

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S, ALFRISTON WITH LULLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1185209

Details

Other names ST ANDREW'S PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2019-09-06

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

Contact

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Activities

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

Activities: Church of England

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£157,949	£143,980	-	-
2024-12-31	£144,664	£136,357	-	-
2023-12-31	£148,168	£132,033	-	-
2022-12-31	£138,738	£228,875	-	-
2021-12-31	£187,047	£110,180	-	-
2020-12-31	£94,065	£99,537	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Stephen Stuckes	Chair	2018-07-01
Anthony Robert Brown		2026-01-26
Diana Margaret Monteath- Wilson		2014-07-08
Gayle Louise Hudson		2025-11-18
Kelly Anne Ellis		2020-09-09
Nigel Baelz		2024-04-21
Patricia Jane Ellis		1995-04-30
Pauline Mary Kennard		2020-09-09
Rodney James Young		2023-04-23
William Francis Rendall		2018-04-10

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31st December 2025

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Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, The Rectory,
Sloe Lane, Alfriston, BN26 5UP

Independent Examiner: Mr Paul Strickland, Rose Cottage, North Street,
Alfriston, BN26 5QU

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc

Charity Registration No: 1185209

St. Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility for working with the incumbent, Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, and the Ministry Team in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. Charity Registration No 1185209.

When carrying out its duties the PCC and the incumbent give consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, particularly, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

Members/ Trustees of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the annual parochial church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation rules.⁶

During the year the following served as members of the PCC and trustees of the charity:

The Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, the Chairman.

The churchwardens: William Rendall, Sylvia Daw (until 15th June 2025) and Pauline Kennard (from 30th November 2025).

The elected members/trustees from the APCM 2025 were Nigel Baelz, Paul Duenas (resigned 18th November 2025), Jane Ellis, Pauline Kennard (until 30th November 2025), Diana Monteath-Wilson, Rodney Young (Treasurer), Patrick Stevens (deputy churchwarden)(resigned 1st October 2025)

The ex-officio members were the Ministry Team, Revd. Christyan James (Associate Priest) (until 18th May 2025), Revd. Damien Brennan (Curate and Associate Priest from 15 October 2025) and Kelly Ellis (Pastoral Minister).

Co-opted to the PCC during the year were Anthony Brown (Safeguarding Officer) and Gayle Hudson (Secretary to the PCC).

Pauline Kennard served as Secretary to the PCC until 20th October 2025 with Gayle Hudson succeeding her.

Committees

The Restoration and Fabric Sub-Committee, responsible to the PCC, raises funds for the restoration of the church and oversees the maintenance and development of the building along with the church wardens

The Standing Committee consists of the Rector, Churchwardens the Treasurer and, until 30th November 2025, the Parish Bookkeeper. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Financial Review

It is the responsibility of the PCC to ensure that the income, expenditure and financial assets of the parish are prudently managed and applied effectively in support of the mission and objectives set out elsewhere in this report. In addition to the role of honorary treasurer the PCC employs a bookkeeper to look after the records of day to day transactions, making use of accounting software package Xero.

The investment policy of the PCC entails the use of CCLA/CBF funds, mainly the CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund, for all the parish's endowment funds. A level of funds sufficient for anticipated day to day activities is maintained in a Barclays current account, backed up by an additional reserve in a Barclays savings account which can be accessed quickly if needed. The remainder of the PCC funds, both restricted and general, are pooled for investment purposes and placed in 3-9 month short term fixed interest bank deposits via the platform provided by CAF and managed by Flagstone. The income from the bank and CAF accounts is then apportioned among the relevant PCC funds in accordance with the average balances of these funds during the year. This approach enables the PCC to maximise investment income consistent with accessibility and security.

For the year to 31 December 2025 the total receipts on general unrestricted funds totalled £117,365 (2024 £113,322) as detailed in the Accounts section of this report. The total unrestricted donations and grants received amounted to £78,171 (2024 £75,189). No legacies were received in 2025. Unrestricted income from all other sources, excluding investment income, amounted to £30,410 (2024 £ 26,523) with a significant increase in fees from weddings and funerals. Grant income, at £11,324 remains well below what needs to be found if we are to proceed with essential repairs and renovations. This reflects the fact that 2025 was primarily a further year of planning and scoping and identifying potential sources of grants. Activity needs to be stepped up in 2026.

In 2025 total planned giving and general donations held up well, but the parish's income continues to be dependent to a considerable extent on large donations from a small number of generous donors. Partly as a result of donor death, some significant donations will not be repeated in 2026 and we face a challenge in replacing the lost income to enable us to continue our current level of mission activities.

A further change in the parishes financial arrangements in 2025 resulted from the resignation of Assistant Priest Christyan James in May. Subsequently Damien Brennan completed his curacy and was appointed Assistant Priest in Christyan's place in October, on a slightly different contract to Christyan's.

It has been the PCC's policy to maintain a minimum balance on the general unrestricted funds equating to approximately three months of unrestricted payments, as a contingency against unforeseen circumstances. However, with the church building of St Andrew's still on the "At Risk" register and, given the uncertainty about the level of income from donations that we can expect in 2026, it has been deemed appropriate to retain a balance well above this level. A further £1,500 has been set aside for replacement, in one form or another, of the St Andrew's gas boilers, bringing the total of this designated fund to £16,500.

Endowment Funds

As at the beginning of 2024 the PCC benefited from eight permanent endowment funds, most of which were small and all of which had a capital value of less than £25,000. The Charities Act 2022 allows the PCC, subject to certain conditions, to pass a resolution enabling access to the capital of permanent endowment funds valued at less than £25,000.

In 2024 the PCC passed the appropriate resolution in respect of the Parker Property Fund. This is the largest of the eight endowments and it was clear that the testator's intentions could be better met if the capital could be used to contribute to the major restoration projects now facing St Andrew's. In 2025 the PCC passed further resolutions in respect of the much smaller Penfold Trust – Flowers, and the Dr Thomas – beautification endowment which also provides for flowers. Research into the Wimbush Foundation indicated that in fact it had never been established as a permanent endowment in the first place. As a result, capital has been withdrawn from the Penfold Trust – Flowers and the Wimbush Foundation during 2025 and will be withdrawn from the Parker fund and the Dr Thomas endowment as needed. The remaining endowments will be kept under review.

Sharing the Ministry Costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest item of expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £47,337 (2024 £44,763) paid to the Diocese of Chichester for our share of Parish Ministry Costs. These costs include housing, stipend and pension costs of the clergy and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. The PCC's aim, to the extent that finances allow, is to progressively increase our contribution to the parish's allocated share of these costs which, in common with many other parishes, we do not currently meet in full. For the 2025 year we met approximately 90% of our allocated share (2024 85%)

Staff Costs

In 2025 the PCC employed a lay Pastoral Minister, a Parish Administrator and a Bookkeeper. The salaries for these roles are reflected in Note 5 to the accounts. In addition, the costs of the two Assistant Priests who were in post during 2025, have been for the most part paid to the diocese. (Certain additional costs payable under the contract for Assistant Priest Damien Brennan are paid directly to him or on his behalf.) The costs of the Assistant Priests and the Pastoral Minister are met from the restricted Rector's Mission Fund. Further details are provided in the notes to the accounts.

Trustee Payments and Expenses

The PCC also supported the rector by paying council tax, water charges and some minor rectory expenses. In 2025 the rector claimed expenses of £1,317 (2024 £1,354) bringing the total rectory and rector's expenses to £5,951 (2024 £5,712)

The only elected member of the PCC receiving payments in connection with the church was the Bookkeeper. There were no payments to persons related to or connected with the trustees.

Church attendance.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on 6 April 2025 it was reported that there were 108 parishioners on the church electoral roll, a decrease of five from that reported at the previous APCM. The church electoral roll was entirely reconstituted in early 2025 which may partly explain this fall in numbers and it is to be noted that three new names have subsequently been added.

During 2025 average church attendance on Sundays remained at somewhere between 50 and 60 for normal services but with considerably increased numbers for Christmas, Easter and other major festivals and special services.

There remains a small number of generally older parishioners who prefer to attend the midweek morning Eucharist on Thursday mornings, rather than the Sunday service, but the number of such communicants remains at between four and six.

Of particular note was the remarkable attendance at the Christingle service for children and their parents, grandparents and others on the afternoon of Christmas Eve when the church was packed with at least 275 children and their relatives. It is clear that this service draws attendance from a far wider area than just the Cuckmere churches parishes and includes a considerable number of people who regard the service as their principle act of worship for Christmas, regardless of whether they have children or grandchildren involved.

There were a number of special services and worthy of mention are the service for All Souls, the service for the licensing of Damien Brennan as Associate Priest presided over by Bishop Will Bishop of Lewes and the service of lessons and carols prior to Christmas which were all well attended.

The monthly summer services held at the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continued to be popular and well-attended in 2025 and the Easter morning and Advent Lantern services attracted an attendance of about 25 and 60 respectively.

There were five weddings and a service of blessing for marriage held in St Andrew's in 2025 and two weddings held in the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington which continues to attract those couples wanting a smaller wedding venue.

The Parish continues to attract a considerable number of betrothed couples looking for a traditional church wedding and there are a number of bookings for weddings in both the churches of St Andrew's and that of the Good Shepherd in 2026. It is gratifying that a number of couples who were married in St Andrew's continue to regularly worship here.

Review of the year.

The PCC met 4 times during 2025 with the Standing Committee continuing to take a more active role in the day-to-day management of the church and the ecclesiastical parish affairs.

The PCC is very conscious of its role in reaching out to the less fortunate and continues to actively support Christian Aid. Funds have been made available to enable more charitable work to be carried out.

St Andrew's has for a long time been a supporter of our local Families Support group run by Chichester Diocese for the benefit of families in the diocese in need of support..

St Andrew's continues to attract a very large number of tourist visitors each year, drawn by its history and picturesque location on a mound by a loop in the Cuckmere River with the green of the Tye in the front of it. The PCC attempts to accommodate the visitors as much as possible by keeping the church open during daylight hours and conducting occasional guided visits but continues to look for ways to improve the experience for visitors.

The hugely popular South Downs Summer Music Festival continues to be centred round the church for a week in July and there are an increasing number of organisers of musical concerts making use of the excellent acoustics that the church offers. This is something that the church is actively seeking to encourage as both a source of income and as an artistic benefit for the community.

Mission and Evangelism

During the year the Ministry team changed with departure of Cristyan James as Associate Priest and the licensing of Damien Brennan in that role which has enabled the Ministry of the Church to remain active and strong during the recent year. We engage with people through every activity from the choir, which continues to attract new members, to the support of the South Downs Summer Music Festival, where we meet many hundreds of people. Without churches of any other faith in the Benefice we are regarded as 'The Church' and our Ministry is sought even by those without faith.

Pastoral Ministry

Several key church members have 'gone to glory' recently but we continue to engage with and attract new members whilst giving thanks for those who have gone before us. Our ministry to couples seeking marriage is significant given that many of them require a 'Qualifying Connection' meaning they attend church for six months prior to the wedding. This results in some couples forming a deeper connection and especially returning for Baptisms of children subsequently born. All members of the Ministry team engage in pastoral ministry but Pastoral Minister Kelly Ellis takes the lead, especially with the Alfriston primary school. The school children attended for Christmas and Easter.

Music and the choir

Choir membership has grown to 16 this year with additional support from a loyal group of singers on special occasions. As a result, the choir repertoire has grown considerably, and the inclusion of a choir anthem at the 10.30am Eucharist is now firmly established. Highlights of the year included the Christmas Carol Service, the Judges' Service, and the All Souls' Evensong in October. The choir also enjoyed the opportunity to sing carols in the Clergy House and at Alfriston Court. In addition to singing together, the choir continue to enjoy socialising together!

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Bellringing

Once again St Andrew's Bellringers have rung all 6 bells at the majority of Sunday services. The bells have rung for weddings and funerals with the help of ringers from local towers. Two recruits have started being taught and it is hoped that they will make a welcome addition to the band in due course. Practicing on a Monday morning allows many visitors to the church to watch the ringing; an advantage of ringing from the Chancel Crossing. The cameras in the belfry are a wonderful aid to explain to non-ringers how the bells are rung and encourage them to learn to ring in their own local towers. More people wishing to learn to ring would be very welcome, particularly younger recruits, and practice times could be arranged to suit. It is essential that younger ringers are found before the current band become too old to teach them and the bells fall silent.

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Lullington

Despite being off the beaten track, the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continues welcome people from our local communities, visitors from the UK, Europe and travellers from around the world. Being part of the Pilgrims Path and being open every day has encouraged people of all ages to enjoy the stunning views, peace and tranquillity, to quote 'a thin space nearer to heaven'. All agree it is a very special place and there has been continued media interest in this unique church and setting.

Despite very unreliable weather during the year, the services were once again blessed with some dry weather and glimpses of sunshine. The candlelit Church was full on Easter Sunday morning and the lantern service celebrating the first Sunday of Advent at the end of November concluded with candle light. Evensongs and refreshments on every second Sunday afternoon in the month through the summer were well attended, culminating with Harvest Festival in September. An additional early morning Eucharist Service is now offered on Ascension Day.

In the Churchyard, the variety of young trees and drifts of snowdrops continue to flourish, attracting birds and wildlife. With careful maintenance, the Church of the Good Shepherd and it's surrounds continue to give everyone a special haven of peace.

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structure of the church. Important matters such as church finance are discussed and it remains a forum in which parishes in the Deanery can take matters of concern to further levels of Church Government. There is only one lay Deanery Synod representative, our churchwarden Bill Rendall, although we are entitled to three. Most meetings are attended by the Rector, Damien Brennan and Bill and also by Rod Young, our treasurer, for the meeting at which the Diocesan budget is presented.

Church cleaning and decoration

Members of the Flower Guild provide their skills to ensure that the church is beautifully decorated for all occasions including, frequently for weddings, providing a further source of income for the church.

Monthly in-house cleaning sessions by a team of volunteers keep the Church of St Andrew in good day-to-day order.

The fabric of the church building

The condition of the church remains a concern. The detailed Quinquennial report prepared by the architect in 2021 highlighted the aspects most in need of addressing.

In last year's report it was stated that "It is disappointing to report again that little progress has been made in 2024 in addressing the most urgent matters. This is because it is considered that the best approach is to combine both the restoration and headline maintenance work required with plans for an overall re-ordering of the church to make it suitable for the needs of the 21st century in one overall plan that can be pushed forward as a combined project." It is now recognised that in order to attract funding it will be necessary to break this ambitious plan down into "bite sized chunks" and approach it in several and therefore more affordable separate stages. The initial stage of this approach needs to be pushed forward in 2026.

