

All Saints, Waldron & St. Bartholomew's, Cross in Hand

Registered Charity no. 1184369

For the year ended 31st December 2023

CONTENTS

Page

1-4	Trustees annual report
5-6	Financial Review – Treasurer's Report
7	Statement of financial receipts and payments
8	Statement of assets and liabilities
9-12	Notes to the accounts
13	Report of the independent examiner
14-	Appendices - reports

Website: www.waldronchurches.org.uk

The Revd George Pitcher – retired 5.11.2023

Incumbent: Now in interregnum

Independent examiner: Mr N Rayment
61 Oaklands, Westham, Pevensey East Sussex, BN24 5AW

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Tunbridge Wells

All Saints, Waldron & St Bartholomew's, Cross in Hand

Trustees Annual Report for 2023

Charities Act Annual Report 2023

1. Reference and administrative information

i) Administration address:-

c/o Brambles, Dern Lane
Waldron, Heathfield, East Sussex
TN21 0PN

ii) Charitable Status of the parish

The parish is a charity, registered with the Charity Commission and our number is 1184369

iii) Name and address of Independent Examiner

Nicholas Rayment
61 Oaklands
Westham, Pevensey
East Sussex
BN24 5AW (01323 763385)

iv) Name & Address of Primary Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
82 Mount Pleasant Road
Tunbridge Wells, Kent
TN1 1RP

2. Structure, governance and management

Administration was the responsibility of the Priest-in-charge; Rev. George Pitcher (non-stipendiary priest) together with the Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council (PCC) following the relevant legislation and the Canon Law of the Church of England, and working under the authority of the Bishops of the Diocese. The Churchwardens are given responsibility for the day to day administration, good order and diary management of the parish. Applications and administration for Baptisms Weddings and Funerals are passed to the Rector from the Pastoral team. The parish is in the diocese of Chichester and the Episcopal Area of Lewes and Hastings. Since November 2023, and following the retirement of Rev. Pitcher, the churchwardens have been appointed as sequestrators and are responsible for the parish under the guidance of the Archdeacon of Hastings.

i) How the PCC is constituted

The PCC and Churchwardens are elected under the terms of the Church Representation Rules 2006 (Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended by Statutory Instrument 2004 No 1889.)

The Priest-in-charge served under licence from the Bishop; Churchwardens and Deanery and Diocesan Synod delegates are the subject of separate elections to their posts. All of these then serve on the PCC *ex officio*. Churchwardens are elected annually, and lay members of the Deanery Synod for a three year term. The appropriate number of members of the church are also elected for a three year term with 1/3 standing down each year, but being eligible for re-election. The electorate comprises those persons on the Electoral Roll; all church members are encouraged to register and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

ii) List of members in the year 2023

Ex-officio members;-

Rev. George Pitcher	(Priest –in -charge and Chairman)(Retired 5.11.2023)
Mrs Sarah Mackenzie	(Churchwarden)
Mr Ian Dixon	(Churchwarden) and (Treasurer)
Mr Tim Williams	(Deanery Synod) (see below as well)
Mrs Mary Everett	(Deanery Synod) (see below as well)

Elected members;-

Mrs Penelope Mayfield (Secretary)
 Mrs Mary Everett
 Mrs Carolyn Stanbridge
 Mr Timothy Hough (See Reader, also)
 Mr Richard Maylam (See Reader, also)
 Mr Martin Tunstall
 Mr Roger Clark (Safeguarding)
 Mr Tim Williams
 Mr David Mattinson
 Mr Andy Delves (See Reader, also)
 Mr Peter Venn

Appointed Members;

Mr Timothy Hough (Reader)
 Mr Richard Maylam (Reader)(now resigned)
 Mr Andy Delves (Reader)

iii) Committees of the PCC

The PCC's Standing Committee, which is the only committee required by law, has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any directions given by the Council. This consists of the Priest-in-charge, the Churchwardens, the Secretary, the Treasurer and one member from the PCC. A finance sub-committee monitors the income and expenditure of the PCC. The PCC also oversees the stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Other groups who operate under the authority and directions of the PCC have their activities summarised in the appendices to this document.

iv) Induction and training of PCC Members

All members of the PCC have their duties and responsibilities explained to them including their duty of care and the implications of the Charities Act 2006 and SORP 2005. This also includes Safeguarding issues. They are regularly updated on changes to rules, regulations and law.

