



Elusen/Charity 1185028

Adroddiad Blynydol a Datganiadau Ariannol
Annual Report and Financial Statement

Ar gyfer y flwyddyn yn diweddaru 31 Rhagfyr 2023
For the year ending 31 December 2023

29 Hydref 2024 / 29 October 2024



Cynnwys/ Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| Structure, governance and management | 3 |
| Aims and purposes | 4 |
| Objectives and activities | 4 |
| Achievements and performance | 5 |
| Buildings and churchyards | 9 |
| Administrative information | 12 |
| Finance | 13 |
| Annex A - Independent Examiner's Report and Financial statements | 16 17 |
| Annex B - Risk assessment | 20 |
| Annex C - Bags of Love Fund | 21 |

Structure, governance and management

Structure

The Bro Celynnin Ministry Area is one of nine Ministry Areas of the Bangor Synod and one of 27 that comprise the Diocese of Bangor in the Church in Wales (CiW). Bro Celynnin was formed in 2016 by uniting four parishes in the Conwy County Borough in the area comprising Conwy town and the north-western part of the Conwy Valley, west of Afon Conwy and extending in the south to Tal y Bont and Llanbedr y Cennin.

The name commemorates St. Celynnin, a son of the legendary prince Helig ap Glanawg and brother of Rhychwyn (of Llanrhychwyn) and Peris (of Llanberis). A holy well at Hen Eglwys Llangelynnin, in the Carneddau mountains is believed to be where Celynnin preached and baptised in the 6th Century.

The Ministry Area maintains and enjoys the use of five outstanding medieval churches (four Grade I listed and the other Grade II*): St Mary's and All Saints' Conwy; St Benedict's, Gyffin; St Mary's, Caerhun; and St Peter's, Llanbedr y Cennin, all of which hold weekly services, and the Llangelynnin Old Church, Henryd, where monthly services are held from Easter to October. Other property managed by Bro Celynnin are the Church Hall, Conwy, and the graveyards of two former churches: St Agnes', Conwy (demolished ca. 1972) and the Llangelynnin New Church, Llangelynnin, Rowen (deconsecrated ca. 1987).

To complement our gathered congregations, Bro Celynnin is committed to Pioneer Ministry; our initiative, *Worship in the Wild*, contemplative walking in the North Wales landscape, launched in 2020, has continued to flourish and grow.

The Ministry Area Council

Bro Celynnin is administered by a Ministry Area Council (MAC), a parochial church council governed by the Constitution and Canons of the Church in Wales. The members of the MAC are the Trustees of the Charity. With the incumbent, the MAC is responsible for the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in its Ministry Area. The MAC is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the CiW, which provides that before assuming office, every member must sign a declaration that he or she will be bound by the Constitution. Membership of the MAC is defined in the CiW Constitution and comprises ex-officio and appointed members, and members elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting (AVM) by those of the congregation on the Electoral Roll of the Parish. All persons over the age of 18 who attend services and are members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and seek election to the MAC. The MAC met six times in 2023.

At the end of 2023, there were 129 persons on the Electoral Roll.

In addition to the two Ministry Area Church Wardens each congregation nominates local (sub) wardens, many of whom are also members of the MAC.

Since 13 August 2023, the MA has been in vacancy, following the preferment of the Rev David Parry as Archdeacon of Bangor.

The MAC has been greatly supported by our new part-time Parish Administrator, Mrs Nicola Davies-Nolan, appointed in June 2023.

Aims and purposes

The clergy and Trustees of Bro Celynnin are responsible for the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in its Ministry Area, and for the operation and maintenance of its five churches and associated churchyards, two separate graveyards and the Church Hall, Conwy.

Objectives and activities

Bro Celynnin is focused on providing public benefit as a charity, through churches rooted in the communities they have served for many centuries, by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers;
- promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Churches in the Parish of Bro Celynnin to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole;
- encouraging wider participation in its activities from all sectors of the community;
- supporting the work of two Church in Wales Primary Schools and providing religious instruction as requested;
- maintaining its five medieval church buildings, a church hall and seven graveyards.

Bro Celynnin is resilient and creative in fulfilling its mission, maintains a diverse programme of traditional and contemporary worship, and seeks new community partnerships and innovative approaches to outreach. We seek to offer worship and participatory events that appeal to all sectors of the community.

The activities and expenses of Bro Celynnin, notably the parish share and maintenance of buildings, are financed by donations from members of the congregations and from visitors, investment income, legacies and occasional grants, for all of which we are most grateful.

Achievements and Performance

Worship, mission and fellowship

Parochial worship

Throughout 2023, weekly services were held on Sunday mornings at St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy; St Mary's, Caerhun; and St Peter's, Llanbedr-y-Cennin, and on Wednesday mornings at St Benedict's, Gyffin. Choral Evensong was offered on eight Sundays at St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy, featuring the Ministry Area's choir, Cantorion Celynnin. Numerous other services were held on festival days, Civic Sunday in Conwy, Armistice Day, Remembrance Sunday, for local schools, and many baptisms, marriages and funerals.