During 2025 some large chunks of stone fell off the tower and damaged the north transept roof. This has been repaired but it is apparent that other stonework on the tower could be similarly shed. This is to be investigated further but it is possible that some expense will be required to remedy the problem.

Work to replace and repoint crumbling flints at several points in the base of the exterior walls is due to take place shortly.

The Chair of the Fabric and Restoration Committee, Paul Duenas, resigned before the end of 2025 as he has moved out of the Parish and his place has been taken by Adrian Harris who has extensive knowledge of property matters as a Chartered Surveyor and manager of a considerable property portfolio. The PCC wishes to record its thanks to Paul Duenas for the considerable time, energy and knowledge that he provided to Fabric and Restoration Committee during the time that he chaired it.

The Friends of St. Andrew's

The Friends of St Andrew's is an independent charity the purpose of which is to assist in the conservation of the church building with membership drawn from those who are not necessarily churchgoers but who value the building and what it represents. The charity is standing ready to assist the funding of the individual stages for restoration and re-ordering and refurbishment of the church as described in the preceding section of this report when it is anticipated that it will play a major role in fund-raising that will be required.

Risk management

The PCC consider that the principal risks and uncertainties are:

- the need to fund unexpected costs associated with the church's listed buildings status;
- an unexpected fall in income, particularly, given the dependence of the church on a limited number of major regular donors;
- the requirement to find volunteers and staff with the appropriate skills, time and commitment to support the ministry of the congregation.

The PCC seeks to manage these risks and uncertainties by regularly reviewing its mission action plan and its plans for the use of the church buildings.

The trustees annual report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes

Signed: S. Stuckes Date: 24th March 2026

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	78,171	33,267	-	111,438	102,696	
Charitable activities	10,073	-	-	10,073	6,868	
Other trading activities	16,177	2,215	-	18,392	15,690	
Investments	8,784	3,482	1,620	13,886	15,445	
Other receipts	4,160	-	-	4,160	3,965	
Total income	117,365	38,964	1,620	157,949	144,664	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	793	-	-	793	830	
Charitable activities	97,321	26,890	579	124,790	118,049	
Other trading activities	7,697	1,435	205	9,337	9,777	
Other expenditure	8,853	-	207	9,060	7,701	
Total expenditure	114,664	28,325	991	143,980	136,357	3
Net gains (or losses) on investments	-	-	(105)	(105)	1,552	8
Net income or (net expenditure)	2,701	10,639	524	13,864	9,860	
Transfers between funds (net effect) and funds introduced	-	13,179	(13,179)	-	-	7
	2,701	23,818	(12,655)	13,864	9,860	
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Other gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	2,701	23,818	(12,655)	13,864	9,860	
Total funds brought forward	96,950	90,120	57,752	244,822	234,961	
Total funds carried forward	£99,652	£113,938	£45,097	£258,686	£244,821	

Balance Sheet

	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Heritage assets	-	-	
Endowed investments	45,097	57,752	
Total fixed assets	45,097	57,752	8
Stocks	1,100	1,200	
Debtors	9,842	10,800	10
Investments	-	-	
Cash at bank and in hand	218,441	193,953	
Total current assets	229,383	205,953	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(15,793)	(12,634)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	213,590	193,319	
Total assets less current liabilities	258,687	251,071	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	(6,250)	12
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	£258,687	£244,821	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	45,097	57,751	
Restricted income funds	113,938	90,119	
Unrestricted funds	99,652	96,950	
Total charity funds	£258,687	£244,821	13

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 2

Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	22,739	-	-	22,739	18,754
Donation Box	6,821	-	-	6,821	7,077
Service collections	4,396	-	-	4,396	4,735
General donations	35,022	1,093	-	36,115	32,878
Gift Aid recoverable	2,869	-	-	2,869	5,707
Restoration Income incl Gift Aid	-	70	-	70	45
Rectors Mission Fund incl Gift Aid	-	27,104	-	27,104	24,849
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	6,324	5,000	-	11,324	8,651
Donations and legacies	£78,171	£33,267	-	£111,438	£102,696
Fees for weddings & funerals	10,073	-	-	10,073	6,868
Charitable activities	£10,073	-	-	£10,073	£6,868
Music events	6,562	-	-	6,562	7,005
Other fundraising Income	1,800	-	-	1,800	-
Flowers for weddings & funerals	-	2,215	-	2,215	1,850
Cuckmere News adverts	5,001	-	-	5,001	4,800
Stall sales	2,815	-	-	2,815	2,035
Other trading activities	£16,177	£2,215	-	£18,392	£15,690
Bank & CAF deposit interest	3,384	3,118	-	6,502	7,641
CCLA investment fund dividend	-	-	1,620	1,620	1,864
Chancel Trust Fund income	-	363	-	363	541
Rent from letting of investment property	5,400	-	-	5,400	5,400
Investments	£8,784	£3,482	£1,620	£13,886	£15,445
Other parish contributions to joint benefice costs	4,160	-	-	4,160	3,965
Total income on all funds	£117,365	£38,964	£1,620	£157,949	£144,664
Increase (Decrease) in investment values	-	-	(105)	(105)	1,552
Total income and endowments on all funds	£117,365	£38,964	£1,515	£157,844	£146,216

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 3

Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fundraising incl Restoration fund	793			793	830	
Cost of raising funds	£793			£793	£830	
Charitable grants and donations				-	-	4
Rectors Mission Fund		22,256		22,256	24,048	
Diocesan parish share	47,337			47,337	44,763	
Clergy and rectory expenses	5,951			5,951	5,712	
Parish administration	8,368			8,368	7,926	
Service costs	588			588	638	
Insurance	3,673			3,673	3,554	
Utility costs	9,598			9,598	7,900	
Office and misc expenses	4,653			4,653	3,353	
Flowers in church		1,311		1,311	532	
Churchyard and memorial garden	6,587			6,587	6,203	
St Andrew's church maintenance and cleaning	4,647	-	576	5,223	4,675	
The Good Shepherd Maintenance	1,797		3	1,800	1,800	
Restoration project building costs		3,138		3,138	3,414	
Bell fund expenses		185		185	-	
Governance	-			-	-	
Accountancy and bookkeeping assistance	4,123			4,123	3,912	
Bank charges and investment fees	-			-	154	
Youth Fund	-			-	-	
Cost of charitable activities	£97,321	£26,890	£579	£124,790	£118,581	
Cuckmere News and other printing	6,095			6,095	5,864	
Stall costs	1,603			1,603	984	
Flowers		1,435	205	1,640	2,397	
Cost of other trading activities	£7,697	£1,435	£205	£9,337	£9,245	
Music costs	8,200		207	8,407	7,060	
Lullington cottage maintenance and insurance	653			653	641	
Total expended on all funds	£114,664	£28,325	£991	£143,980	£136,357	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4. Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Family Support		-	-	-	-	
Childrens Society	343	-	-	343	473	
	343	-	-	343	473	

5. Staff costs

Three members of staff were employed throughout 2024

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Remuneration						
Wages and salaries	11,654	10,024	-	21,678	21,348	
Employer social security costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Employer pension costs	-	-	-	-	-	
	11,654	10,024	-	21,678	21,348	

6. Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Independent examination	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	

7. Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Transfer from unrestricted funds to Boiler designated funds	1,500			1,500	1,500	
Transfer from Restoration Fund to Bell Restoration Fund (being donations to the Bell Restoration Fund in 2021)	1,500			1,500	1,500	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8. Fixed Assets

Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Market value 1 January 2025	-	-	57,752	57,752	
Disposals at carrying value	-	-	(12,550)	(12,550)	
Purchases at cost	-	-	-	-	
Transfer from other endowments	-	-	-	-	
Net gains and revaluation	-	-	(105)	(105)	
Market value 31 December 2025	-	-	£45,097	£45,097	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets			45,097	45,097	57,752	
Stock	1,100	-	-	1,100	1,200	
Current assets (except cash)	6,423	3,419	-	9,842	10,800	
Cash at bank and on deposit	107,337	111,104	-	218,441	193,953	
Current liabilities	(15,209)	(584)	-	(15,793)	(12,634)	
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	-	(6,250)	
	£99,651	£113,938	£45,097	£258,687	£244,821	

10. Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accounts receivable	1,145	-	-	1,145	2,599	
Gift Aid and VAT recoverable	2,818	-	-	2,818	1,911	
Prepayments	-	-	-	-	179	
Chancel trust funds	-	3,419	-	3,419	3,266	
Accrued Income	2,459	-	-	2,459	2,844	
	£6,423	£3,419	-	£9,842	£10,800	

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	2,117	-	-	2,117	1,317	
Church collections for charities	-	584	-	584	513	
Fees paid in advance	1,110	-	-	1,110	690	
Income received in advance	6,250	-	-	6,250	6,250	
DBF re Fees	3,732	-	-	3,732	2,663	
Wedding deposits	2,000	-	-	2,000	1,200	
	£15,209	£584	-	£15,793	£12,634	

12. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

Deferred income		-	-	-	£6,250	
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Notes to the financial report (continued)

13. Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Parker - Property	20,487	576	(576)	(819)	19,668
Dr Thomas Beautification	5,459	204	(204)	134	5,593
Penfold Trust- Flowers	3,081	29	(1)	(3,109)	-
Penfold Trust- Music	5,534	207	(207)	135	5,669
Wimbush Foundation Lullington	9,364	88	(3)	(9,449)	-
Endowment Fund - AA Baker for Sick and Needy	5,452	204		(71)	5,586
Endowment Fund - Breton for Sick Poor	2,212	82		(28)	2,266
Endowment Fund - Charles Edward Austen Leigh	6,163	230		(79)	6,314
Total of all endowed funds	57,752	1,620	(991)	(13,284)	45,097
Fabric fund	29,542	970	-	-	30,512
Flower Fund	-	2,215	(2,746)	3,135	2,604
Bell Ringers fund	4,002	804	(185)	4,282	8,903
Bell Restoration fund	4,282	-	-	(4,282)	-
Restoration fund	18,560	5,711	(3,138)		21,133
Wimbush Lullington fund	4,794	893		9,528	15,215
Rectors Mission fund	20,034	27,842	(22,256)		25,620
Chancel Trust funds	3,877	363	-		4,241
Alfriston Charity Fund	5,028	165		516	5,709
Total of all restricted funds	90,120	38,964	(28,325)	13,179	113,938
General fund	81,950	117,365	(114,664)	(1,500)	83,152
Designated Boiler fund	15,000			1,500	16,500
Total of all unrestricted funds	96,950	117,365	(114,664)	-	99,652
Total funds	£244,822	£157,949	£(143,980)	£(105)	£258,687

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31 December 2025

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2025 set out on pages 1 to 16

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Examiner's signature



Examiner's name

MR PAUL STRICKLAND

Date:

24/3/2026

Relevant professional qualification{s} or bodies if any:

Examiner's address: Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5QU

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report
The Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Church,
Alfriston with Lullington
For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, The Rectory,
Sloe Lane, Alfriston, BN26 5UP

Independent Examiner: Mr Paul Strickland, Rose Cottage, North Street,
Alfriston, BN26 5QU

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc.

Charity Registration No: 1185209

St. Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility for working with the incumbent, Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, and the Ministry Team in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. Charity Registration No 1185209.

When carrying out its duties the PCC and the incumbent give consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, particularly, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

Members/ Trustees of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the annual parochial church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation rules

During the year the following served as members of the PCC and trustees of the charity:

The Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, the Chairman.

The churchwardens: William Rendall and Sylvia Daw.

The elected members/trustees from the APCM 2024 were Nigel Baelz, Paul Duenas, Jane Ellis, Pauline Kennard, Diana Monteath-Wilson, Rodney Young (Treasurer), Patrick Stevens (deputy churchwarden), Jonathan Porter. Paul Wright had been an elected member/trustee until he resigned April 2024.

The ex-officio members were the Ministry Team, Revd. Christyan James (Associate Priest), Revd. Damien Brennan (Curate) and Kelly Ellis (Pastoral Minister).

Pauline Kennard served as Secretary to the PCC.

Committees

The Restoration and Fabric Sub-Committee, responsible to the PCC, raises funds for the restoration of the church and oversees the maintenance and development of the building along with the church wardens

The Standing Committee consists of the Rector, Churchwardens the Treasurer and the PCC Secretary. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Church attendance.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on 21 April 2024, it was reported that there were 113 parishioners on the church electoral roll, an overall decrease of one from that reported at the previous APCM. It is to be noted the church electoral roll has to be entirely reconstituted in 2025, which has been done and will be reported on in 2026.

During 2024 average church attendance on Sundays remained at somewhere between 50 and 60 for normal services but with considerably increased numbers for Christmas, Easter and other major festivals and special services.

There remains a small number of generally older parishioners who prefer to attend the midweek morning Eucharist, changed from Wednesdays to Thursdays during 2024, rather than the Sunday service, but the number of such communicants remains at between four and six.

Of particular note was the remarkable attendance at the Christingle service for children and their parents, grandparents and others on the afternoon of Christmas Eve when the church was packed with at least 300 children and their relatives. It is clear that this service draws attendance from a far wider area than just the Cuckmere churches parishes and includes a considerable number of people who regard the service as their principle act of worship for Christmas, regardless of whether they have children or grandchildren involved.

There were a number of special services and worthy of mention are the service for All Souls, a Choral Evensong provided by the choir and organist of Chichester Cathedral, presided over by Bishop Martin and the service of lessons and carols prior to Christmas which were all well attended.

The monthly summer services held at the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continued to be popular and well-attended in 2024 and the Easter morning and Advent Lantern services attracted an attendance of 25 and 60 respectively.

There were again seven weddings and services of blessing for marriages held in St Andrew's in 2024 and the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continues to attract those couples wanting a smaller wedding venue, with two marriages and one service of blessing for a marriage being carried out there.

The Parish continues to attract a considerable number of betrothed couples looking for a traditional church wedding and there are a number of bookings for weddings in both the churches of St Andrew's and that of the Good Shepherd in 2025. It is gratifying that a number of couples who were married in St Andrew's continue to regularly worship here.

Review of the year.

The PCC met 4 times during 2024 with the Standing Committee continuing to take a more active role in the day-to-day management of the church and the ecclesiastical parish affairs.

The PCC is very conscious of its role in reaching out to the less fortunate and continues to actively support Christian Aid. Funds have been made available to enable more charitable work to be carried out.

St Andrew's has for a long time been a supporter of our local Families Support group run by Chichester Diocese for the benefit of families in the diocese in need of support. Under the leadership of Maria Armstrong, the parish continues to be a substantial supporter

with regular donations of groceries and other supplies but also very considerable Christmas gifts and Easter eggs.