3. Objectives and activities**i) Primary Objective**

The primary objective of the Parish of Waldron is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

4. Achievements and performance**i) Church attendance and electoral roll totals**

There are currently 116 entries on the Church Electoral Roll of which 40 relate to people not currently residing within the parish (March 2023 revision) (116 in March 2022).

The average Sunday attendance was 66 (57 in 2022)

n.b. calculated by adding all of the Sunday only worshippers EXCEPT Easter Sunday and dividing by 51
 225 came to Church over the Christmas Period, plus 29 children. (67 in 2022)

170 attended the Easter Sunday Services

ii) PCC Meetings

The PCC met on 7 occasions in 2023 –, 17th February, 1st May, 5th June, 28th July, 8th September, 24th October and 20th November. Attendance as recorded in the minutes.

iii) **Review of Activities**

During the course of the year, the PCC :-

Continued to build on the successful integration of the congregations of the two churches with newer members readily accepting the use of both churches as a regular occurrence, which is evidence of good progress in this area. For those unable to attend church services, strenuous efforts are made to maintain contact via telephone calling and other technical options. Home communion was offered on a number of occasions.

We were delighted to have 10 weddings in our churches during the year along with 6 Baptisms. Additionally, 7 Funerals took place.

Once again, we were delighted to host the very successful school leavers service at St Bartholomew's Church. We also welcomed local school children to an Easter event in St Bartholomew's church.

We continue to see good use being made of our Alleluia Room, with a regular twice weekly day centre for the elderly now part of the programme. We continue to encourage use of the facility by the local community and we have welcomed a number of other groups for their activities, something we look to build on. On a number of occasions, we were delighted to offer the facility to our Church of England school.. We were also delighted once again, to welcome the Haymakers Nursery to All Saints when they presented their nativity play.

The PCC approved the creation of a further garden area near the Alleluia Room which could be enjoyed by passers by and especially those who visited the graves in the adjacent churchyard. We are grateful to volunteers for maintaining the garden areas.

We continue to maintain and develop an active working relationship with the local Cof E school where we have representation on the Board of Governors and our Priest in Charge made regular visits to join in the collective worship. We have continued to be represented at collective worship following his retirement. Safeguarding issues are covered at each PCC meeting and we are pleased to report that there have been no instances that required reporting.

iv) **Church Groups – *see separate reports in the appendix***

Cross in Hand Church of England Primary School – *appendix 1*

Dallington Deanery Synod – *appendix 2*

Churches Together in Heathfield & District – *appendix 3*

The Choir - *see Music report appendix 4*

Parish Prayer Group – *appendix 5*

Pastoral & Fellowship – *appendix 6*

Friends of Waldron Churches – *appendix 7*

Freewill Offering - *appendix 8*

Family Support Work – *appendix 9*

Bell Ringers – *appendix 10*

Parish Pealers – *appendix 11*

“Lost & Found” – *appendix 12*

Connected Charity see appendix 13 for a report on Waldron 800 Trust

5. Rector's Review 2023

As previously stated, our Rector, Rev. George Pitcher, retired on 5th November 2023. Consequently, on this occasion, there are no comments in this section. However, the report includes many references to the activities within the Parish during the year and the ongoing health of the Parish generally.

6. Churchwardens' Report – 2023

2023 was a year of further recovery following the effects of the Covid pandemic as we saw church attendance returning to the pre-Covid levels and welcomed new members to our congregation. However, the announcement by our Rector that he would be retiring in November created quite a challenge for the Parish as we countenanced a future without a priest.

Having said that, we were greatly encouraged by the support of the broader congregation and also, that of a number of retired priests who offered assistance as the year drew to an end.

This meant that we were able to provide our usual pattern of services each Sunday and, indeed, we have now settled into a regular programme whereby the Eucharist is offered on three of the four Sundays each month with a Morning Praise on the fourth. We also provide a Holy Communion (bcp) service at 0800 every Sunday.