Attendances at services in all churches grew slightly in 2023. Average attendances at regular weekly morning services on non-festival days in 2023 were:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy | 45 (2022: 43) |
| St Benedict's, Gyffin | 21 (2022: 19) |
| St Mary's, Caerhun | 18 (2022: 17) |
| St Peter's, Llanbedr y Cennin | 12 (2022: 11) |

Total recorded attendances, at regular services, festival, schools services, other special services, baptisms, marriages and funerals were:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy | 6,562 (2022: 5,712) |
| St Benedict's, Gyffin | 1,426 (2022: 1,383) |
| St Mary's, Caerhun | 1,277 (2022: 1,466) |
| St Peter's, Llanbedr y Cennin | 638 (2022: 744) |

Monthly 'Celtic Praise' services were held at St Benedict's until Easter and from October, and at the Llangelynnin Old Church from Easter to October. This form of open, bilingual, and reflective worship in a Celtic style has been well supported, led by an acoustic group of musicians. Llangelynnin's hill-top remoteness and pilgrimage appeal, combined with its ancient roots as a place of worship draws people from far and wide, from different denominations and those searching faith; Celtic Praise attendance averaged 41 (2022: 44) at St Benedict's and 38 (2022: 37) at Llangelynnin.

Choral Evensong, led by Cantorion Celynnin, was offered on seven Sundays in Conwy, attracting an average attendance of 50. In addition, 237 attended the Evensong that opened the Classical Music Festival and 320 came to the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

We welcomed the Prayer Book Society (North Wales Branch), for their mid-summer and Christmas services, at Caerhun and Llanbedr respectively.

Worship in the Wild has continued to attract a new and active congregation. The offer of a monthly contemplative walk began in 2020, responding to the value many were placing on walking with others through times of isolation and restriction. Since then, a walk has never been repeated, such is the abundant choice offered by an area of outstanding beauty and

variety. Organised Lowland Leader training was provided for several group leaders, generously financed by Community and Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC).

During the year the house groups were re-organised into 'Life Groups', and provide regular fora for guided discussion, contemplation and bible study.

The MAC and congregations are deeply grateful to several clergy who willingly give their time to officiate at offices and services.

Initiatives begun during the pandemic continued, notably communications and worship online, including weekly zoom meetings for prayer and contemplation, and weekly broadcasts on YouTube, which have typically attracted between 200 and over 400 views.

Diocesan and external activities

Bro Celynnin plays a full part in the life of the Anglican Diocese of Bangor, including participation in Synod meetings and through pastoral support. We have shared the skills that we have gained in Pioneer Ministry and evangelism with other local churches and continued to work closely with a neighbouring Methodist congregation in provision for children and families.

We have sought to be generous, open-hearted and outward-looking in all our relationships and use of our resources, in order to maximise their charitable benefit.

Pastoral leadership

In August 2023, the Rev David Parry relinquished his position as Vicar and Ministry Area Leader, on his preferment as Archdeacon of Bangor. The MAC and congregations have felt the loss of his inspiring parochial leadership, but have continued to enjoy and appreciate his support and advice, as our new Archdeacon.

During 2023, the Rev David Parry continued to serve as a Trustee of Bangor Diocesan Trust and the Diocesan Board of Finance. The Rev Eryl Parry continued to serve periodically as a Chaplain for the Bardsey Island Trust, and served as Pioneer Priest in this and adjacent Ministry Areas. She has continued to strengthen the volunteer visitor team and works actively with Conwy County Borough Council in promoting spiritual and cultural activity locally.

Pastoral care, support and charitable activity

Pastoral support is offered to vulnerable adults and in response to other needs through visiting, groups, special events and courses. Weekly and seasonal Services are carefully planned to be accessible and relevant, with care taken over the quality of welcome, worship and teaching. An example of this is funding a professional British Sign Language interpreter so that Deaf people can be fully included.

Bereavement counselling was re-organised during the year, and training provided to nominated individuals from each church, by visiting clergy.

Chaplaincy is provided to the Town Council and Royal British Legion, and for a full programme of Civic Events. Foundation Governors are appointed to the two Church Schools in the Ministry Area; the Rev David Parry continued as chair of one of the Governing Bodies.

Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms are an area of excellence, with pastoral follow-up. We provide chaplaincy and fundraising support to a local children's hospice.

Bro Celynnin initiative 'Bags of Love', which provides monthly food boxes to 90-100 families in need, continued to grow in 2023. The project operates with many volunteers, from our congregations and communities, and has been generously financed by parishioners and grants from the Conwy Town Council, Conwy County Borough Council, local companies and the National Lottery Community Fund. Their support is gratefully welcomed and acknowledged.