St Andrew's continues to attract a very large number of tourist visitors each year, drawn by its history and picturesque location on a mound by a loop in the Cuckmere River with the green of the Tye in the front of it. The PCC attempts to accommodate the visitors as much as possible by keeping the church open during daylight hours and conducting occasional guided visits but continues to look for ways to improve the experience for visitors.

The hugely popular South Downs Summer Music Festival continues to be centred round the church for a week in July and there are an increasing number of organisers of musical concerts making use of the excellent acoustics that the church offers. This is something that the church is actively seeking to encourage as both a source of income and as an artistic benefit for the community.

Mission and Evangelism

The Ministry of the Church has remained active and strong during the recent year. It is to be noted that the Ministry team successfully sustained the worship and church life of the benefice during the sabbatical leave of the Rector during the year. The next year will likely be a year of change given that Damien Brennan completes his Curacy in the summer. We engage people through every activity from the choir, which continues to attract new members, to the support of the South Downs Summer Music Festival, where we meet many hundreds of people. Without churches of any other faith in the Benefice we are regarded as 'The Church' and our Ministry is sought even by those without faith.

Pastoral Ministry

Several key church members have 'gone to glory' recently but we continue to engage with and attract new members whilst giving thanks for those who have gone before us. Our ministry to couples seeking marriage is significant given that many of them require a 'Qualifying Connection' meaning they attend church for six months prior to the wedding. This results in some couples forming a deeper connection and especially returning for Baptisms of children subsequently born. All members of the Ministry team engage in pastoral ministry but Pastoral Minister Kelly Ellis takes the lead, especially with the Alfriston primary school. The school children attended for Christmas and Easter services and Kelly was asked to take the Easter service at St Andrew's Preparatory School Eastbourne.

Music and the choir

St Andrew's is fortunate in having the services of David Ollosson as both church organist and choir master. The year has seen a pleasing growth in choir membership with a nice balance of soprano, alto, tenor and bass parts. The choir continues to benefit from a group of additional singers who have joined them for various special occasions and to whom they are very grateful. The choir repertoire has also expanded with an anthem now being sung at all Sunday morning services. Highlights of the year included singing at a Patronal Festival Evensong at Folkington in June, the All Souls' Evensong at St Andrew's in October,

and the Carol Service in December. Thanks to a generous donation, it has also been possible to purchase additional copies of our standard repertoire making it easier to provide for new members.

Bellringing

St Andrew's Bellringing band have managed to ring all 6 bells at the majority of Sunday services and at all the weddings where bells have been requested despite only having a limited number of ringers. As there are only 9 members in our band we are dependent on ringers from local towers to make up the bands for wedding ringing and to help at practises. Sadly, Mary Burr, one of the band, passed away just before Christmas. She had been a great support in the teaching of new recruits. It is important that more recruits are found and trained in order for the bells to continue ringing at this tower and practice times will be arranged to suit those not available on Monday mornings.

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Lullington

Despite being off the beaten track, the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continues welcome people from our local communities, visitors from the UK, Europe and travellers from around the world. Being part of the Pilgrims Path and being open every day has encouraged people of all ages to enjoy the stunning views, peace and tranquillity, to quote 'a thin space nearer to heaven'. All agree it is a very special place and there has been continued media interest in this unique church and setting.

Despite very unreliable weather during the year, the services were once again blessed with some dry weather and glimpses of sunshine. The candlelit Church was full on Easter Sunday morning and the celebration of the first Sunday of Advent in December concluded with candle light. Evensongs and refreshments on every second Sunday afternoon in the month through the summer were well attended, culminating with Harvest Festival in September. An additional early morning Eucharist Service is now offered on Ascension Day.

In the Churchyard, the variety of young trees and drifts of snowdrops continue to flourish, attracting birds and wildlife. With careful maintenance, the Church of the Good Shepherd and it's surrounds continue to give everyone a special haven of peace.

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structure of the church. Important matters such as church finance are discussed and it remains a forum in which parishes in the Deanery can take matters of concern to further levels of Church Government. Although the Parish has had no formally appointed Deanery Synod representative for the last few years, most meetings are attended by the Rector and one or another of a Churchwarden or the Treasurer. For 2025, our churchwarden, William Rendall, is prepared to be formal deanery synod representative if approved.

Church cleaning and decoration

Members of the Flower Guild provide their skills to ensure that the church is beautifully decorated for all occasions including, frequently for weddings, providing a further source of income for the church.

Monthly in house cleaning sessions by a team of volunteers keep the Church of St Andrew in very good day-to-day order.

The fabric of the church building

The condition of the church remains a concern. The detailed Quinquennial report prepared by the architect in 2021 highlighted the aspects most in need of addressing.

It is disappointing to report again that little progress has been made in 2024 in addressing the most urgent matters. This is because it is considered that the best approach is to combine both the restoration and headline maintenance work required with plans for an overall re-ordering of the church to make it suitable for the needs of the 21st century in one overall plan that can be pushed forward as a combined project. Some progress has been made in furthering this ambitious project to combine both the needs of the church in its mission with the more secular needs of the community that it serves. An informal meeting was held with the Diocesan Advisory Committee, which proved to be very supportive of the overall concept and plans. However, a further meeting with other amenity bodies who are considered to be stakeholders in such a project was much less satisfactory and significant reservations were expressed. The Fabric and Restoration sub-committee is considering a number of options to overcome the objections of the amenity societies but it has to be recorded that the opposition to the necessary restoration, reordering and general refurbishment of the Church of St Andrew to both prevent its further deterioration and make it fit to serve both the worshipping and the general community of Alfriston is both disappointing and a significant obstacle preventing progress being made in furtherance of the overall objective.

The Friends of St. Andrew's

The Friends of St Andrew's is an independent charity the purpose of which is to assist in the conservation of the church building with membership drawn from those who are not necessarily churchgoers but who value the building and what it represents. The charity is awaiting the approval and finalisation of the plans for restoration, reordering and refurbishment of the church when it is anticipated that it will take the lead in the major fund-raising drive that will be required.

Financial Review

It is the responsibility of the PCC to ensure that the income, expenditure and financial assets of the parish are prudently managed and applied effectively in support of the mission and objectives set out elsewhere in this report. In addition to the role of honorary treasurer the PCC employs a bookkeeper to look after the records of day to day transactions, making use of accounting software package Xero.

The investment policy of the PCC entails the use of CCLA/CBF funds, mainly the CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund, for all the parish's endowment funds. A level of funds sufficient for anticipated day to day activities is maintained in a Barclays current account, backed up by an additional reserve in a Barclays savings account which can be accessed quickly if needed. The remainder of the PCC funds, both restricted and general, are pooled for investment purposes and are placed in 3-6 month short term fixed interest bank deposits via the platform provided by CAF and managed by Flagstone. The income from the bank and CAF accounts is then apportioned among the relevant PCC funds in accordance with the average balances of these funds during the year. This approach enables the PCC to maximise investment income consistent with accessibility and security.

For the year to 31 December 2024 the total receipts on general unrestricted funds totalled £111,312 (2023 £103,638) as detailed in the Accounts section of this Report. The total unrestricted donations and grants received, including legacies, amounted to £75,189 (2022 £63,268) Income from other sources amounted to £22,558 (2023 £27,075) with reductions in income from both fees from wedding and funerals and from other trading income. Grant income of £8651 (2023 £ 24,013) reflects a pause in major fund raising activities while future restoration projects are planned and costed. The parish benefited from a grant of £3,500 from the Diocesan Mission Fund towards the cost of reorganising the benefice's administration and accounting functions to free up more clergy time for ministry.

In 2024 the parish benefited from two generous donations from anonymous donors totalling some £28,500. These donations supported the Rector's Mission Fund , which pays the costs of the Assistant Priest and the Pastoral Minister, and enabled us to continue our aspiration of making annual increases in the proportion of the full PMC that we are able to pay.

It has been the PCC's policy to maintain a minimum balance on the general unrestricted funds equating to approximately three months of unrestricted payments, as a contingency against unforeseen circumstances. However, with the church building of St Andrew's still on the "At Risk" register and given current financial uncertainty it has been deemed prudent to retain a balance well above this level. A further transfer of £1,500 has been set aside for replacement of the St Andrew's boilers, bringing the total of this designated fund to £15,000.

Endowment Funds

The PCC is responsible for eight permanent endowment funds, many long-standing. The largest of these is the Parker Property Fund, valued at £20,487 on 31 December 2024. The other funds are much smaller.

The PCC is reviewing these funds in the light of the Charities Act 2022, which allows the PCC, subject to certain conditions, to pass a resolution enabling access to the capital of permanent endowment funds valued at less than £25,000. The Parker endowment was established by a bequest, with the income to be used to maintain the fabric of St Andrew's. The income is modest, and the church is currently in need of extensive repairs and

restoration. In these circumstances the PCC considers that the objectives of the testator can more effectively be met if the capital can be used to part fund these repairs. The PCC adopted the appropriate resolution in December 2024 and this will be actioned in 2025.

Sharing the Ministry Costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £44,763 (2023 £40,845) paid to the Diocese of Chichester for our share of all churches Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the housing, stipend and pension costs of the clergy and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. The PCC's aim is to progressively increase our contribution to the parish's allocated share of these costs which, in common with many other parishes, we do not currently meet in full. For the 2024 year we met approximately 85% of our allocated share (2023 80%).

Staff Costs

In 2023 the PCC employed a Parish Administrator, and a Pastoral Minister. For 2024 the Administrator role was divided into the separate roles of Administrator and Bookkeeper. The salaries for these new roles are reflected in the note 5 to the accounts. In addition, during 2024, the costs of the Associate Priest have been paid to the Diocese. These costs, and the salary of the Pastoral Minister are met from the restricted Rector's Mission Fund. Further details are provided in the notes to the accounts.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC also supported the clergy by paying council tax, water charges and some minor rectory expenses. In the year the rector claimed expenses of £1,354, bringing the total rectory and rector's expenses to £5,712 (2023 £4,965).

The only elected member of the PCC receiving payments in connection with the church was the Bookkeeper. There were no payments to persons related to or connected with the trustees.

Risk management

The PCC consider that the principal risks and uncertainties are:

- The need to fund unexpected costs associated with the churches listed buildings
- An unexpected fall in income, particularly, given the dependence of the church on a limited number of major regular donors
- The requirement to find volunteers and staff with the appropriate skills, time and commitment to support the ministry of the congregation

The PCC seeks to manage these risks and uncertainties by regularly reviewing its mission action plan and its plans for the use of the church buildings.

The trustees annual report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes

Signed: *S. Stuckes* Date: *6 / 3 / 25*

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington**

Registered Charity no.1185209

For the year ended 31st December 2024

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Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	75,189	27,507	-	102,696	100,074	
Charitable activities	6,868	-	-	6,868	8,791	
Other trading activities	15,690	-	-	15,690	18,284	
Investments	9,610	3,972	1,864	15,445	13,138	
Other receipts	3,965	-	-	3,965	4,559	
Total income	111,322	31,479	1,864	144,664	144,845	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	830	-	-	830	1,016	
Charitable activities	87,163	29,896	990	118,049	110,380	
Other trading activities	9,510	-	267	9,777	9,991	
Other expenditure	7,527	-	174	7,701	10,646	
Total expenditure	105,030	29,896	1,431	136,357	132,034	3
Net gains (or losses) on investments	-	-	1,552	1,552	3,323	8
Net income or (net expenditure)	6,292	1,583	1,984	9,860	16,135	
Transfers between funds (net effect) and funds introduced						
	-	434	(434)	-	17,157	7
	6,292	2,017	1,550	9,860	33,292	
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Other gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	6,292	2,017	1,550	9,860	33,292	
Total funds brought forward	90,658	88,102	56,200	234,961	201,670	
Total funds carried forward	£96,950	£90,119	£57,750	£244,821	£234,961	

Balance Sheet

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Heritage assets	-	-	
Endowed investments	57,752	56,201	
Total fixed assets	57,752	56,201	8
Stocks	1,200	1,500	
Debtors	10,800	16,583	10
Investments	-	-	
Cash at bank and in hand	193,953	196,862	
Total current assets	205,953	214,945	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(12,634)	(23,684)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	193,319	191,261	
Total assets less current liabilities	251,071	247,462	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(6,250)	(12,500)	12
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	£244,821	£234,962	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	57,751	56,199	
Restricted income funds	90,119	88,102	
Unrestricted funds	96,950	90,659	
Total charity funds	£244,821	£234,961	13

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 2

Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	18,754	-	-	18,754	18,015
Donation Box	7,077	-	-	7,077	7,665
Service collections	4,735	-	-	4,735	7,388
General donations	31,765	1,113	-	32,878	22,622
Gift Aid recoverable	5,707	-	-	5,707	4,311
Restoration Income incl Gift Aid	-	45	-	45	60
Rectors Mission Fund incl Gift Aid	-	24,849	-	24,849	15,000
Legacies	-	-	-	-	1,000
Grants	7,151	1,500	-	8,651	24,013
Donations and legacies	£75,189	£27,507	-	£102,696	£100,074
Fees for weddings & funerals	6,868	-	-	6,868	8,791
Charitable activities	£6,868	-	-	£6,868	£8,791
Music events	7,005	-	-	7,005	7,373
Other fundraising Income	-	-	-	-	390
Flowers	1,850	-	-	1,850	2,225
Cuckmere News adverts	4,800	-	-	4,800	5,166
Stall sales	2,035	-	-	2,035	3,129
Other trading activities	£15,690	-	-	£15,690	£18,284
Bank & CAF deposit interest	4,210	3,431	-	7,641	6,296
CCLA investment fund dividend	-	-	1,864	1,864	1,037
Chancel Trust Fund income	-	541	-	541	405
Rent from letting of investment property	5,400	-	-	5,400	5,400
Investments	£9,610	£3,972	£1,864	£15,445	£13,138
Other parish contributions to joint benefice costs	3,965	-	-	3,965	4,559
Total income on all funds	£111,322	£31,479	£1,864	£144,664	£144,845
Increase (Decrease) in investment values	-	-	1,552	1,552	3,323
Total income and endowments on all funds	£111,322	£31,479	£3,416	£146,216	£148,168