With the assistance of a retired priest, we have also been able to offer a monthly communion service at the local Holy Cross care home

On a secular level, the Parish was much involved in celebrating the King's coronation during the year with a street party in Waldron village centre attended by virtually the whole village population.

We once again, organised a number of coffee mornings, some with entertainment, as part of our fund raising activities although they also provide a wonderful opportunity for people to come together socially. In addition, we have established a regular mid week coffee morning for anyone who cares to drop in and these are growing in popularity.

The Alleluia Room provides much needed 21st century facilities and, importantly, a social area for both the congregation and other community groups. Usage continued to increase throughout the year as we reached out to the wider community and our school. Our plans to install toilet facilities at All Saints started to come together with the appointment of an architect and we look to see this come to fruition during 2024..

Our churches could not function without the support of many volunteers and we extend our thanks to everyone who contributes in so many different ways. It is impossible to name them all, but we are extremely grateful to Rev. Desmond Burton, Rev. Simon Hobbs and Rev. Lucy Murdoch for their ongoing support. We also thank Peter Lawrence for his ongoing work in maintaining the choir and playing the organ for us, well supported by David Oakenfold. In fact, David has been contributing a growing amount of time to us which is a relief to Peter.. Additionally, we should mention the considerable contribution to our church life from Brian Tompsett, the Tower Captain, who supports us in very many ways usually not seen by most of us.

We look forward with optimism as we enter a time of interregnum, confident in the great support we have already received and anticipate in 2024. We wait to see what the year brings forth!

Sarah Mackenzie and Ian Dixon

4.

7. Financial review and future plans

We entered 2023 in a healthy position financially and were able to conclude the payments for the Alleluia Room which came in exactly on budget.,

We remain extremely grateful to all those who make regular contributions to our funds through the Parish Giving scheme. Annual income from this source, coupled with the Gift Aid recovery, covers the annual contribution which we make to the Diocese. It should be mentioned that we have, once again, offered to increase that contribution over and above what was requested in order to support those parishes who would be struggling.

Having said that, we then needed to cover all of the related costs of running the parish through other means and significant donations along with fees and cash collections served us well. Re-introducing regular coffee mornings also helped with income as did the fact that we now receive all of the distributable income from the Waldron 800 Trust. Higher interest rate also boosted interest earned on our deposit account. Notably, contributions from Friends of Waldron Churches and the Clock Benefaction Fund covered some essential repair work at our churches.

It was pleasing to see that, in the main, our estimates of expenditure were broadly correct. However, the increasing cost of oil and greater use of the Alleluia Room contributed to much higher energy costs than we had anticipated and this will continue to be a challenge. We have made arrangements for a further three year fixed cost for gas and electricity to run from May 2024 when the current agreement ends. Additionally, we started to make more use of a range of organists who all needed to be paid an honorarium for their occasional services; this increased our music expense and will do so again in 2024.

The year end situation showed a modest shortfall of around £1,300 although this was after a significant expense on the plans for new toilet facilities at All Saints. This will be the subject of major fund raising in 2024 as we seek to bring these plans to reality. Overall, due to the uplift in funds held by FOWC, there was an excess of income over outgoings of some £9,000 or so.

Overall assets were valued at £149,000 which includes the Friends of Waldron Churches balances of some £47,000 and, also items that we can not access for various reasons. Our readily available assets were around £57,000.

We remain mindful of the fact that virtually all of the work of our parish is done voluntarily; our only personal payments are honoraria for organists.

Ian Dixon – Hon. Treasurer

Annual Financial Report

Of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

All Saints, Waldron

& St Bartholomew's, Cross in Hand

Registered Charity no. 1184369

For the year ended 31st December 2023

CONTENTS

Page

7	Statement of financial receipts and payments
8	Statement of assets and liabilities
9-12	Notes to the accounts
13	Report of the independent examiner

Waldron P.C.C.