Frequent charitable fund-raising events were held throughout the Ministry Area during year. Charities supported include Christian Aid, Fairtrade, Macmillan and St David's Hospice.

The Vicar and parishioners have continued to support the two church schools, through parochial visits and service through the *Open the Book* programme. St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy was widely used for school services, concerts, and events such as the Christmas Tree Festival in aid of St David's Hospice.

Social and cultural

St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy has an active group of volunteers to welcome and guide the many summer visitors who, with concert attendances over the year, were estimated at nearly 20,000. St Benedict's, St Mary's Caerhun and St Peter's are open every day between Easter and October. All the churches participated in Cadw's Open Doors programme in September.

The Conwy Church Hall continued to be well used, both for church gatherings and community events. Renovation and development of its facilities to enable wider use by the community is anticipated in 2024.

Music

The two choirs launched in 2022 continued to grow in numbers and confidence, 'Canu Conwy' for 8-12-year-olds and 'Cantorion Celynnin' for monthly Choral Evensong and special services in St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy. Cantorion Celynnin was invited to lead Choral Evensong at Bangor Cathedral in August.

Cantorion Celynnin draws members from the churches of Bro Celynnin, and attracts in singers from a wider area, some with church affiliations and some without. About 45 singers are involved, with generally about 30 singers at each event. The choir grew in

confidence over the year and performed a growing repertoire of music, including evening services by Herbert Brewer, Basil Harwood, Charles Wood, C V Stanford (in B \flat and C), Thomas Tertius Noble and Orlando Gibbons. Anthems have included works by S. S. Wesley, Thomas Attwood, Charles Wood, Ernest Bullock, Johannes Eccard, Malcolm Archer, and Gabriel Faure.

At the well-supported Service of Nine Lessons and Carols the choir numbered nearly 50, and included several ex-choristers home for Christmas. The Archbishop of Wales, the Most Rev Andrew John, led the service, which attracted a capacity congregation. As usual, the choir led the 'Carols round the Trees' event organised as part of the St David's Hospice Christmas Tree Festival.

The choir toured locally in 2023, singing evensong at Bangor Cathedral, and at Betws y Coed and Llanelian Churches.

We greatly appreciate the support from visiting organists who have played for us this year: Charles Jones, Graham Eccles and particularly Martin Brown from Bangor Cathedral.

Canu Conwy, the Junior Choir, has continued to meet, and contributes to events, but new members are slow to come forward, due to other family, school and social demands

Many choirs and organisations sought to use St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy for their concerts. These included groups from the Guildhall School of Music, the Welsh Choir of North America, the Monteverdi Singers, Bangor University Chamber Choir, The Telling, and Conwy Town Orchestra.

The Conwy Classical Music Festival once again proved to be highly popular with attendances over the week of over 3,000. The whole gamut of classical music, both instrumental and vocal, was on display and featured performers from North Wales, as well as leading musicians from further afield. Highlights of the week included concerts and recitals by local pianist Tina Mason-Scheuermann, Zoe Beyers (Leader of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra), the Choir of King's College, London, the Chelys Consort of Viols, and many soloists.

Communications

The Ministry Area website caruconwy.com continued to develop and widen in scope during 2023. The site carries extensive details about current activities in the ministry area and diocese, reflections and short weekly devotional talks.

Our weekly email mailing list, our presence on Facebook and Twitter, and our YouTube channel all carried regular messaging.

For those not easily connecting to the internet a newsletter with devotional material, service times and news continued to be circulated monthly.

Buildings and churchyards

Properties of the Ministry Area

Bro Celynnin cares for the following properties

- St Mary's and All Saints, Conwy:
 - Grade 1 listed church and churchyard in the centre of Conwy
 - Church Hall on Rose Hill Street, Conwy
 - St Agnes' Road graveyard.
- St Benedict's, Gyffin, Conwy:
 - Grade 1 listed church and churchyard on the outskirts of Conwy.
- St Celynnin, Llangelynnin:
 - Grade 1 listed church and churchyard (the Llangelynnin Old Church)
 - Graveyard of the deconsecrated Llangelynnin New Church, Rowen.
- St Mary's, Caerhun:
 - Grade 1 listed church and churchyard south of Ty'n-y-groes.
- St Peter's, Llanbedr y Cennin:
 - Grade 2* listed church and churchyard.

The MAC's policy remains that these churches, which are all in good general order, will continue to contribute to their communities for the foreseeable future and have the potential to widen their appeal and to grow their congregations. All the churches are buildings of national importance.

The Property Development Plan to frame the maintenance of these properties, prepared in 2019 according to Diocesan guidelines, will be updated after the next 5-year 'Ezra' report, to be published in 2024.