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 3

Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fundraising incl Restoration fund	830			830	1,016	
Cost of raising funds	£830			£830	£1,016	
Charitable grants and donations				-	-	4
Rectors Mission Fund		24,048		24,048	16,834	
Diocesan parish share	44,763			44,763	40,845	
Clergy and rectory expenses	5,712			5,712	4,965	
Parish administration	7,926			7,926	6,979	
Service costs	638			638	216	
Insurance	3,554			3,554	3,523	
Utility costs	7,900			7,900	8,329	
Office and misc expenses	3,353			3,353	3,112	
Churchyard and memorial garden	5,088	1,114		6,203	6,513	
St Andrew's church maintenance and cleaning	2,659	1,320	696	4,675	4,106	
The Good Shepherd Maintenance	1,506		294	1,800	1,800	
Restoration project building costs		3,414		3,414	12,156	
Bell restoration project costs		-		-	210	
Governance	-			-	-	
Accountancy and bookkeeping assistance	3,912			3,912	500	
Bank charges and investment fees	154			154	293	
Youth Fund	-			-	-	
Cost of charitable activities	£87,163	£29,896	£990	£118,049	£110,380	
Cuckmere News and other printing	5,864	-	-	5,864	6,297	
Stall costs	984			984	1,364	
Flowers	2,662		267	2,929	2,329	
Cost of other trading activities	£9,510	-	£267	£9,777	£9,991	
Music costs	6,886		174	7,060	9,646	
Lullington cottage maintenance and insurance	641			641	1,000	
Total expended on all funds	£105,030	£29,896	£1,431	£136,357	£132,034	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4. Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Family Support		-	-	-	265	
Childrens Society	473	-	-	473	470	
	473	-	-	473	735	

5. Staff costs

Three members of staff were employed throughout 2024

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
			£			
Remuneration						
Wages and salaries	10,161	11,187	-	21,348	20,325	
Employer social security costs	-	82	-	82	-	
Employer pension costs	-	-	-	-	-	
	10,161	11,269	-	21,430	20,325	

6. Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Independent examination	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	

7. Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Transfer from unrestricted funds to Boiler designated funds	1,500		-	1,500	-	
	1,500		-	1,500	-	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8. Fixed Assets

Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2024	-	-	56,200	56,200
Disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-
Purchases at cost	-	-	-	-
Transfer from other endowments	-	-	-	-
Net gains and revaluation	-	-	1,552	1,552
Market value 31 December 2024	-	-	£57,752	£57,752

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets			57,752	57,752	56,201	
Stock	1,200	-	-	1,200	1,500	
Current assets (except cash)	7,533	3,266	-	10,800	16,583	
Cash at bank and on deposit	107,614	86,339	-	193,953	196,862	
Current liabilities	(12,120)	(513)	-	(12,634)	(23,684)	
Long term liabilities	(6,250)	-	-	(6,250)	(12,500)	
	£97,977	£89,092	£57,752	£244,821	£234,962	

10. Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accounts receivable	2,599			2,599	4,316	
Gift Aid and VAT recoverable	1,911		-	1,911	6,261	
Prepayments	179	-	-	179	1,160	
Chancel trust funds	-	3,266	-	3,266	4,388	
Accrued Income	2,844			2,844	457	
	£7,533	£3,266	-	£10,800	£16,583	

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	1,317	-	-	1,317	9,843	
Church collections for charities		513	-	513	470	
Fees paid in advance	690	-	-	690	655	
Income received in advance	6,250	-	-	6,250	7,192	
DBF re Fees	2,663	-	-	2,663	3,524	
Wedding deposits	1,200	-	-	1,200	2,000	
	£12,120	£513	-	£12,634	£23,684	

12. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

Deferred income	£6,250	-	-	£6,250	£12,500	
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Notes to the financial report (continued)

13. Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Parker - Property	20,028	696	(696)	459	20,487
Dr Thomas Beautification	5,299	171	(171)	160	5,459
Penfold Trust- Flowers	2,991	96	(96)	90	3,081
Penfold Trust- Music	5,372	174	(174)	162	5,534
Wimbush Foundation Lullington	9,089	294	(294)	274	9,364
Endowment Fund - AA Baker for Sick and Needy	5,293	171		(11)	5,452
Endowment Fund - Breton for Sick Poor	2,147	69		(4)	2,212
Endowment Fund - Charles Edward Austen Leigh	5,982	194		(13)	6,163
Total of all endowed funds	56,200	1,865	(1,431)	1,117	57,751
Fabric fund	28,368	1,174	-	-	29,542
Memorial Garden	1,092	22	(1,114)	-	(1)
Bell Ringers fund	3,438	564			4,002
Bell Restoration fund	2,641	1,640	-		4,282
Restoration fund	21,125	849	(3,414)		18,560
Lullington fund	3,918	876		-	4,794
Rectors Mission fund	18,453	25,629	(24,048)		20,034
Chancel Trust funds	4,657	541	(1,320)		3,877
Alfriston Charity Fund	4,412	183		434	5,028
Total of all restricted funds	88,102	31,479	(29,896)	434	90,119
General fund	77,158	111,322	(105,030)	(1,500)	81,950
Designated Boiler fund	13,500			1,500	15,000
Total of all unrestricted funds	90,658	111,322	(105,030)	-	96,950
Total funds	£234,961	£144,665	£(136,357)	£1,551	£244,821

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31 December 2024

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2022 set out on pages 1 to 17

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Examiner's signature 

Examiner's name MR PAUL STRICKLAND

Date: 4 / 4 / 2025

Relevant professional qualification{s} or bodies if any: Examiner's

address: Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5QU

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

**The Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Church,
Alfriston with Lullington**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, The Rectory,
Sloe Lane, Alfriston, BN26 5UP

Independent Examiner: Mr Paul Strickland, Rose Cottage, North Street,
Alfriston, BN26 5QU

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc.

Charity Registration No: 1185209

St. Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility for working with the incumbent, Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, and the Ministry Team in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. Charity Registration No 1185209.

When carrying out its duties the PCC and the incumbent give consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, particularly, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

Members/Trustees of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the annual parochial church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC and trustees of the charity:

The Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, the Chairman.

The churchwardens: William Rendall and Sylvia Daw.

The elected members/trustees from the APCM 2023 were Paul Duenas, Jane Ellis, Rodney Young (Treasurer), Jonathan Porter, Paul Wright, Diana Monteath-Wilson and Pauline Kennard.

The ex-officio members were the Ministry Team, Revd. Christyan James (Associate Priest), Revd. Damien Brennan (Curate) and Kelly Ellis (Pastoral Minister).

During the year Patrick Stevens was appointed Deputy Churchwarden and was co-opted on to the PCC.

Pauline Kennard served as Secretary to the PCC.

Committees

The Restoration and Fabric Sub-Committee, responsible to the PCC, raises funds for the restoration of the church and oversees the maintenance and development of the building along with the church wardens

The Standing Committee consists of the Rector, Churchwardens and the Treasurer, as well as Pauline Kennard as PCC secretary. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Church attendance.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held in April 2023, it was reported that there were 114 parishioners on the church electoral roll, an overall decrease of six from that reported at the previous APCM.

During 2023 average church attendance on Sundays remained at somewhere between 50 and 60 for normal services but with considerably increased numbers for Christmas, Easter and other major festivals.

There remains a small number of generally older parishioners who prefer to attend the Wednesday morning Eucharist rather than the Sunday service, but the number of such communicants remains at between 4 and 6.

Of particular note was the remarkable attendance at the Christingle service for children and their parents on the afternoon of Christmas Eve when the church was packed with at least 250 children and their parents. It is clear that this service draws attendance from a far wider area than just the Cuckmere churches parishes.

There were a number of special services and worthy of mention are the special service for All Souls and the service of lessons and carols prior to Christmas which were both well attended.

The monthly summer services held at the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continued to be popular and well-attended in 2023 and the Easter morning and Advent Lantern services attracted an attendance of 30 and 42 respectively.

The number of weddings held in St Andrew's in 2023 was not as great as the possibly record number held in 2022 with seven marriages taking place during the year but the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington is starting to attract those couples wanting a smaller wedding venue, with three marriages and one service of blessing for a marriage being carried out there.

The Parish continues to attract a considerable number of betrothed couples looking for a traditional church wedding and there are a number of bookings for weddings in both the churches of St Andrew's and that of the Good Shepherd in 2024. It is gratifying that a number of couples who were married in St Andrew's continue to regularly worship here.

Review of the year.

The PCC met four times during 2023 with the Standing Committee taking a more active role in the day-to-day management of the church and the ecclesiastical parish affairs.

The PCC is very conscious of its role in reaching out to the less fortunate and continues to actively support Christian Aid.

St Andrew's has for a long time been a supporter of our local Families Support group run by Chichester Diocese for the benefit of families in the diocese in need of support. Under the leadership of Maria Armstrong, the parish has become a substantial supporter with regular donations of groceries and other supplies but also very considerable Christmas gifts and Easter eggs.

St Andrew's continues to attract a very large number of tourist visitors each year, drawn by its history and picturesque location on a mound by a loop in the Cuckmere River with the green of the Tye in front of it. The PCC attempts to accommodate the visitors as much

as possible by keeping the church open during daylight hours and conducting occasional guided visits but is looking for ways to improve the experience for visitors.

The hugely popular South Downs Summer Music Festival continues to be centred round the church for a week in July and there are an increasing number of organisers of musical concerts making use of the excellent acoustics that the church offers. This is something that the church is actively seeking to encourage as both a source of income and as an artistic benefit for the community.

Mission and evangelism

The Rector Stephen Stuckes continues to develop the mission of the Parish in a number of ways.

- The well-established Ministry Team including Mrs Kelly Ellis as Lay Pastoral Minister and Revd. Christyan James as Associate priest and Curate Damien Brennan continues to minister in a variety of ways across the Benefice. Damien was Ordained as Priest at Petertide, and this was followed by a parish celebration. Damien is part-time and self-supporting. Significantly, apart from necessary expenses, none of these posts cost the parish anything since both the Pastoral Minister and Associate Priest are funded by a generous gift and the Curate, as a self-supporting training post, does not require parish funding. This makes it imperative that we make a real effort to fully fund the main ministry post here and this will place increasing financial demands on the Benefice until a 100% PMC contribution is met and able to continue. More regular givers by Standing Order are needed and a request to current givers to increase their contributions.
- Morning prayer is offered on weekdays by the Ministry Team and a Wednesday Eucharist meets the needs of those who cannot make the Sunday celebration.
- The highly-qualified architect John Bailey gives further impetus to the care and development of the church building for mission. Preliminary plans are in development for a significant reordering and restoration of the church and the next important consultation is an informal visit of the D.A.C.
- The restored Bells are being fully utilised with new ringers in training under the tutelage of Tower Captain Pauline Kennard.
- Anthony Davy has taken responsibility for leading the 'Friends' and has coped diligently in resolving a hiatus in banking facilities. He is keen to pursue the necessary support for the developing building project.
- Our services and liturgy are welcoming, accessible and importantly, capable of attracting new members.
- This years' Lent meditations, on the theme of Art and Faith, attracted up to 40 people.
- Further work has been done on the Cuckmere Pilgrim Trail. Scratch dials are now sited in Alfriston and Lullington Churchyards and bespoke shelves which focus an information point have been provided. The Trail is being used by pilgrims.
- The Church remains compliant with all necessary safeguarding measures.
- The South Downs Music Festival was held in the church (and at Lullington) in the summer and was a great success. Already booked for this coming summer the Festival

is important in demonstrating that we are making available the church building for community use, especially as we apply for grants for internal works. We actively look for opportunities to engage the wider community in the use of the church building and the number of musical events is increasing adding both to church funds and to wider engagement with the wider community. Thanks are due to Katherine Arnold who has generously supported musical events which include music composed by her father.

- There are 7 weddings booked this year and we continue to be a desirable destination for this purpose for couples from far and wide. We are encouraged by the presence of those preparing for marriage in our Sunday congregations.
- The appointment of a new Administrator, Maggie Carden, (who attends Litlington Church) has resolved the vacancy following the retirement of Pauline Kennard. Thanks are due to Pastoral Minister Kelly Ellis who covered all the main duties until this appointment in addition to her Pastoral role.
- The Treasurer role has been reconceived now that Rod Young has taken responsibility. Pauline Kennard has been employed for four hours a week as Bookkeeper to support this demanding work.

Pastoral Ministry

The Pastoral Ministry continues to thrive with Kelly Ellis holding lead responsibility in this role but The Curate ably contributing through his developing ministry.

Advent Calendars were delivered to all families with young children within the Benefice. The School were prepared for and held their Christmas and Easter Services in Church.

Visiting the sick and those in need continues diligently.

Music

Our two very fine Organists David Ollosson and Alex Mason have supported the choir and worship to a very high standard. Following the retirement of Kathryn Maulkin as Director of Music David Ollosson has now been appointed as Organist/Choirmaster. Thanks are due to Christine Baelz who ably coordinated choir matters in the vacancy.

Bellringing

The bells are rung for most Sunday services with only a few exceptions due to ill health or holidays. They are also rung, by request, for weddings, funerals and other special occasions. Practices are taking place regularly on a Monday morning and we are grateful to help from other local ringers. There are currently 10 members of the band but as all are over retirement age more need to be recruited for the bells to continue to ring. Practices would be held out of school or office hours if younger ringers were recruited.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Lullington

Summer services took place and again there was a significant service for Advent held outdoors for safety and attended by many people. Important work continues to maintain

the grounds around the church and some trees have been planted to replace those removed to prevent the spread of disease. The church continues to be cared for by a part-time caretaker who occupies Lullington Cottage, tied to this role. The task of updating aspects of the cottage and the arrangements under which it is occupied are progressing. A review of the legal basis of the tenancy and employment is taking place, and a survey of the property is to be carried out.

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an essential link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church. Important matters such as church finance are discussed and it remains a forum in which parishes in the Deanery can take matters to further levels of Church Government.

Church cleaning and decoration

Members of the Flower Guild provide their skills to ensure that the church is beautifully decorated for all appropriate occasions. Monthly volunteer cleaning sessions keep the church in very good order at no cost.

Financial Review

It is the responsibility of the PCC to ensure that the income, expenditure and financial assets of the parish are prudently managed and applied effectively in support of the mission and objectives set out elsewhere in this report.

The investment policy of the PCC entails the use of CCLA/CBF funds, mainly the CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund, for all the parish's endowment funds. A level of funds sufficient for anticipated day to day activities is maintained in a Barclays current account, backed up by an additional reserve in a Barclays savings account which can be accessed quickly if needed. The remainder of the PCC funds, both restricted and general, are pooled for investment purposes and are placed in 3-6 month short term fixed interest bank deposits via the platform provided by CAF. The income from the bank and CAF accounts is apportioned among the relevant PCC funds in accordance with the average balances of these funds during the year. This approach enables the PCC to maximise investment income consistent with accessibility and security.