Summary of Financial Receipts and Payments

	<i>Unrestricted</i>				TOTAL	<i>Total</i>	Note s
	Gener al	Designat ed	Restrict ed	Endow ed	All funds	<i>All Funds</i>	
	Fund	Funds	Funds	Funds	2023	2022	
Income & Endowment from;							
Donations and Legacies	55,831	1,500			57,331	69,471	
Fees	3,731				3,731	2,234	
Other trading activities							
Investments	1,236				1,236	116	
Other receipts/FOWC	1,440		10,880		12,320	10,390	
Total received	62,238	1,500	10,880	0	74,618	82,211	
Expenditure on;							
Cost of raising funds							
Charitable costs	55,357	2,568			57,925	67,708	1
Trading costs							
Other payments	5,550	1,500			7,050	28,996	
Total Paid	60,907	4,068	0		64,975	96,704	
Reconciliation of funds							
Net Income(or net expenditure)	1,331	-2,568	10,880	0	9,643	-14,493	
Transfers between funds/ movement in investments	170			-846	-676	-1,134	3
Net movement in funds	1,501	-2,568	10,880	-846	8,967	-15,627	
Bank account at 1 January	55,666	8,050	48,505	27,884	140,105	155,732	
Bank accounts at 31 December	57,167	5,482	59,384	27,039	149,072	140,105	2

Note 1; Designated payments relate to heating and organ repairs

Note 2; Endowed funds relate to Parish Silver and Clock Fund. Restricted funds are

Waldron P.C.C.

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

	FOWC/ Heating/ Organ funds and stained glass window restricted				Total Fund s	Total All Funds	Note s
Nore 3; (Endmnt) This was a drawing from the clock fund held at the Diocese/ net change	Gener al	Designat ed	Restrict ed	Endow ed			
N.B. The general fund includes M&G Investments/ Lloyds bank Deposit Fund					2023	2022	
Assets							
	12480				12480	11149	
Bank Current account (Lloyds)					0	9	
Bank account - Organ Fund - NatWest		2750			2750	3750	
Bank account- Heating Fund - Natwest		2732			2732	4300	
CBF Deposit Fund	39860				39860	39860	
	52340				57822	59059	
PCC owned bank balance		5482	0		2	9	
Friends of Waldron Churches			47384		47384	36505	
Total bank and deposit accounts	52340	5482	47384		105206	95564	
Wedding fees not yet received							
Local authority grants for churchyard							
Gift Aid recoverable							
Debtors							
M&G Charifund	4827				4827	4657	
Investments at market value	4827				4827	4657	
				24000	24000	24000	
Parish Silver at Chichester				0	0		
Stained Glass Window			12000		12000	12000	
Clock Benefaction Fund				3039	3039	3884	
				27039	39039		
Investment assets at cost			12000	9	9	39884	
Total assets	57167	5482	59384	27039	149072	140105	
Gas - credit balance					-114		
Liabilities							
Electricity/gas used since last billed					45	400	
(est.)							
Loo hire					110		
Total liabilities					41	400	
Assets less liabilities					149031		

The Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2023 including the notes following,
 was approved by the PCC and signed by Sarah Mackenzie, PCC
 Deputy Chairman

.....
 ..

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

3 Analysis of total received

	Unrestricted		Restric ted Fund/s	Endow ed Fund/s	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022	Not es
	Gene ral Fund	Designa ted Funds					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Planned giving (excl. tax refunds)	24,801	-	-	-	24,801	25,818	
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	1,200	-	-	-	1,200	1,200	
Loose cash collections	6,343	-	-	-	6,343	5,683	
GP Retirement	1,865	-	-	-	1,865		1
Gift Aid recovered	7,370	-	-	-	7,370	9,685	
Donations	6,816	-	-	-	6,816	9,177	
Insurance claim					-	4,461	
FOWC	1,440				1,440	100	
FOWC - uplift in funds held					10,880	10,490	
Events income	1,484				1,484	9,970	2
Grants	4,418	-	-	-	4,418	3,235	3
Donations and legacies	55,737	-	-	-	66,617	79,819	
Fees for weddings & funerals	3,731	-	-	-	3,731	2,234	
Charitable activities	3,731	-	-	-	3,731	2,234	
Proceeds of events with trading/sales		-	-	-	-		
Concert income		-	-	-	-		
Small items sales (coffee/candles/Bible study notes etc)		-	-	-	-		
Room/hall hiring fees		-	-	-	-		
Magazine/bookstall income		-	-	-	-		
Other trading activities	0	-	-	-	-	-	
Bank & CBF deposit interest	1,533			-	1,533	143	
Clock Benfaction Fund	1,237			-	1,237	116	
Letting of investment property	0	-	-	-	-		
Investments	2,770	-	-	-	2,770	259	

Donation to AS building fund	0	1,500			1,500	
Total received on all funds	62,238	1,500	-	-	74,618	<i>82,312</i>

4

Note 1 - Retirement collection for G Pitcher (see expenditure as well)

Note 2 - Relates to Coffee mornings

Note 3 - Relates to payments from Waldron 800 Trust

Note 4 - Donation towards toilet installation costs

9.