All the work identified as 'Category A - Urgent' of the last Ezra report has been completed and many tasks identified in the 'Category B – within 5 years'. Tasks in 'Category C - 5 to 15 years) have been undertaken where it was convenient to do so with Category A and B tasks.

Donald Insall Associates completed plans for selective and sensitive reordering of St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy, St Benedict's and St Mary's, Caerhun and this design work, and the associated faculty application process.

St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy

- The clock room and upper part of the tower interior were cleaned, and new window grills inserted to prevent bird infestation.
- A re-ordering project was included in the scope of a Diocesan application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for financing to restore and reorder three major Grade 1 churches of the Diocese (the 'Stones Shout Out' project), but this failed to receive funding. Preparations for an independently managed project for St Mary's began in 2023, focusing on maintenance of the tower.

St Benedict's, Gyffin

- Re-ordering plans for St Benedict's, to include introduction of a toilet, kitchenette, mains drainage and moderate re-ordering were subject to further consultation and modification during the year.

Llangelynnin Old Church

- Despite Ezra-recommended repairs to the two buttresses, the interior continues to suffer from damp, which has affected the interior decoration. Faculty 2020-005990 for external roof repairs and re-pointing to walls, consolidation of existing earth floor, repair of internal lime plaster and redecoration of some windows was approved in 2021, but so far only the external roof repairs have been addressed.
- To address the damp, Faculty 2023-009540 for archaeological excavation to identify the nature of any current drainage, was approved in 2023 and this work will start in 2024.

St Mary's, Caerhun

- Re-ordering plans for St Mary's Caerhun, which were to include moderate reordering of the chancel, north transept and west entrance, were subject to further consultation, which was continuing at the year-end.

St Peter's, Llanbedr y Cennin

- Maintenance has been limited to occasional electrical work and checks.
- Work on the roof and ceiling torching was scheduled for January 2024.

Conwy Church Hall

- A planning application to Conwy County Borough Council for the modification and development of the derelict playground behind the Church Hall, for the benefit of church and community, prepared by the Diocesan Llan Project, was not approved. The scope of work and approach is being reconsidered. (The Llan Project is a Church in Wales initiative to promote church growth and evangelism, through facilitating new opportunities for communities and individuals to engage with the church).
- In September 2023, the MAC applied for a substantial grant for renovation of the Church Hall from the Conwy Community Regeneration Key Fund, the local component of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), and the result of his application was still awaited at year-end.

Churchyards

The historic parish churchyard funds have now run out, reflecting the high costs of recent maintenance and low current income from interments, so maintenance costs are largely financed from unrestricted reserves. Very welcome annual grants from the Conwy Town Council for the three Conwy churchyards, are gratefully acknowledged. In addition, a very generous private donation was received for tree maintenance at St Agnes cemetery, which was greatly appreciated.

St Mary's and All Saints', Conwy

A section of the north wall has collapsed or been demolished and negotiations regarding repairs, which are subject to faculty, are in hand. The churchyard is maintained by a small group of volunteers. Most of the pathways through the churchyard have been adopted by the council and are designated public footpaths.

St Agnes' Graveyard

St Agnes' graveyard extends over approximately 3.5 acres on the east side of St Agnes Road, Conwy, adjacent to and north of the Town Council's St Agnes' Road Cemetery. It is an attractive site, sloping to the east, with many mature trees. Interments are limited to existing graves. The oldest (northern) part of the churchyard has been cleared in recent years by the active Friends of St Agnes, who continue diligently and faithfully to maintain that section. Between this northern sector and the Town Cemetery lies a narrow zone maintained by Bro Celynnin. There are nine Commonwealth War Graves Commission graves. The condition of the churchyard is now good, although reconstruction of sections of the walls is desirable. To encourage wildlife, a section is cut only once annually.

Graveyard of the deconsecrated Llangelynnin New Church, Rowen

Although the church is now privately owned, the graveyard remains open to the public and is maintained and the gravestones checked regularly by the MAC. A small Friends group was formed in 2022 to undertake periodic maintenance.

Environmental management

Bro Celynnin joined the nation-wide 'Caring for God's Acre' scheme, which provides guidance and support for environmental management of churchyards. Wildlife observation days were held at all the churches during the summer and the reports forwarded to a national database. This initiative drew in many participants from the surrounding communities.