(CCLA = Churches, Charities and Local Authorities. CBF = Church Board of Finance, CAF = Charities Aid Foundation)

During the year the PCC agreed to accept responsibility for three long-standing endowments in the name of Leigh, Bretton and Baker, previously operated separately from the PCC as "Vicar and Churchwarden" funds. The value of these funds at 31 December 2023 was £5,982, £2,147 and £5,293 respectively, as shown in the accounts. All three endowments have similar provisions, namely that the income be used to help provide for the sick, poor and needy of the parish. The income from these endowments is

now transferred to a restricted fund, The Alfriston Charity fund, to be applied for this same purpose.

For the year to 31 December 2023 the total receipts on general unrestricted funds totalled £103,638 (2022 £97,592) as detailed in the Accounts section of this Report. The total unrestricted donations and grants received, including legacies, amounted to £63,268 (2022 £62,816) with higher General Donations and a lower legacies income than last year. Income from other sources amounted to £27,075 (2022 £23,437) with some reduction in fee income from weddings and funerals but with a large contribution from a special fundraising concert. Grant income totalling £24,013 relates mainly to collection of grants promised for the restoration work carried out to the south transept and the church bells in the last two years. At 31 December 2023 the balance of the Restoration Fund stood at £21,125. There were no contributions from the Friends of Alfriston Church, which is being reorganised in anticipation of a fundraising drive for church fabric repairs, which remain urgent.

A further transfer of £1,500 has been set aside for replacement of the St Andrew's boilers, bringing the total of this designated fund to £13,500.

It has been the policy of the PCC to maintain a minimum balance on the general unrestricted funds which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted payments, as a contingency against unforeseen circumstances. This amount equates to approximately £35,000. However, with the church building of St Andrew's still on the "At Risk" register, and given current financial uncertainties, it has been deemed prudent to retain a balance above this level.

Sharing the Ministry Costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £40,845 (2022 £37,132) paid to the Diocese of Chichester for our share of all churches Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the housing, stipend and pension costs of the clergy and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. The PCC's aim is to progressively increase our contribution to our allocated share of these costs which, in common with many other parishes, we do not currently meet in full. For the 2023 year we met approximately 80% of our allocated share.

Staff Costs

In 2023 the PCC employed a Parish Administrator, a Director of Music and a Pastoral Minister. Towards the end of the year the Administrator role was divided into the separate roles of Administrator and Bookkeeper. The salaries for these new roles will be reflected in the 2024 accounts. In addition, during 2023, the costs of the Associate Priest have been paid to the Diocese. These costs, and the costs of the Pastoral Minister are met from the restricted Rector's Mission Fund. Further details are provided in the notes to the accounts.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC also supported the clergy by paying council tax, water and sewage charges and some minor rectory expenses. In the year the rector claimed expenses of £1,961, bringing the total rectory and rector's expenses to £4,965 (2022 £4,042).

The only elected member of the PCC receiving payments in connection with the church was the Parish Administrator. There were no payments to persons related to or connected with the trustees.

The fabric of the church building

The condition of the church remains a concern. The detailed Quinquennial report prepared by the architect in 2021 highlighted the aspects most in need of addressing.

Little progress has been made in 2023 in addressing the most urgent matters as it is considered that the best approach is to combine both the restoration and headline maintenance work required with plans for an overall re-ordering of the church to make it suitable for the needs of the 21st century, including new low energy lighting, in one overall plan that can be pushed forward as a combined project. This ambitious project will seek to combine both the needs of the church in its mission with the more secular needs of the community that it serves.

Risk management

The PCC consider that the principal risks and uncertainties are:

- The need to fund unexpected costs associated with the churches listed buildings.
- An unexpected fall in income, particularly, given the dependence of the church on a limited number of major regular donors.
- The requirement to find volunteers and staff with the appropriate skills, time and commitment to support the ministry of the congregation.

The PCC seeks to manage these risks and uncertainties by regularly reviewing its mission action plan and its plans for the use of the church buildings.

The trustees annual report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes

Stephen Stuckes

Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes

Date: *20th April 2024*

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington**

Registered Charity no.1185209

For the year ended 31st December 2023

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Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	63,268	36,806	-	100,074	102,798	
Charitable activities	8,791	-	-	8,791	11,589	
Other trading activities	18,284	-	-	18,284	11,848	
Investments	8,737	3,364	1,037	13,138	8,338	
Other receipts	4,559	-	-	4,559	4,165	
Total income	103,638	40,170	1,037	144,845	138,738	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	1,016	-	-	1,016	634	
Charitable activities	79,482	30,155	743	110,380	208,259	
Other trading activities	9,812	-	179	9,991	10,811	
Other expenditure	10,530	-	116	10,646	9,172	
Total expenditure	100,840	30,155	1,038	132,034	228,875	3
Net gains (or losses) on investments	-	-	3,323	3,323	(5,708)	8
Net income or (net expenditure)	2,798	10,015	3,321	16,135	(95,846)	
Transfers between funds (net effect) and funds introduced						
	-	4,123	13,034	17,157	-	7
	2,798	14,138	16,355	33,292	(95,846)	
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Other gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	2,798	14,138	16,355	33,292	(95,846)	
Total funds brought forward	87,861	73,964	39,844	201,670	297,517	
Total funds carried forward	£90,659	£88,102	£56,199	£234,961	£201,671	

Balance Sheet

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Heritage assets	-	-	
Endowed investments	56,201	39,844	
Total fixed assets	56,201	39,844	8
Stocks	1,500	2,200	
Debtors	16,583	13,622	10
Investments	-	-	
Cash at bank and in hand	196,862	179,221	
Total current assets	214,945	195,043	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(23,684)	(14,466)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	191,261	180,577	
Total assets less current liabilities	247,462	220,421	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(12,500)	(18,750)	12
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	£234,962	£201,671	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	56,199	39,844	
Restricted income funds	88,102	69,712	
Unrestricted funds	90,659	92,113	
Total charity funds	£234,961	£201,670	13

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 2

Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	18,015	-	-	18,015	18,713
Donation Box	7,665	-	-	7,665	8,263
Service collections	7,388	-	-	7,388	7,268
General donations	21,316	1,306	-	22,622	17,083
Gift Aid recoverable	4,311	-	-	4,311	5,355
Restoration Income incl Gift Aid	-	60	-	60	6,476
Rectors Mission Fund incl Gift Aid	-	15,000	-	15,000	15,500
Legacies	1,000	-	-	1,000	3,500
Grants	3,573	20,440	-	24,013	20,640
Donations and legacies	£63,268	£36,806	-	£100,074	£102,798
Fees for weddings & funerals	8,791	-	-	8,791	11,589
Charitable activities	£8,791	-	-	£8,791	£11,589
Music events	7,373	-	-	7,373	1,378
Other fundraising Income	390	-	-	390	-
Flowers	2,225	-	-	2,225	3,030
Cuckmere News adverts	5,166	-	-	5,166	4,820
Stall sales	3,129	-	-	3,129	2,619
Other trading activities	£18,284	-	-	£18,284	£11,848
Bank & CAF deposit interest	3,337	2,960	-	6,296	1,453
CCLA interest/dividends	-	-	1,037	1,037	1,163
Chancel Trust Fund income	-	405	-	405	322
Rent from letting of investment property	5,400	-	-	5,400	5,400
Investments	£8,737	£3,364	£1,037	£13,138	£8,338
Other parish contributions to joint benefice costs	4,559	-	-	4,559	4,165
Total income on all funds	£103,638	£40,170	£1,037	£144,845	£138,738
Increase (Decrease) in investment values	-	-	3,323	3,323	(5,708)
Total income and endowments on all funds	£103,638	£40,170	£4,360	£148,168	£133,030

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 3

Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fundraising incl Restoration fund	1,016			1,016	634	
Cost of raising funds	£1,016			£1,016	£634	
Charitable grants and donations				-	-	4
Rectors Mission Fund		16,834		16,834	15,725	
Diocesan parish share	40,845			40,845	37,132	
Clergy and rectory expenses	4,965			4,965	4,042	
Parish administration	6,979			6,979	6,431	
Service costs	216			216	356	
Insurance	3,523			3,523	2,896	
Utility costs	8,329			8,329	7,879	
Office and misc expenses	3,112			3,076	3,116	
Churchyard and memorial garden	5,778	735		6,513	4,200	
St Andrew's church maintenance and cleaning	3,339	220	547	4,106	4,004	
The Good Shepherd Maintenance	1,604		196	1,800	3,138	
Restoration project building costs		12,156		12,156	58,538	
Bell restoration project costs		210		210	60,048	
Governance	-			36	22	
Accountancy	500			500	500	
Bank charges and investment fees	293			293	232	
Youth Fund	-			-	-	
Cost of charitable activities	£79,482	£30,155	£743	£110,380	£208,259	
Cuckmere News and other printing	6,297			6,297	7,338	
Stall costs	1,364			1,364	1,161	
Flowers	2,150		179	2,329	2,312	
Cost of other trading activities	£9,812	-	£179	£9,991	£10,811	
Music costs	9,530		116	9,646	8,076	
Lullington cottage maintenance and insurance	1,000			1,000	1,095	
Total expended on all funds	£100,840	£30,155	£1,038	£132,033	£228,875	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4. Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
St Wilfred's Hospice		-	-	265	630	
Church of England Childrens Society		-	-	470	416	
	-	-	-	735	1,046	

5. Staff costs

Three members of staff were employed throughout 2021

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Remuneration						
Wages and salaries	10,390	9,935	-	20,325	17,747	
Employer social security costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Employer pension costs	-	-	-	-	-	
	10,390	9,935	-	20,325	17,747	

6. Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Independent examination	36			36	22	
	36	-	-	36	22	

7. Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Transfer from unrestricted funds to Boiler designated funds	1,500			1,500	-	
	1,500		-	1,500	-	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8. Fixed Assets

Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2023	-	-	39,844	39,844
Disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-
Purchases at cost	-	-	-	-
Transfer from other endowments	-	-	13,034	13,034
Net gains and revaluation	-	-	3,323	3,323
Market value 31 December 2023	-	-	£56,201	£56,201

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets			56,201	56,201	39,844	
Stock	1,500	-	-	1,500	2,200	
Current assets (except cash)	12,195	4,388	-	16,583	13,622	
Cash at bank and on deposit	113,883	82,980	-	196,862	179,221	
Current liabilities	(22,949)	(735)	-	(23,684)	(14,466)	
Long term liabilities	(12,500)	-	-	(12,500)	(18,750)	
	£92,129	£86,632	£56,201	£234,962	£201,672	

10. Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accounts receivable	4,316	-	-	4,316	2,200	
Gift Aid and VAT recoverable	6,261	-	-	6,261	6,585	
Prepayments	1,160	-	-	1,160	584	
Chancel trust funds	-	4,388	-	4,388	4,252	
Accrued Income	457	-	-	457	-	
	£12,195	£4,388	-	£16,583	£13,622	

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	9,843	-	-	9,843	2,087	
Church collections for charities	-	735	-	735	416	
Fees paid in advance	655	-	-	655	155	
Income received in advance	7,192	-	-	7,192	8,523	
DBF re Fees	3,524	-	-	3,524	1,285	
Wedding deposits	2,000	-	-	2,000	2,000	
	£23,214	£735	-	£23,949	£14,466	

12. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

Deferred income	£12,500	-	-	£12,500	£18,750
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Notes to the financial report (continued)

13. Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Parker - Property	18,306	548	(548)	1,722	20,028
Dr Thomas Beautification	5,019	114	(114)	280	5,299
Penfold Trust- Flowers	2,822	64	(64)	168	2,991
Penfold Trust- Music	5,088	116	(116)	284	5,372
Wimbush Foundation Lullington	8,609	196	(196)	480	9,089
Endowment Fund - AA Baker for Sick and Needy	-			5,293	5,293
Endowment Fund - Breton for Sick Poor				2,147	2,147
Endowment Fund - Charles Edward Austen Leigh				5,982	5,982
Total of all endowed funds	39,844	1,038	(1,038)	16,355	56,199
Fabric fund	27,577	1,011	(220)	-	28,368
Memorial Garden	1,775	52	(735)	-	1,092
Bell Ringers fund	2,988	450			3,438
Bell Restoration fund	1,084	1,767	(210)		2,641
Restoration fund	13,848	19,432	(12,156)		21,125
Lullington fund	2,841	1,077		-	3,918
Rectors Mission fund	19,599	15,688	(16,834)		18,453
Chancel Trust funds*	4,252	405			4,657
Alfriston Charity Fund		289		4,123	4,412
Total of all restricted funds	73,964	40,170	(30,155)	4,123	88,102
General fund	75,861	103,638	(100,840)	(1,500)	77,159
Designated Boiler fund	12,000			1,500	13,500
Total of all unrestricted funds	87,861	103,638	(100,840)	-	90,659
Total funds	£201,670	£144,846	£(132,034)	£20,478	£234,961

*NB The Chancel Trust Fund has previously been included as an unrestricted fund but the Diocesan limitations on how it can be spent makes it more properly a restricted fund

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31 December 2023

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2022 set out on pages 1 to 17

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Examiner's signature



Examiner's name

MR PAUL STRICKLAND

Date:

20th May 2024

Relevant professional qualification(s) or bodies if any:

ICMA retired

Examiner's address: Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5QU

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, The Rectory,
Sloe Lane, Alfriston, BN26 5UP

Independent Examiner: Mr Paul Strickland, Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston,
BN26 5QU

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc.

Charity Registration No: 1185209

**St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington
Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Structure, Governance and management of the charity.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission, as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure, 1956. Charity registration No. 1185209.

When planning our activities for the year, our Incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, particularly, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

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

During the year the following served as members of the PCC and Trustees of the charity:

The Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, The Chairman.

The Churchwardens: William Rendell, and Sylvia Daw.

The elected Members/ Trustees from the APCM 2022 were Paul Duenas, Kenneth Edwards, Jane Ellis, Kelly Ellis, Pauline Kennard, Jonathan Porter, David Withers, Paul Wright and Rod Young from 17/11/22. During the year Kenneth Edwards and David Withers resigned.

Committees

The Restoration and Fabric Sub Committee, responsible to the PCC, raises funds for the restoration of the church and oversees the maintenance and development of the building along with the churchwardens.

The Standing Committee is the Rector, Churchwardens and Treasurer. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Church attendance.

At the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 26th March 2022, it was reported that there were 120 parishioners on the church electoral roll. An overall increase of nine from that reported at the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

In last year's report it was stated that it appeared that some sort of equilibrium had been reached following the lifting of Covid restrictions with a normal Sunday congregation of some 50 to 60. During 2022 that equilibrium was maintained with the average Sunday attendance continuing to be between 50 and 60.

There remains a small number of generally older parishioners who would appear to feel safer at, or for whatever reason prefer to attend, the Wednesday morning Eucharist, but the number of communicants is now reduced to between four and six.