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

Analysis of total paid:

	Unrestricted		Restrict ed	Endo wed	Total All Fund s	Total All Fund s	Note s
	Gener al	Design ated					
	Fund	Funds	Fund/s	Fund/ s	2023	2022	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Cost of fundraising activities/events		-	-	-	-	-	
Other appeals expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable grants and donations		-	-	-	-	-	
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	31,000.00	-	-	-	31,000	29,000	
Salaries and honoraria incl NI		-	-	-	-	-	
Clergy and other people's expenses	2,418.00	-	-	-	2,418	2,496	
Mission & evangelism costs	1,672.00	-	-	-	1,672	4,266	
Music costs	1,988.00				1,988	1,516	
Jubilee expenses					-	10,045	
GP Retirement Fund	1,183.00				1,183		1
Printing & photocopying	493.00	-	-	-	493	688	
Water/gas/electricity /oil	5,671.00	2,568	-	-	8,239	4,027	2
Other regular church running costs	1,489.00	-	-	-	1,489	1,457	
Church maintenance & redecoration	3,987.00	-	-	-	3,987	9,082	
Organ	1,398.00	-	-	-	1,398	1,230	
New building work	5,550.00	1,500	-	-	7,050	28,996	3
FOWC - Interest							
Insurance	4,058.00	-	-	-	4,058	3,94	

Examiner's and other financial fees	0 0.00	-	-	-	-	3 -
Charitable costs	60,907.00	4,068	-	-	64,975	96,746
Cost of events with trading/sales		-	-	-	-	
Costs of concerts		-	-	-	-	
Hall maintenance & redecoration		-	-	-	-	
Church Hall utilities						
Church hall running costs (other)						
Magazine/bookstall costs		-	-	-	-	
Other trading costs		-	-	-	-	
Trading costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other payments					-	
Total paid on all funds	60,907	4,068	-	-	64,975	96,746

Note 1; Purchases re retirement gifts to Rev G Pitcher (balance cleared in 1/2024)

Note 2; Significant increase in oil costs and utilities generally

Note 3; Relates to costs incurred in planned new toilet installation at AS

10.

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

Staff costs

Wages, salaries and honoraria
Employer National Insurance
Employer pension contributions

2023	<u>2022</u>
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

11.

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

Statement of funds

	Balance s b/fwd 01-Jan- 22	Incom e	Expendit ure	Transfer s, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Clock Benefaction Fund	3,884		-	(846)	3,038
Parish Silver at Chichester	24,000		-		24,000
Total of all endowed funds	27,884	-	-	(846)	27,038
St Bart's Building Fund	-		-	-	-
All Saints Heating Fund	4,300		(1,568)	-	2,732
Friends of Waldron Churches	36,505	10,880	-	-	47,385
Stained Glass window	12,000		-	-	12,000
Total of all restricted funds	52,805	10,880	(1,568)	-	62,117
General fund	55,676	63,738	(62,407)		57,007
Change in investments	(10)			170	160
Designated organ fund	3,750	-	(1,000)		2,750

Total of all unrestricted funds	59,416	63,738	(63,407)	170	59,917
Total funds	£140,105	£74,618	£(64,975)	£(676)	£149,072

12.

Independent examiner's report

To the PCC of the Parish of All Saints, Waldron

(All Saints Church Waldron, St Bartholomew's Church, Cross in Hand)

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of All Saints Church, Waldron and St Bartholomew's Church, Cross in Hand on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. 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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Examiner's signature *N.R. Rayment*

Examiner's name *N R Rayment*

Date 12th March 2024

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

Examiner's address 61 Oaklands, Westham, Pevensey, East Sussex. BN24 5AW