Administrative Information

Trustees (members of the Ministry Area Council)

| | | <i>Appointed</i> | <i>Retired</i> | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Incumbent</i> | The Rev D A Parry | 25/05/16 | 13/08/23 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Clergy</i> | The Rev E H D Parry | 25/05/16 | | | | |
| | The Rev S Blagden | 29/04/19 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Lay Reader</i> | Mrs H F Thompson | 29/04/19 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Peoples' Warden</i> | Mr C J M Roberts | 25/04/23 | | (original election 25/05/16) | | |
| <i>Vicar's Warden</i> | Mr M E Young (& Treasurer) | 07/06/23 | | (original election 9/11/17) | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Elected members</i> | Mr S R Baldon | 25/05/16 | | | | |
| | Mrs C M Clews | 25/05/16 | 25/04/23 | | | |
| | Mrs R I Mitchell | 25/05/16 | | | | |
| | Mr J A Shakespear | 25/05/16 | | | | |
| | Ms S M Swallow | 23/04/18 | | | | |
| | Mrs J L Young | 23/04/18 | 25/04/23 | | | |
| | Mrs M Tobin | 29/04/19 | | | | |
| | Mrs E M Clough | 26/04/21 | | | | |
| | Mrs J Devereux | 26/04/21 | 25/04/23 | | | |
| | Mr D J Fabby | 25/04/22 | | | | |
| | Mrs L C Jones | 25/04/22 | | | | |
| | Mr M Holliland | 25/04/23 | | | | |
| | Miss L Davidson-Flood | 18/07/23 | | | | |
| | Mrs P Fysh | 18/07/23 | | | | |
| | Mr G Griffith | 18/07/23 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Ex officio</i> | Mrs E A Bowen (Secretary) | 27/04/17 | 20/01/23 | | | |
| | Mrs B Baldon (Secretary) | 25/04/23 | | | | |

Charity Number 1185028

Administrative address The Vicarage
Rose Hill Street, Conwy, LL32 8LD

Independent Examiner Malcolm Evans FCA
Breeze and Co
9 Lloyd Street, Llandudno, LL30 2UU

Bankers NatWest Bank, Llandudno, LL30 2WY
Barclays Bank, Llandudno, LL30 2SH

Architect Donald Insall Associates, Conwy, LL32 8RF

Parish Administrator and Safeguarding Officer Mrs Nicola Davies-Nolan (part-time)

Finance

Finance sub-committee

The Finance Sub-committee met three times in 2023. Financial issues considered and/or actioned during 2023 included:

- Banking: continued rationalisation of accounts.
- Monitoring of investments in the Common Investment Fund of the Church in Wales and investment of accumulated cash.
- Fundraising for church and charitable purposes.
- Routine and emergency maintenance of churches and churchyards and advancement of potential re-ordering projects.
- Moving to the MyFund Accounting system.

Accounts

For our level of income, the Charity Commission requires presentation of annual accounts in the Receipts and Payments format (Form CC16) and independent inspection, rather than audit. The independently inspected Receipts and Payments accounts for 2023 are presented in Annex A.

The nominal surplus shown for the year is £29,522. However, Receipts include £38,230 realised from the sale of investments held in the Common Investment Fund of the CiW. The effective deficit is therefore £8,708.

Other points to note include:

- Total voluntary giving, the first four income categories (ie excluding Donations for Mission), was close to that of 2022, although Planned Giving decreased for the second year.
- Donations received for Mission declined.
- Income includes a kind legacy from our late Secretary, Mrs Jane Bowen.
- Grants from many sources increased significantly, as shown in the table below.
- Increased churchyard income reflects a much-appreciated grant from the Conwy Town Council and a very generous private donation towards the cost of tree surgery in St Agnes' graveyard.
- The Church Hall made a slight loss this year of £231.
- The Ministry Area paid its agreed 2023 parish share of £83,500 in full to the Bangor Diocesan Board of Finance. Bro Celynnin has always contributed its agreed quarterly tranche on schedule.

Grants

Grants received totalled £43,342 in 2023, and the Ministry Area is deeply grateful for generosity from so many sources, as shown in the following table.

| Grants received in 2023 | | Public - national | Public - local | Corporate | Other |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| 27/01/23 | National Lottery Community Fund | 10,000.00 | | | |
| 26/01/23 | Diocese of Bangor (architect fees, Gyffin) | | | | 3,206.61 |
| 15/02/23 | Commonwealth War Graves Comm. (Caerhun) | 22.50 | | | |
| 20/02/23 | Cartrefi Conwy | | 1,000.00 | | |
| 21/02/23 | Conwy Town Council, for Bags of Love | | 1,000.00 | | |
| 21/02/23 | Conwy Town Council for St Mary's tower repairs | | 6,360.00 | | |
| 27/02/23 | Denbighshire CC RIF grant, training for Worship i.t.w. | | 3,041.40 | | |
| 13/03/23 | Listed Buildings Places of Worship Scheme (Gyffin) | 1,174.40 | | | |
| 14/03/23 | Cymdeithas Gwledd | | | 1,250.00 | |
| 27/03/23 | Denbighshire CC RIF grant, training for Worship i.t.w. | | 324.31 | | |
| 30/03/23 | Diocese of Bangor (architect fees, Caerhun)) | | | | 2,575.54 |
| 06/06/23 | Gwynt y Mor energy grant (Church Hall) | | | 750.00 | |
| 26/06/23 | Tesco Groundwork Community Grant | | | 1,125.00 | |
| 24/07/23 | Blakemore Foundation (Spar) | | | 200.00 | |
| 08/09/23 | Conwy Classical Music Festival | | | | 800.00 |
| 16/10/23 | Conwy Classical Music Festival (picture restoration) | | | | 400.00 |
| 09/11/23 | BOCS Self Storage (Guto Lewis) | | | 5,000.00 | |
| 10/12/23 | Blakemore Foundation (Spar) | | | 100.00 | |
| 27/12/23 | St David's Leisure (via Cymdeithas Gwledd) | | | 500.00 | |
| | | 11,196.90 | 11,725.71 | 8,925.00 | 6,982.15 |
| | Total (as per 'Grants - exceptional') | | | | 38,829.76 |
| 15/12/03 | Commonwealth War Graves Comm. (Llanbedr) (as per 'Grants - recurring') | 12.00 | | | 12.00 |
| 04/10/23 | Conwy Town Council (listed under 'Churchyards fees') | | 4,500.00 | | 4,500.00 |
| | | | | | 43,341.76 |