Numbers of attendees at Christmas and Easter Day services were again much higher than at normal services and there was a welcome return of a more normal Christingle service (following the previous year's outdoor version) with an attendance of 139.

There were a number of special services and worthy of mention are the special sung evensong for All Souls and the service of lessons and carols prior to Christmas which were both well attended.

The monthly summer services held at the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lullington continued to be popular and well-attended, blessed by good weather during 2022 and the Easter morning and Advent Lantern services attracted an attendance of 51 and 40 respectively.

2022 also saw a near record number of weddings taking place in St Andrew's as part of the catching-up process following the Covid restrictions. As mentioned in the Rector's report, it is gratifying that a number of couples married at St Andrew's continue to worship at the church.

Review of the year.

The PCC met four times during the year at quarterly intervals and benefited from a nearly full attendance at each meeting. It is sad to report that one of the most stalwart members of the PCC, Mr David Withers, who was also a lay reader, choir member and enthusiastic fund raiser for the church, suffered a severe illness and had to retire from the PCC when he moved with his wife to live near his step-daughter in Northumberland.

The PCC is very conscious of its role in reaching out to the less fortunate and continues to actively support Christian Aid.

St Andrew's has for a long time been a supporter of our local Families Support group run by Chichester Diocese for the benefit of families in need of support as the name implies. During the last year under the leadership of Maria Armstrong, the parish has continued to be supportive with regular donations of groceries and other supplies including Christmas gifts and Easter eggs. Also, our Churchwarden, Sylvia Daw, has arranged additional fund-raising events for this charity outside the church environs.

St. Andrews holds a unique place in the village. Its raised position near the river and the charm of the approach through a twitten revealing the church surrounded with the grass of the Tye, is a huge tourist attraction which many people visiting the village greatly appreciate. The village recognises this and the value that this brings to the village as a whole. It should be noticed that a team of volunteers arrange to keep the church open roughly from dawn to sunset throughout the year so that visitors may appreciate it.

Mission and Evangelism

The Rector Stephen Stuckes has continued to develop the mission of the Parish in a number of ways.

The now well-established Ministry Team including Mrs Kelly Ellis as Lay Pastoral Minister and Revd. Christyan James as Associate priest expanded during 2022 with the appointment of a Curate to the Benefice. Damien Brennan was ordained as Deacon on July

2nd, 2022, and commenced his ministry here in September. Damien is part-time and self-supporting. Significantly, apart from necessary expenses, none of the Ministry Team apart from the Rector cost the parish anything since both the Pastoral Minister and Associate Priest are funded by a generous gift and the Curate, as a training post, will be funded by the Diocese. This makes it imperative that we continue our effort to fully fund the main ministry post here (we are now at 80%) and this will place increasing financial demands on both the Parish and the wider Benefice for the next four years and beyond as we seek to become self-supporting.

More regular givers using facilities such as Standing Order or Parish Giving are needed, and a letter is to go to parishioners during 2023 to encourage this.

Morning prayer is offered on weekdays by the Ministry Team and a service of Holy Communion is offered on Wednesday mornings.

The Rector works closely with Miss Pauline Kennard in the administration of these churches and other churches within the benefice. Pauline took on the book-keeping role in early 2022 following the retirement as Treasurer of Mrs Carol Hodson. Mr Rod Young is now Acting Treasurer and has done sterling work in becoming fully familiar with the technicalities of the Treasurer's role.

Further work needs to be done to develop the recently instituted Cuckmere Pilgrim Trail. It is intended that a scratch dial marking the trail will be installed in the Churchyard but it is pleasing to report that the Trail is being used by pilgrims.

The Church remains compliant with all necessary safeguarding measures.

The South Downs Music Festival was held in St Andrew's church (including a "micro-concert" at Lullington) in July 2022 and was again a great success. Already booked for this coming summer, the Festival is important in demonstrating that we are making available the church building for community use, especially as we apply for grants for internal works. We need to actively look for opportunities to engage the wider community in the use of the church building.

There are 11 weddings (7 at Alfriston and 4 at Lullington) booked for 2023 and we continue to be a desirable destination for this purpose for couples from far and wide. We are encouraged by the presence of those preparing for marriage in our Sunday congregations. Pauline Kennard takes the lead in the administration of weddings and liaison with wedding couples.

The appointment of a new highly-qualified architect gives further impetus to the care and development of the church building for mission. The Bells are now fully restored at a cost of £60,048. A great celebration was held to mark this achievement led by the Bishop of Chichester. Plans are in hand for developing the Lady Chapel/South Transept and for further works to restore the North Transept. Special mention should be given to Paul Duenas who takes a lead in liaising with the architect. Anthony Davy has taken responsibility for leading the 'Friends of St Andrew's', a body set up to cater for those who are not regular churchgoers but who wish to provide support for the church as a centre of the community. A new Trust has been established but the 'Friends' have not yet been called upon to resource a specific need.

Our services and liturgy are welcoming, accessible and importantly, capable of attracting new members.

2023's Lent meditations, on the theme of the spirituality of the senses are attracting good numbers as did 2022's meditations shared with the neighbouring benefice of Berwick et al.

Pastoral Ministry

The Pastoral Ministry continues to thrive with Kelly Ellis holding lead responsibility for this important part of the overall ministry. A trained and commissioned Lay Worship Leader Kelly also leads worship as part of the ministry team.

Advent Calendars were delivered to all families with young children within the Benefice. The pupils and staff of Alfriston Primary School were prepared for and held their Christmas Service in Church and Easter and Nativity Trails attracted a good number of local families to explore the Easter and Christmas Stories.

Visiting the sick and those in need continues to be carried out as necessary.

Music

Together with our two very fine Organists, David Ollosson and Alex Mason, the choir continue to resource the music ministry in worship under the respected leadership of Kathryn Maulkin, Director of Music. The service for All Souls was again a real highlight as well as a recent Sung Evensong where we were joined by the choir of Holy Trinity Church Southend. We are fortunate to have music and singing to such a good standard.

Bellringing

The bells are rung regularly for most services although it is not always possible to ring all six bells due to lack of ringers. Recruitment for new members of the band is ongoing but sadly there has been little interest. The recently hung service bell is used for all Eucharist services and tolling before some other services.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Lullington.

There are a number of minor works identified in the current Quinquennial Survey still needing to be carried out. Summer services took place and again there was a significant service for Advent attended by many people despite poor weather. Important work continues to maintain the grounds around the church and trees have been planted to replace those removed to prevent the spread of disease.

The church itself has been cared for by a part-time caretaker who occupies Lullington Cottage, tied to this role. The task of updating aspects of the cottage and the arrangements under which it is occupied are progressing. The waste facility needs repair and updating following which a review of the tenancy is to take place.

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church. Important matters such as church finance are discussed

and it remains a forum in which parishes in the Deanery can take matters of concern to further levels of Church Government.

Church cleaning and decoration.

Members of the Flower Guild provide their skills to ensure that the church is beautifully decorated for all occasions. Monthly in-house cleaning sessions by volunteers keep the church of St Andrew in very good order.

Conclusion

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes is Rector for the Benefice of Alfriston with Lullington, Litlington, West Dean and Folkington. St Andrew's PCC supports the Rector's work in developing the unity of the Benefice churches.

Financial Review

The total receipts on general unrestricted funds received were £97,592 (2021: £107,082) and are detailed in the Financial Report. The overall unrestricted donations and grants received, including legacies, amounted to £62,816 (2021: £79,327) a 20.81% decrease on 2021, largely due to a reduction in planned giving and several significant donations resulting from the Rector's appeal in the previous year.

The PCC received one legacy payment in the year of £3,500 and one legacy payment is pending.

However, income from other sources increased to £23,437 compared to £17,687 in 2021. This increase arose due to an increase in weddings, stall income and, significantly, an increase in flower income from weddings, a fundraising event and a generous donation towards new containers for arrangements.

The PCC was grateful for the donations and grants for the benefit of the Restoration Fund and the Bell Restoration project, which amounted to £23,827 including Gift Aid. The fund balance stands at £14,932 at 31 December 2022

The Rectors Mission Fund continues to be supported by an anonymous donor. The fund balance stands at £19,599 as at 31 December 2022.

There were no contributions from the Friends of St Andrew's Church in 2022.

Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £37,132 paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the housing, stipend and pension costs of the clergy and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. The cost of church insurance,

£2,896, is now paid directly to Ecclesiastical Insurance whereas in previous years it formed part of the PMC payment to the Diocese.

In 2022, the church of St Andrew met close to 75% of the costs.

Staff costs

The PCC employs a Parish Administrator, Director of Music and Pastoral Minister. In addition during the year the costs of the Associate Priest have been paid to the Diocese along with payments to various organists. The costs of the Associate Priest and Pastoral Minister are covered by donations made to the restricted Rectors Mission Fund. Further details are provided in the notes to the accounts.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC also supported the clergy by paying Council Tax, Water rates and some minor rectory expenses amounting to £2,438 (2021: 3,500).

No PCC members received payments in connection with the church in the year to 31.12.22. In the year to 31.12.22 the Rector claimed expenses of £1,604, in accordance with his duties, for telephone, benefice travel and other miscellaneous expenses.

There were no payments to persons related to or connected with the trustees.

The fabric of the church building

The condition of the church remains a concern. The detailed Quinquennial report prepared by the architect in 2021 highlighted the aspects most in need of addressing.

During 2022 the external walls of the South Transept were re-pointed to prevent further damp penetration. Following this work, it is intended that the internal walls will be stripped of internal plaster and allowed to dry out prior to being replastered in similar material to that used on the south wall of the chancel. It is also intended to repeat the process on the walls of the north transept as soon as possible. Nevertheless, it is anticipated that the need for major structural renewal will become increasingly urgent and the PCC and the wider community continues to actively fundraise for the restoration appeal. The current balance in the restoration fund is £14,932 but there are certain funds still to be collected from grant making bodies that will increase this balance.

During 2022 a major project was undertaken to retune, refurbish and rehang the church bells. This included the re-hanging of the bell that had stood on the church floor since 1928, to be used as a service bell. The work was entirely funded by a combination of grants and individual contributions. To the end of 2022 this project has cost £60,048.

During 2022, general funds amounting to £1,500 were set aside in a designated fund to accumulate sufficient money to pay for the future cost of replacing the boilers installed in 2016. At the end of 2022 the total in this fund amounted to £12,000.

In addition to this reserve, the restricted fabric fund amounting to £27,577 is retained towards works other than those covered by the restoration work plan.

It has been PCC policy to invest temporarily surplus funds in a Barclays deposit fund, returning necessary funds to our current account as they are needed to pay day-to-day bills or future commitments. In 2021 the PCC also established a CAF platform which gives access to a range of interest bearing accounts. At 31 December 2022 the sum of £34,000 was held in the Barclays deposit account, and £122,000 in the CAF platform accounts.

Why we hold some money in reserve

It is PCC policy to maintain a minimum balance on the general unrestricted funds which equates to approximately three months' worth of unrestricted payments as contingency against unforeseen situations. This amount equates to approximately £25,000

Risk Management

The PCC consider that the principal risks and uncertainties are:

- The need to fund unexpected costs associated with the church's listed buildings.
- An unexpected fall in income, particularly given the dependence of the church on a limited number of major regular donors.
- The requirement to find volunteers and staff with the appropriate skills, time and commitment to support the ministry of the congregation.

The PCC seeks to manage these risks and uncertainties by regularly reviewing its Mission Action Plan and its plans for the use of the church buildings. The Rector is also developing a long term plan for the parish which in due course will be presented to the PCC for discussion.

The church maintains its properties to a high standard and carries out the priority items of a Quinquennial review in a timely manner.

There is a continuing programme which emphasises God's generosity to the congregation and the need for the congregation to respond to that generosity in their own giving through time, talents and money. The PCC also proactively seeks grants to support its activities.

The trustees annual report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes



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Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes

Date:

23rd April 2023

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington**

Registered Charity no.1185209

For the year ended 31st December 2022

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Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	62,816	39,982	-	102,798	157,215	
Charitable activities	11,589	-	-	11,589	9,432	
Other trading activities	11,848	-	-	11,848	8,255	
Investments	7,175	-	1,163	8,338	6,900	
Other receipts	4,165	-	-	4,165	4,394	
Total Income	97,592	39,982	1,163	138,738	186,196	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	634	-	-	634	1,272	
Charitable activities	71,787	135,681	791	208,259	84,925	
Other trading activities	10,586	-	225	10,811	8,204	
Other expenditure	9,026	-	146	9,172	15,779	
Total expenditure	92,032	135,681	1,162	228,875	110,180	3
Net gains (or losses) on Investments	-	-	(5,708)	(5,708)	851	8
Net income or (net expenditure)	5,560	(95,699)	(5,707)	(95,846)	76,867	
Transfers between funds (net effect)						
	5,560	(95,699)	(5,707)	(95,846)	76,867	7
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Other gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	5,560	(95,699)	(5,707)	(95,846)	76,867	
Total funds brought forward	91,225	160,739	45,553	297,517	220,650	
Total funds carried forward	£96,785	£65,040	£39,846	£201,671	£297,517	

Balance Sheet

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Heritage assets	-	-	
Endowed Investments	39,844	45,553	
Total fixed assets	39,844	45,553	8
Stocks	2,200	1,584	
Debtors	13,622	8,249	10
Investments	-	-	
Cash at bank and in hand	179,221	247,353	
Total current assets	195,043	257,186	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14,466)	(5,222)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	180,577	251,964	
Total assets less current liabilities	220,421	297,517	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(18,750)	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	£201,671	£297,517	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	39,844	45,553	
Restricted income funds	69,712	160,739	
Unrestricted funds	92,113	91,225	
Total charity funds	£201,670	£297,517	13

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 2

Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	18,713	-	-	18,713	22,102
Donation Box	8,263	-	-	8,263	7,657
Service collections	7,268	-	-	7,268	5,671
General donations	16,796	287	-	17,083	30,167
Gift Aid recoverable	4,987	369	-	5,355	13,622
Restoration Income Incl Gift Aid	-	6,476	-	6,476	53,668
Rectors Mission Fund Incl Gift Aid	-	15,500	-	15,500	18,275
Legacies	3,500	-	-	3,500	1,000
Grants	3,289	17,351	-	20,640	5,053
Donations and legacies	£62,816	£39,982	-	£102,798	£157,215
Fees for weddings & funerals	11,589	-	-	11,589	9,432
Charitable activities	£11,589	-	-	£11,589	£9,432
Music events	1,378	-	-	1,378	1,200
Other fundraising income	-	-	-	-	1,223
Flowers	3,030	-	-	3,030	270
Cuckmere News adverts	4,820	-	-	4,820	4,403
Stall sales	2,619	-	-	2,619	1,159
Other trading activities	£11,848	-	-	£11,848	£8,255
Bank & CAF deposit interest	1,453	-	-	1,453	13
CBF investment fund dividend	-	-	1,163	1,163	1,226
Chancel Trust Fund income	322	-	-	322	261
Rent from letting of investment property	5,400	-	-	5,400	5,400
Investments	£7,175	-	£1,163	£8,338	£6,900
Other parish contributions to joint benefice costs	4,165	-	-	4,165	4,394
Total income on all funds	£97,592	£39,982	£1,163	£138,738	£186,196
Increase (Decrease) in investment values	-	-	(5,708)	(5,708)	851
Total income and endowments on all funds	£97,592	£39,982	£(4,545)	£133,030	£187,047

