are inalienable church property, listed in the Church's terrier which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

Equipment used on the Church premises is capitalised if it is over £5,000 and written off over a 5 year period.

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	2022		2021	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
2) Donations and Legacies				
Planned giving: tax efficient	43,191	0	43,191	41,974
Other planned giving	2,569	0	2,569	2,835
Tax recovered from Gift Aid	11,232	0	11,232	12,315
Other giving	0	0	0	0
Grants	1,021	0	1,021	0
Legacy	0	0	0	2,158
Donations and charitable donations	8,802	1,357	10,159	17,257
	<u>66,815</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>68,172</u>	<u>76,539</u>
3) Income from charitable activities				
Lettings	15,655		15,655	9,653
Parish fees	962		962	2,377
Magazine sales	0		0	0
Fundraising	2,184	1,061	3,245	83
	<u>18,801</u>	<u>1,061</u>	<u>19,862</u>	<u>12,113</u>
4) Other Trading activities				
Contribution from solar panels	1,493	0	1,493	1,260
	<u>1,493</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,493</u>	<u>1,260</u>
5) Charitable activities				
Contribution to Common Fund	50,501	0	50,501	49,735
Salaries	6,165	0	6,165	21,479
Clergy and church expenses	3,379	0	3,379	3,740
Mission giving	151	1,357	1,508	1,751
Mission & evangelism	0	0	0	0
Church running costs	18,198	1,506	19,704	9,451
Cost of trading	17,218	0	17,218	9,623
Utilities	1,292	0	1,292	1,483
Hall repair and maintenance	0	0	0	0
Audit fee	0	0	0	0
	<u>96,904</u>	<u>2,863</u>	<u>99,767</u>	<u>97,262</u>
6) Creditors				
Charitable donations	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
7) Funds	At 1st January	At 31 December	Movement	
	2022	2022		
Unrestricted	30,665	20,678		-9,987
Fabric	2,688	1,688		-1,000
Children's and Families	1,110	1,665		555
	<u>34,463</u>	<u>24,031</u>		<u>-10,432</u>