Cash reserves

At the year end, liquid reserves held in bank balances totalled £86,543 (Section B1 of the Accounts), within our preferred range of 4-6 months annual expenditure.

Planned-giving

The numbers of individuals or couples giving regularly via Gift Direct or by standing order to the General Fund at end-2023 was 56 (2022: 62).

Investments

The value of shares in the Common Investment Fund (CIF) of the Church in Wales rose by 5.6% over the year. Some investments were liquidated, notably to cover architects' fees and part of the parish share, and the total value at year end was £738,968, as set out in Section B3 of the Accounts.

Financial administration

Reserves and investments policy

The policy of Bro Celynnin is that, taking all bank accounts together, readily available unrestricted resources should be maintained at four to six months of expected annual expenditure. Accumulated resources significantly exceeding this target will be invested in the Church in Wales Common Investment Fund with the objective of providing income to support the Ministry Area's mission and objectives. If approved by the Trustees, investments may be liquidated to maintain services and to support projects relevant to the Ministry Area's mission and objectives.

Risk management

Bro Celynnin's income is below the threshold, above which a detailed risk assessment is required to be reported. Nevertheless, a simplified risk assessment that identifies the main risks is presented in Annex B, and this will be amplified and developed as the MA's initial Mission, Finance and Property Development Plans are further advanced.

Financial controls

Payments and receipts, received in cash, by cheque or bank transfer are managed according to the Charity Commission Guidance: *Internal Finance Control for Charities* (CC8).

Funds management

Restricted funds

Bro Celynnin's resources include these funds for specific purposes:

| Fund | Purpose |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Bro Celynnin</i> | |
| Churchyards Fund | Maintenance of churchyards |
| Charitable Fund | Charitable and educational purposes |
| <i>St Mary's, Conwy</i> | |
| Choir Fund | Choir expenses |
| Chancel repair fund | Maintenance of the Chancel of St Mary's |
| <i>St Benedict's, Gyffin</i> | |
| Church Hall Fund | Provision of relevant parish educational, residential or meeting places; or 'any other intellectual moral or social wants of the neighbouring population' |
| David Thomas Hughes Fund | Charitable church purposes and repairs in connection with St Benedict's |
| <i>St Mary's, Caerhun</i> | |
| Caerhun Church Hall Fund | Charitable purposes of the parish (income unrestricted) |
| St Mary's legacies | Charitable purposes of St Mary's |
| <i>St Peter's, Llanbedr y Cennin</i> | |
| Mrs Laura Fair Fund | General purposes of St Peter's |

Bags of Love Fund (within the Charity Fund)

Demand on the fund increased over the year and now 90-100 families are supported, and a faithful team of 15-20 people help with purchasing, delivery and fund-raising. We continue to be grateful for many very kind and generous personal donations, and for donations or grants in 2023 from Asda, Blakelock Foundation, BOCS Self Storage, Cartrefi Conwy, Conwy Town Council, Cymdeithas Gwledd, Evenrock Ltd, Spar, Tesco and the National Lottery Community Fund.

Corporate and personal donations remained at much the same level as 2022, and the fund was further strengthened by the £10,000 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. Monthly expenditure averaged £1,524 from January to November, but jumped to £2,407 in December. The surplus in the fund has more than doubled since last December, and stands at £22,313.

Churchyards Fund

The Churchyards Fund continues in deficit, due largely to tree surgery at the Llangelynnin New Church, reported last year (£19,020), and at the similarly un-endowed St Agnes Graveyard in 2023 (£7,994).

M E Young
Ministry Area Treasurer

Annex A Receipts and Expenses Accounts, 2023

Independent Examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of the Bro Celynnin Area Ministry Council.

On accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Ministry Council considers 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 Commission (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 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 2011 Act; and
 - b. to prepare account which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have 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.

Signed 9 May 2023

M D Evans FCA

Breeze & Co Chartered Accountants
9 Lloyd Street, Llandudno,
Conwy LL30 2UU



Receipts and payments, 2023

For the period
from

01/01/2023

To

31/12/2023

Unrestricted
funds
to the nearest
£

Restricted
funds
to the nearest £

Endowment
funds
to the nearest £

Total funds
to the nearest
£

2022
to the nearest £

A1 Receipts

Voluntary income

Loose (plate) collections

7,420

0

0

7,420

8,816

Planned giving

35,334

2,180

0

37,514

39,114

Offertory box / wallsafe

14,342

0

0

14,342

9,212

Donations

3,787

0

0

3,787

6,951

Mission

1,966

6,871

0

8,836

20,851

Funeral collections

0

0

0

0

0

Tax refund (GiftAid & GASDS)

16,051

1,151

0

17,202

15,295

Legacies

0

5,000

0

5,000

8,823

Grants - recurring

12

0

0

12

23

Grants - exceptional

8,179

30,651

0

38,830

7,680

Generated income

0

0

0

0

0

Money Raising (excluding Church Hall)

5,191

350

0

5,540

3,618

Money Raising - Church Hall receipts

5,022

0

0

5,022

6,577

Fees for Offices

8,061

0

0

8,061

6,878

Investment income, including bank interest

12,471

0

0

12,471

10,441

Other incoming resources

0

0

0

0

0

Rents

150

0

0

150

150

Churchyard fees

0

11,000

0

11,000

8,000

Net agency income

202

0

0

202

258

Sub total (Gross income for AR)

118,188

57,203

0

175,390

152,686

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

Llanbedr and Gyffin

38,230

0

0

38,230

16,690

0

0

0

0

0

Sub total

38,230

0

0

38,230

16,690

0

Total receipts

156,418

57,203

0

213,620

169,376

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Support for Ministry | | | | | |
| Parish share, paid directly to Diocese | 83,500 | 0 | 0 | 83,500 | 83,500 |
| Parish share, paid from churches via Bro Celynnin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Clergy expenses | 4,382 | 0 | 0 | 4,382 | 5,538 |
| Parish activities | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Maintenance of services [wine, etc] | 1,678 | 0 | 0 | 1,678 | 2,596 |
| General parish expenses [stationery, meetings, etc] | 10,198 | 0 | 0 | 10,198 | 3,398 |
| Church property | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Maintenance of churches, inc insurance | 20,339 | 6,360 | 0 | 26,699 | 21,796 |
| Churchyard maintenance | 1,854 | 9,524 | 0 | 11,378 | 24,865 |
| Maintenance of other property | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 838 |
| Exceptional | 0 | 12,498 | 0 | 12,498 | 24,172 |
| Grant giving and support | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Mission spending - parish | 939 | 22,667 | 0 | 23,605 | 25,565 |
| Mission spending - UK/world | 1,760 | 650 | 0 | 2,410 | 2,747 |
| Other resources expended | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Costs of money-raising (exl. Church Hall) | 908 | 0 | 0 | 908 | 702 |
| Cost of money raising - Church Hall expenses | 5,253 | 0 | 0 | 5,253 | 4,104 |
| Capital payments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net agency payments | 1,532 | 0 | 0 | 1,532 | 216 |
| Other miscellaneous expenses | 36 | 0 | 0 | 36 | 33 |
| Sub total | 132,399 | 51,699 | 0 | 184,098 | 200,071 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| Investment of surplus cash in CIF | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub total | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total payments | 132,399 | 51,699 | 0 | 184,098 | 200,071 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 24,018 | 5,503 | 0 | 29,522 | -30,695 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | 30,830 | 26,192 | 0 | 57,022 | 87,716 |
| Cash funds | 54,848 | 31,695 | 0 | 86,543 | 57,021 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of 2023

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| B1 Cash funds at end-December 2023 | Conwy | 6,150 | 7,954 | - |
| | Gyffin | 0 | 0 | - |
| | Caerhun | 7,935 | 0 | - |
| | Llanbedr | 16,772 | 0 | - |
| | Bro Celynnin (admin hub) | 23,990 | 23,741 | - |
| | Total cash funds | 54,848 | 31,695 | - |