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 3

Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fundraising Incl Restoration fund	634			634	1,272	
Cost of raising funds	£634			£634	£1,272	
Charitable grants and donations				-	-	4
Rectors Mission Fund		15,725		15,725	15,731	
Dioecesan parish share	37,132			37,132	33,271	
Clergy and rectory expenses	4,042			4,042	4,812	
Parish administration	6,431			6,431	6,270	
Service costs	356			356	402	
Insurance	2,896			2,896	2,790	
Utility costs	7,879			7,879	6,015	
Office and misc expenses	3,116			3,116	2,896	
Churchyard and memorial garden	3,360	840		4,200	4,290	
St Andrew's church maintenance and cleaning	2,930	530	544	4,004	3,799	
The Good Shepherd Maintenance	2,891		247	3,138	2,060	
Restoration project building costs		58,538		58,538	2,410	
Bell restoration project costs		60,048		60,048	-	
Governance	22			22	24	
Accountancy	500			500	-	
Bank charges and investment fees	232			232	-	
Youth Fund	-			-	155	
Cost of charitable activities	£71,787	£135,681	£791	£208,259	£84,925	
Cuckmere News and other printing	7,338			7,338	6,244	
Stall costs	1,161			1,161	592	
Flowers	2,087		225	2,312	1,368	
Cost of other trading activities	£10,586	-	£225	£10,811	£8,204	
Music costs	7,930		146	8,076	7,742	
Lullington cottage maintenance and Insurance	1,095			1,095	8,037	
Total expended on all funds	£92,032	£135,681	£1,162	£228,875	£110,180	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4. Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Family Support		-	-	630	-	
Childrens Society		-	-	416	229	
	-	-	-	1,046	229	

5. Staff costs

Three members of staff were employed throughout 2022

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Remuneration						
Wages and salaries	10,227	8,762	-	18,989	17,747	
Employer social security costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Employer pension costs	-	-	-	-	-	
	10,227	8,762	-	18,989	17,747	

6. Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Independent examination	22	-	-	22	24	
	22	-	-	22	24	

7. Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Transfer from unrestricted funds to Boller designated funds	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,500	
Transfer from Restoration Fund to Bell Restoration Fund (being donations to the Bell Restoration Fund In 2021)	-	41,270	-	41,270	-	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8. Fixed Assets

Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2022	-	-	45,553	45,553
Disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-
Purchases at cost	-	-	-	-
Net gains and revaluation	-	-	(5,708)	(5,708)
Market value 31 December 2022	-	-	£39,844	£39,844

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets			39,844	39,844	45,553	
Stock	2,200	-	-	2,200	1,584	
Current assets (except cash)	9,370	4,252	-	13,622	8,249	
Cash at bank and on deposit	114,177	65,045	-	179,221	247,353	
Current liabilities	(14,050)	(416)	-	(14,466)	(5,222)	
Long term liabilities	(18,750)	-	-	(18,750)	-	
	£92,947	£68,881	£39,844	£201,672	£297,517	

10. Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accrued Income	2,200	-	-	2,200	4,052	
Gift Aid and VAT recoverable	6,585	-	-	6,585	-	
Prepayments	584	-	-	584	-	
Chancel trust funds	-	4,252	-	4,252	4,197	
Accounts receivable	-	-	-	-	-	
	£9,370	£4,252	-	£13,622	£8,249	

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	2,087	-	-	2,087	735	
Church collections for charities	-	416	-	416	1,472	
Fees paid in advance	155	-	-	155	15	
Income received in advance	8,523	-	-	8,523	-	
DBF re Fees	1,285	-	-	1,285	-	
Wedding deposits	2,000	-	-	2,000	3,000	
	£14,050	£416	-	£14,466	£5,222	

12. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

Deferred Income	£18,750	-	-	£18,750	-	
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Notes to the financial report (continued)

13. Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Parker - Property	20,721	544	(544)	(2,415)	18,306
Dr Thomas Beautification	5,784	144	(144)	(765)	5,019
Penfold Trust- Flowers	3,264	81	(81)	(442)	2,822
Penfold Trust- Music	5,863	146	(146)	(775)	5,088
Wimbush Foundation Lullington	9,921	247	(247)	(1,312)	8,609
Total of all endowed funds	45,553	1,162	(1,162)	(5,709)	39,844
Fabric fund	27,738	369	(530)	-	27,577
Memorial Garden	2,615		(840)	-	1,775
Bell Ringers fund	2,988				2,988
Bell Restoration fund	-	19,862	(60,048)	41,270	1,084
Restoration fund	109,691	3,965	(58,538)	(41,270)	13,848
Lullington fund	2,554	287		-	2,841
Rectors Mission fund	15,153	15,500	(15,725)	4,672	19,599
Total of all restricted funds	160,739	39,982	(135,681)	4,672	69,712
General fund	71,856	97,537	(92,032)	(1,500)	75,861
Designated Boiler fund	10,500			1,500	12,000
Youth fund	4,672			(4,672)	-
Chancel Trust funds	4,197	55			4,252
Total of all unrestricted funds	91,225	97,592	(92,032)	(4,672)	92,113
Total funds	£297,517	£138,737	£(228,875)	£(5,709)	£201,669

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31 December 2022

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2022 set out on pages 1 to 17

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Examiner's signature



Examiner's name

MR PAUL STRICKLAND

Date:

22nd April 2023

Relevant professional qualification{s} or bodies if any:

Examiner's address: Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5QU

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, The Rectory, Sloe Lane, Alfriston, BN26 5UP

Independent examiner: Mr Paul Strickland, Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston BN26 5QU

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc. , High Street, Lewes, BN7 2JP

Charity Registration No: 1185209

St. Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes is Rector for the Benefice of Alfriston with Lullington, Litlington, West Dean and Folkington. St Andrew's PCC supports the Rector's work in developing the unity of the Benefice churches.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. Charity Registration No 1185209.

When planning our activities for the year, our Incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, particularly, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

Members/ Trustees of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the annual parochial church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation rules

During the year the following served as members of the PCC and trustees of the charity:

The Incumbent: Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, the Chairman.

The churchwardens: William Rendall and Sylvia Daw (from 15.04.21).

The elected members/trustees from the APCM 2021 were Paul Duenas, Kenneth Edwards, Jane Ellis, Kelly Ellis, Carol Hodson (Treasurer), Pauline Kennard, David Ostler, Jonathan Porter and David Withers, Paul Wright (from 17.06.21).

Committees

The Restoration and Fabric Sub-Committee, responsible to the PCC, raises funds for the restoration of the church and oversees the maintenance and development of the building along with the church wardens

The Standing Committee is The Rector, Churchwardens and Treasurer. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Church attendance

At the last AGM, held on 15 April 2021, it was reported that there were 111 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, an increase of 2 from that reported at the previous Covid delayed AGM held 6 months earlier. We are again pleased to report that a number of new residents in the village and surrounding areas have become regular St Andrew's churchgoers and it is anticipated that numbers on the electoral roll to be reported at this AGM will show a significant increase.

At the time of the last AGM the country was starting to emerge from the second lockdown. Church services were allowed to be held but many restrictions were still in force and caution was the word. During the course of the year these restrictions were gradually removed and their removal was

St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington Trustees report for the year ended 31.12.21

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accompanied by a reciprocal increase in church attendance. It would appear that some form of equilibrium has now been reached and the usual congregation at the main 10.30 Eucharist service on Sunday's is in the 50 to 60 range. There are a small number of generally older parishioners who would appear to feel safer at or, for whatever reason, would prefer to attend the Wednesday morning Eucharist where the number of communicants is normally around 8.

Numbers of attendees at Christmas services were below pre-Covid level but it is nice to be able to report that our Christingle Service on Christmas Eve, held outside on the Tye for safety reasons, was something of a record with an estimated 200 attendees. It was clear that many people who would normally have attended Christmas church services felt more comfortable attending the Christingle service outside in decidedly damp conditions.

Review of the year

The PCC still met six times during the year, at bi-monthly intervals and benefited from a nearly full attendance at each meeting.

It was possible to hold the Annual General Meeting at the normal time but this had to be done via Zoom. Sylvia Daw was appointed as Churchwarden at the AGM.

The Friends of St. Andrew's have been reconstituted during the year with Anthony Davy as the new Chair following the retirement of Michael Staff. The Friends is being re-established with a new Constitution.

The PCC is very conscious of its role in reaching out to the less fortunate and particularly supports Christian Aid. Christian Aid fund raising in excess of £1000 and further donations have been made to other charities through collections etc.

We support our local Family Support Group with a basket in church for grocery donations.

St Andrew's holds a unique place in the village. Its raised position near the river and the charm of the approach through a twitten revealing the church surrounded with grass is a huge tourist attraction which many people visit. The village recognises this and the value that this brings to the village as a whole.

Mission and evangelism

The Rector Stephen Stuckes continues to develop the mission of the Parish in a number of ways.

- The now well-established Ministry Team including Mrs Kelly Ellis as Lay Pastoral Minister and Revd. Christyan James as Associate priest is due to expand this summer with the appointment of a Curate to the Benefice. Damien Brennan is due to be ordained as Deacon on July 2nd and will commence his ministry with us then. Damien will be part-time and self-supporting. Significantly, apart from necessary expenses, none of these posts cost the parish anything since both the Pastoral Minister and Associate Priest are funded by a generous gift and the Curate, as a training post, will be funded by the Diocese. This makes it imperative that we make a real effort to fully fund the main ministry post here and this will place increasing financial demands on the Benefice for the next five years and beyond. More regular givers by Standing Order are needed and a letter has been sent out to the parish to encourage this
- Morning prayer is offered on weekdays. The Rector is joined by Kelly and Christyan whenever possible and Paul Yeates is especially supportive of the ministry team.

- The appointment of a new highly-qualified architect gives further impetus to the care and development of the church building for mission. As this is written the Bells are being restored in a fully funded £70,000 project. Plans are in hand for developing the Lady Chapel/South Transept and for further works to restore the North Transept. Special mention should be given to Paul Duenas who takes a lead in liaising with the architect and to David Withers whose diligent pursuit of grant monies on our behalf has made a significant difference. Anthony Davy has taken responsibility for leading the 'Friends'.
- Our diligent care of the church building has been noted in a communication following a recent visit of Diocesan Church buildings Officer Greg Moore. Our services and liturgy are welcoming, accessible and importantly, capable of attracting new members.
- This year's Lent meditations, on the theme of the spirituality of Earth, Wind Water and Fires, are being shared with Berwick Benefice.
- Further work needs to be done to develop the Cuckmere Pilgrim Trail. A scratch dial is proposed for the Churchyard in this connection but the Trail is being used by pilgrims.
- The Church remains compliant with all necessary safeguarding measures.
- The South Downs Music Festival was held in the church (and at Lullington) in the summer and was a great success. Already booked for this coming summer the Festival is important in demonstrating that we are making available the church building for community use, especially as we apply for grants for internal works. We need to actively look for opportunities to engage the wider community in the use of the church building.
- There are approaching 20 weddings booked this year and we continue to be a desirable destination for this purpose for couples from far and wide. We are encouraged by the presence of those preparing for marriage in our Sunday congregations. Pauline Kennard takes the lead in the administration of weddings and liaison with wedding couples.
- The Treasurer role is being reconceived following the retirement of Carol Hodson as from 31 March 2022 after seven years faithful service.

Pastoral Ministry

The Pastoral Ministry continues to thrive with Kelly Ellis holding lead responsibility in this role. Kelly further developed her own ministry by pursuing training available through the Diocese. In Autumn term 2021 she completed the Lay Worship Leader Course. In January this year she was Commissioned in this role by the Bishop of Horsham at Chichester Cathedral.

Advent Calendars were delivered to all families with young children within the Benefice. The School were prepared for and held their Christmas Service In Church and Easter and Nativity Trails attracted a good number of local families to explore the Easter and Christmas Stories.

We also remain in touch with the Pre-school and regularly welcome them into the church for activity-based sessions to explore seasons in the Christian calendar.

Visiting the sick and those in need continues as necessary.

Music

Together with our two very fine Organists, David Ollosson and Alex Mason, the choir have fully re-established the music ministry under the respected leadership of Kathryn Maulkin Director of Music. The service for All Souls was again a real highlight. We are fortunate to have music and singing to such a good standard.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Lullington

The Quinquennial Survey held last year requires a number of works to be carried out which are now in hand. Summer services took place and again there was a significant service for Advent held outdoors for safety and attended by many people. Important work continues to maintain the grounds around the church and some trees have been planted to replace those removed to prevent the spread of disease. Tim Beech who died this year was commemorated by the planting of a Beech Tree. The church itself has been cared for by a part-time caretaker who occupies Lullington Cottage, tied to this role. The task of updating aspects of the cottage and the arrangements under which it is occupied are progressing. A review of the tenancy is taking place.

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church. Important matters such as church finance were discussed and it remains a forum in which parishes in the Deanery can take matters of concern to further levels of Church Government.

Church cleaning and decoration

Members of the Flower Guild provide their skills to ensure that the church is beautifully decorated for all appropriate occasions. Professional Cleaning of the Church during the most severe Covid period has now been replaced by monthly in-house cleaning sessions.

Conclusion

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes is Rector for the Benefice of Alfriston with Lullington, Litlington, West Dean and Folkington. St Andrew's PCC supports the Rector's work in developing the unity of the Benefice churches.

Financial Review

The total receipts on general unrestricted funds received were £107,082 (2020: £77,156) and are detailed in the Financial Report. The overall unrestricted donations and grants received, excluding legacies, amounted to £79,327 (2020: £59,040) a 13.4% increase on 2020, largely due to several significant donations resulting from the Rector's appeal.

The PCC received one legacy payment in the year of £1000 and one legacy payment is pending.

However income from other sources increased to £17,687 compared to £7,278 in 2020. This increase arose due to COVID restrictions being eased allowing musical events, stall income, weddings to recommence.