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK OK OK

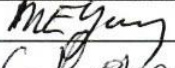
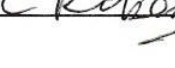
| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Conwy | - | - | - |
| | Gyffin | - | - | - |
| | Caerhun | - | - | - |
| | Llanbedr | - | - | - |
| | Bro Celynnin (admin) | - | - | - |

| Categories | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Value 1/1/23 | Current value (31/12/23) |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | |
| B3 Investment assets | Conwy | | 44,439 | 47,782 |
| | Gyffin | | - | - |
| | Caerhun | | 352,664 | 372,337 |
| | Llanbedr | | 41,420 | 36,323 |
| | Bro Celynnin (admin) | | 293,868 | 282,527 |
| | | | 732,391 | 738,968 |

| Categories | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Printer | | 1,500 | 284 |
| | Caerhun sound system | | 7,722 | 1,955 |
| | Gyffin sound system | | 4,688 | 1,187 |
| | Conwy sound system | | 9,063 | 2,294 |

| Categories | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | |
| B5 Liabilities | Outstanding cheques | General | 0.00 | |
| | Receipts not yet credited | General | 0.00 | |
| | Loan to Conwy | General | | |
| | Outstanding cheques | Churchyards | 0.00 | |
| | BMF adjustments | General | 0.00 | |

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

| Signature | Print Name | Date of approval |
|---|---------------|------------------|
|  | M E Young | 09/05/2024 |
|  | C J M Roberts | 09/05/2024 |

Annex B – Risk analysis

| Bro Celynnin Ministry Area: outline assessment of core risks | | | Factors (after mitigation) | | |
|---|--|---|----------------------------|--------|----------|
| Risk | Effect of risk | Mitigation measures | Likelihood | Impact | Combined |
| Mission and organisation | | | (1= low; 5= high) | | |
| Gradual reduction of congregational numbers | Failure to deliver mission and objectives Loss of income | • Continual outreach and energetic, proactive mission by clergy and congregations | 3 | 5 | 15 |
| Loss of key personnel, notably clergy | Failure to deliver mission and objectives | • Continual efforts to attract and motivate key congregational leaders • Effective recruitment at times of transition | 2 | 5 | 10 |
| Poor management and ineffective goal setting | Demotivation of clergy and volunteers, leading to decline of congregations, loss of income and failure to deliver objectives | • Clear statement of purpose and management process via Mission, Property and Finance Development Plans • Maintenance of clear, frequent and positive communications by various channels | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Property | | | | | |
| Injury to people and third party property, arising from our built properties or churchyards | Personal injury, damage to third party property | • Regular inspections (Ezra Report) to identify risks and required maintenance • Phased programme of recommended maintenance • Regular routine monitoring of the general state of buildings and churchyards and rapid emergency maintenance when necessary • Appropriate insurance | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Damage to our buildings | Financial cost to restore | As above | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Damage to our churchyards | Financial cost to restore | As above | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Finance | | | | | |
| Loss of financial resources through fraud | Inability to maintain property and to cover expenses, including the Parish Share | • All investments held independently by CiW • Only dual authorisation of payments possible • Spending limits set • CC <i>Internal Finance for Charities Guidance</i> followed | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Failure to maintain income levels | Drawing down of resources, loss of investment income, ultimately leading to financial failure | • Encouragement of giving by traditional and innovative means • Promotion of legacies • Regular applications for Gift Aid and GASDS, and VAT refund grants • Money raising events • Financing special projects by strategic fundraising | 3 | 3 | 9 |
| Unexpected significant expenses | As above | • Careful budgeting and monitoring of controllable expenses • Keeping to building maintenance schedules | 2 | 3 | 6 |

Annex C – Bags of Love Fund

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Bags of Love / Bagiau Cariad | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Summary financial report, November 2020 to December 2023 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Nov-Dec 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | | |
| Brought forward | | | 0.00 | 4,496.86 | 6,394.98 | 10,092.12 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Expenses | | | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | 207.97 | 327.93 | 314.80 | | |
| Energy vouchers | | | | | | 250.00 | | |
| Food parcels distributed * | | 478.14 | | 15,337.91 | 16,133.05 | 20,127.44 | | |
| Total expenses | | | 478.14 | 15,545.88 | 16,460.98 | 20,692.24 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts | | | | | | | | |
| Grants - Nat. Lottery Community Fund | | | | 8,000.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | | |
| Grant - Cartrefi | | | | | | 1,000.00 | | |
| Grants - Conwy Town Council | | 3,333.00 | | 500.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | | |
| Grants - local companies & organisations | | 1,000.00 | | 4,100.00 | 8,218.00 | 8,275.00 | | |
| Events and collections | | | | 446.00 | 2,086.92 | 1,429.60 | | |
| Personal donations (excl waived costs) | | 535.00 | | 3,665.00 | 8,211.00 | 9,340.70 | | |
| Gift Aid on 80% personal donations, est | | 107.00 | | 733.00 | 1,642.20 | 1,868.14 | | |
| Total receipts | | | 4,975.00 | 17,444.00 | 20,158.12 | 32,913.44 | | |
| Surplus carried forward | | | 4,496.86 | 6,394.98 | 10,092.12 | 22,313.32 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| * Excluding value of food donations | | | | | | | | |