The PCC was grateful for the donations and grants for the benefit of the Restoration Fund, which amounted to £53,668 including Gift Aid. The fund balance stands at £109,692 at 31.12.21

The Rectors Mission Fund continues to be supported by an anonymous donor. The fund balance stands at £15,153 as at 31.12.21

The net unrestricted surplus of £17,109 was due to an exceptional large donation given to be spread over 2020 and 2021. Without this donation the unrestricted position would have been a significant deficit in both financial years. Stephen do you want me to say how much

The PCC are always grateful for contributions received from the Friends of St Andrew's Church. In 2021 no funds were received directly. The Friends of St Andrew's held funds of £7,470.56 as at 31 December 2021. During the year the Friends made a contribution to the general upgrading of the Tye Path for the benefit of attendees at church services and events.

Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £33,271 paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the housing, stipend and pension costs of the clergy and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. The cost of church insurance, £2,790, is now paid directly to Ecclesiastical Insurance whereas in previous years it formed part of the PMC payment to the Diocese. Currently, the church of St Andrew's is meeting close to 70% of the costs.

Staff costs

The PCC employs a Parish Administrator, Director of Music and Pastoral Minister. In addition during the year the costs of the Associate Priest have been paid to the Diocese along with payments to various organists. The costs of the Associate Priest and Pastoral Minister are covered by donations made to the restricted Rectors Mission Fund. Further details are provided in the notes to the accounts.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC also supported the clergy by paying Council Tax, Water rates and some minor rectory expenses amounting to £3,500 (2020: £4,000).

PCC members received payments in connection with the church. In the year to 31.12.21 Carol Hodson was reimbursed £386 for office stationery, stamps, gift for Independent examiner and St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington Trustees report for the year ended 31.12.21

accounting software package costs. In the year to 31.12.21 the Rector claimed expenses of £1,368, in accordance with his duties, for telephone, benefice travel and other miscellaneous expenses.

There were no payments to persons related to or connected with the trustees.

The fabric of the church building

The condition of the church continues to be a cause for concern and a detailed report on its condition was prepared by the architect in the 2021 Quinquennial report. It is anticipated that, although routine repairs are being carried out as required, the need for major structural renewal will become increasingly urgent and the PCC and the wider community continues to actively fundraise for the Restoration Appeal. The current balance in the Restoration fund is £109692.

In addition, it was determined that considerable work is required to retune and rehang the bells, together with replacing the oldest bell, currently located beneath the gallery stairs, to hang as a sanctuary bell.

Progress on the restoration work generally was held up by the need to get an assessment of what is required to deal with the wall paintings that may or may not lie beneath the plaster of the North Transept. The analysis work was held up by the Covid restrictions.

It has been decided that work on restoring the North Transept should be put on hold while work is concentrated on restoring the South Transept and re-ordering the Lady Chapel within it during spring/Summer 2022

During 2021, general funds amounting to £1,500 were set aside in a designated fund to accumulate sufficient money to pay for the future cost of replacing the boilers installed in 2016. At the end of 2021 the total in this fund amounted to £10,500.

In addition to this reserve, the restricted fabric fund amounting to £27,738 is retained towards works other than those covered by the restoration work plan.

Why we hold some money in reserve

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds which equates to approximately three months' worth of unrestricted payments as contingency against unforeseen situations. This amount equates to approximately £20,000

It is PCC policy to invest temporarily surplus general funds within a Barclays deposit fund, returning necessary funds to our current account, as they are needed, to pay day-to-day bills or future commitments. This year £86k was invested at 31st December in addition to the Restoration funds. The PCC has established CAF Deposit Platform this year in order to maximise interest income.

As well as holding the above general reserves, from time to time the PCC receives restricted legacies or other income for expenditure on particular purposes, defined by the donor(s). We aim to expend such money as soon as possible depending on the specific objectives of the donor. Where we have determined that the specific purpose can only be achieved by delaying the expenditure, we invest the legacy temporarily until such time as the need for expenditure is identified.

Risk Management

The PCC consider that the principal risks and uncertainties are:

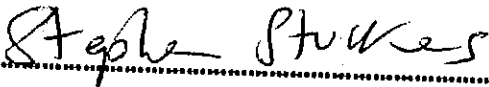
- The need to fund unexpected costs associated with the church's listed buildings.
- An unexpected fall in income, particularly given the dependence of the church on a limited number of major regular donors.
- The requirement to find volunteers and staff with the appropriate skills, time and commitment to support the ministry of the congregation.

The PCC seeks to manage these risks and uncertainties by regularly reviewing its Mission Action Plan and its plans for the use of the church buildings. The Rector is also developing a long term plan for the parish which in due course will be presented to the PCC for discussion.

The church maintains its properties to a high standard and carries out the priority items of a Quinquennial review in a timely manner.

There is a continuing programme which emphasises God's generosity to the congregation and the need for the congregation to respond to that generosity in their own giving through time, talents and money. The PCC also proactively seeks grants to support its activities.

This Trustees' Annual report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stukes



.....
Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stukes

Date: 23rd March 2022

St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

Registered Charity no. 1185209

For the year ended 31st December 2021

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Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	79,327	77,888	-	157,215	74,568	
Charitable activities	9,432	-	-	9,432	2,568	
Other trading activities	8,255	-	-	8,255	4,710	
Investments	5,674	-	1,226	6,900	7,196	
Other receipts	4,394	-	-	4,394	5,023	
Total income	107,082	77,888	1,226	186,196	94,065	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	1,272	-	-	1,272	165	
Charitable activities	64,975	18,981	969	84,925	86,043	
Other trading activities	8,112	-	92	8,204	6,518	
Other expenditure	15,614	-	165	15,779	6,811	
Total expenditure	89,973	18,981	1,226	110,180	99,537	3
Net gains (or losses) on investments	-	-	851	851	2,063	8
Net income or (net expenditure)	17,109	58,907	851	76,867	(3,409)	
Transfers between funds						
	17,109	58,907	851	76,867	(3,409)	10
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Other gains/(losses) Investments	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	17,109	58,907	851	76,867	(3,409)	
Total funds brought forward	74,115	101,833	44,702	220,650	224,059	
Total funds carried forward	91,224	160,740	45,553	297,517	220,650	

Balance Sheet

	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
Intangible assets	£ -	£ -	
Tangible assets	-	-	
Heritage assets	-	-	
Endowed Investments	45,553	44,702	
Total fixed assets	45,553	44,702	8
Stocks	1,584	1,615	
Debtors	8,249	21,896	10
Investments	-	-	
Cash at bank and in hand	247,353	155,292	
Total current assets	257,186	178,803	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(5,222)	(2,856)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	251,964	175,947	
Total assets less current liabilities	297,517	220,650	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	
Total net assets or (liabilities)	297,517	220,650	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	45,553	44,702	
Restricted Income funds	160,739	101,831	
Unrestricted funds	91,225	74,116	
Total charity funds	297,517	220,650	14

St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington

Notes to the Financial report

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, (SORP (FRS 102)).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund

Endowment funds - funds for which the capital must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

Income and endowments

All income and endowments, accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding is received by the PCC

Charitable activities

Statutory fees for weddings and funerals are recognised when the office occurs

Other trading activities

St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington Trustees report for the year ended 31.12.21

Page 12 of 21

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the case of concerts: for the year in which the event occurs, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, payment is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC

Church activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date

Current Assets

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

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 2

Analysis of Income and endowments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	22,102	-	-	22,102	13,880
Donation Box	7,657	-	-	7,657	3,003
Service collections	5,671	-	-	5,671	3,901
General donations	27,397	2,770	-	30,167	31,433
Gift Aid recoverable	13,447	175	-	13,622	5,505
Restoration Income Incl Gift Aid	-	53,668	-	53,668	2,343
Rectors Mission Fund incl Gift Aid	-	18,275	-	18,275	12,450
Legacies	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Grants	2,053	3,000	-	5,053	2,053
Donations and legacies	£79,327	£77,888	-	£157,215	£74,568
Fees for weddings & funerals	9,432	-	-	9,432	2,568
Charitable activities	£9,432	-	-	£9,432	£2,568
Music events	1,200	-	-	1,200	13
Other fundraising income	1,223	-	-	1,223	190
Flowers	270	-	-	270	-
Cuckmere News adverts	4,403	-	-	4,403	4,190
Stall sales	1,159	-	-	1,159	317
Misc. income	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	£8,255	-	-	£8,255	£4,710
Bank & CBF deposit interest	13	-	-	13	148
CBF investment fund dividend	-	-	1,226	1,226	1,381
Chancel Trust Fund income	261	-	-	261	267
Rent from letting of investment property	5,400	-	-	5,400	5,400
Investments	£5,674	-	£1,226	£6,900	£7,196
Other parish contributions to joint benefice costs	4,394	-	-	4,394	5,023
Inc. (Dec) in investment values	-	-	851	851	2,063
Total income and endowments on all funds	£107,082	£77,888	£2,077	£187,047	£96,128

Notes to the financial report (continued)- Note 3

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Fundraising Incl Restoration fund	1,272			1,272	165	
Cost of raising funds	£1,272			£1,272	£165	
Charitable grants and donations				-	-	4
Rectors Mission Fund		15,731		15,731	14,615	
Diocesan parish share	33,271			33,271	33,171	
Clergy and rectory expenses	4,812			4,812	6,001	
Parish administration	6,270			6,270	6,215	
Service costs	402			402	279	
Insurance	2,790			2,790	2,783	
Utility costs	6,015			6,015	6,109	
Office and misc. expenses	2,896			2,896	2,413	
Churchyard and memorial garden	3,450	840		4,290	4,050	
St Andrew's church maintenance and cleaning	3,109	-	690	3,799	2,978	
The Good Shepherd Maintenance	1,781		279	2,060	1,950	
Restoration project building costs		2,410		2,410	5,449	
Governance	24			24	30	
Youth Fund	155			155		
Cost of charitable activities	£64,975	£18,981	£969	£84,925	£86,043	
Cuckmere News and other printing	6,244			6,244	6,084	
Stall costs	592			592	19	
Flowers	1,276		92	1,368	415	
Cost of other trading activities	8,112		92	8,204	6,518	
Music costs	7,577		165	7,742	6,332	
Lullington cottage maintenance and insurance	8,37			8,037	479	
Total expended on all funds	89,973	18,981	1,226	110,180	99,537	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Family Support		-	-	-	340
Children's Society		-	-	229	217
	-	-	-	229	557

Staff costs

Three members of staff were employed throughout 2021

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Remuneration					
Wages and salaries	9,247	8,500	-	17,747	17,705
Employer social security costs	-	-	-	-	-
Employer pension costs	-	-	-	-	-
	9,247	8,500	-	17,747	17,705

Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Independent examination	24			24	30
	24	-	-	24	30

Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Transfer from unrestricted funds to Boiler designated funds			-	1,500	1,500
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial report continued)

Fixed Assets

Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Notes
	£	£	£	£	
Market value 1 January 2020	-	-	44,702	44,702	
Disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	
Purchases at cost	-	-	-	-	
Net gains and revaluation	-	-	851	851	
Market value 31 December 2020	-	-	£45,553	£45,553	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Stock	1,584	-	-	1,584	1,615	
Current assets (except cash)			-	-	21,896	
Cash at bank and on deposit	86,414	160,739	-	247,353	155,292	
Current liabilities	(5,222)	-	-	(5,222)		
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	
	£82,776	£160,739	-	£243,715	£178,803	

Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accrued Income	3088	965	-	4052	13500	
Gift Aid recoverable			-	-	3,960	
Prepayments	-	-	-	-	-	
Chancel trust funds		4,197	-	4,197	4,195	
Accts receivable				-	241	
	£3,088	£5,162	-	£8,249	£21,896	

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	735	-	-	735	1,301	
Church collections for charities		1,472	-	1,472	50	
Fees paid in advance	15	-	-	15	160	
DBF re Fees	-			-	345	
Wedding deposits	3,000			3,000	1,000	
	£9,750	£1,472	-	£5,222	£2,856	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

Prior year Statement of Financial Activities comparative figures for this year

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	59,040	15,528		74,568
Charitable activities	2,568			2,568
Other trading activities	4,710			4,710
Investments	5,815	1,381		7,196
Other receipts	5,023			5,023
Total income	77,156	16,909	-	94,065
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		165		165
Charitable activities	64,118	21,925		86,043
Other trading activities	6,403	115		6,518
Other expenditure	6,606	205		6,811
Total expenditure	77,127	22,410	-	99,537
Net gains (or losses) on investments			2,063	2,063
Net income or (net expenditure)	29	(5,501)	2,063	(3,409)
Transfers between funds	(12,000)	12,000	-	-
	(11,971)	6,499	2,063	(3,409)
Other recognised gains/(losses):				
Net movement in funds	(11,971)	6,499	2,063	(3,409)
Total funds brought forward	86,086	95,334	42,639	224,059
Total funds carried forward	74,115	101,833	44,702	220,650

Notes to the financial report (continued)

Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Parker - Property	18,116	527	(527)	2,605	20,721
Dr Thomas Beautification	6,193	163	(163)	(409)	5,784
Penfold Trust- Flowers	3,494	92	(92)	(230)	3,264
Penfold Trust- Music	6,277	165	(165)	(414)	5,863
Wimbush Foundation Lullington	10,622	279	(279)	(701)	9,921
					-
Total of all endowed funds	44,702	1,226	(1,226)	851	45,553
Fabric fund	25,114	2,624	-	-	27,738
Memorial Garden	3,455	-	(840)	-	2,615
Bell Ringers fund	2,937	50			2,987
Restoration fund	55,433	56,669	(2,410)		109,692
Lullington fund	2,284	270		-	2,554
Rectors Mission fund	12,608	18,276	(15,731)		15,153
Total of all restricted funds	101,831	77,889	(18,981)	-	160,739
General fund	56,095	107,079	(89,818)	(1,500)	71,856
Designated Boiler fund	9,000	-	-	1,500	10,500
Youth fund	4,827		(155)		4,672
Chance! Trust funds	4,195	2			4,197
					-
Total of all unrestricted funds	74,117	107,081	(89,973)	-	91,225
Total funds	220,650	186,196	(110,180)	851	297,517

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston with Lullington
For the year ended 31 December 2021

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Andrew's Alfriston with Lullington, on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2021 set out on pages 1 to 20

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.

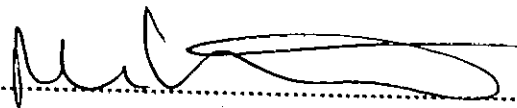
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Examiner's signature:



Examiner's name CAPITALS:

Mr PAUL STRICKLAND

Date:

12/3/2022

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body if any:

Examiner's address: Rose Cottage, North Street, Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5QU

