



LOVE - SERVE - FOLLOW

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON
PARK**

Diocese of London

Charity Registration No. 1186310

**Reports & Financial Statements
31 December 2023**

Tandem Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
17 Heathville Road
London N19 3AL

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK**



**Report and Financial Statements 2023
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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK



Legal & Administrative Information For the year ended 31 December 2023

Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Saint Mark, Tollington Park.																																																		
Charity Registration	The Parochial Church Council (PCC) was registered with the Charity Commission on 13 November 2019 (charity number 1186310).																																																		
Principal Address	The correspondence address is: St Mark Parish Office, 1a Moray Road, London N4 3LD.																																																		
The Governing Document	Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules.																																																		
Objectives	<p>The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building complex at St Mark’s Moray Road.</p> <p>The overall vision in 2023 was to “Transform Tollington” - By love for God, one another and this community, by following Jesus and to calling others to follow, and by serving the community in which God has placed us with our underlying values being: Prioritising prayer and worship; Encouraging gifts and ministries; Being accountable; Living as a community of disciples; Reaching out to those who live and work in our parish.</p>																																																		
Members of the PCC	<p>The members of the PCC who served during the twelve months to 31 December 2023 or who were serving at the time of the approval of this report were:</p> <table><tr><td>Incumbent</td><td>Rev Trevor Golding</td><td>(Chair)</td></tr><tr><td>Church Wardens</td><td>Andrew Down</td><td>(Reappointed 26th April 2023)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Omofunmilayo Sulaiman</td><td>(Reappointed 26th April 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Treasurer</td><td>Thomas Waters</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</td><td>Stewart Mason</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Anita Mason</td><td>(Appointed 26th May 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Elected PCC Members</td><td>Inge Diamond</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Aurore Down</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Chloe McDonald</td><td>(Resigned 10th July 2023)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Barbara Nyamah</td><td>(Resigned 22nd May 2023)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Rachel D'Souza</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Jeremy Porter</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Laura Porter</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Tyler Overton</td><td>(Appointed 26th April 2023)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Henriett Hadler</td><td>(Appointed 26th April 2023)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Clement Adebayo</td><td>(Appointed 26th April 2023)</td></tr></table>			Incumbent	Rev Trevor Golding	(Chair)	Church Wardens	Andrew Down	(Reappointed 26 th April 2023)		Omofunmilayo Sulaiman	(Reappointed 26 th April 2023)	Treasurer	Thomas Waters		Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Stewart Mason			Anita Mason	(Appointed 26 th May 2023)	Elected PCC Members	Inge Diamond			Aurore Down			Chloe McDonald	(Resigned 10 th July 2023)		Barbara Nyamah	(Resigned 22 nd May 2023)		Rachel D'Souza			Jeremy Porter			Laura Porter			Tyler Overton	(Appointed 26 th April 2023)		Henriett Hadler	(Appointed 26 th April 2023)		Clement Adebayo	(Appointed 26 th April 2023)
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Key Management Personnel	<p>Those in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis are the members of the Standing Committee: -</p> <table><tr><td>Revd Trevor Golding</td><td>(Vicar)</td></tr><tr><td>Andrew Down</td><td>(Warden)</td></tr><tr><td>Omofunmilayo Sulaiman</td><td>(Warden)</td></tr><tr><td>Thomas Waters</td><td>(Treasurer)</td></tr></table>			Revd Trevor Golding	(Vicar)	Andrew Down	(Warden)	Omofunmilayo Sulaiman	(Warden)	Thomas Waters	(Treasurer)																																								
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**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
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**Legal & Administrative Information
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

Bankers

HSBC
Holborn
Holborn Circus
London EC1N 2HR

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

**Independent
Examiner**

John Helm ACA
Tandem Accounting Limited
17 Heathville Road
London N19 3AL

**Report of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Tollington
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Saint Mark, Tollington Park ("PCC") submits its inaugural report and the financial statements of the PCC for the 12 month period ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in the format prescribed by the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2019 (FRS102)). The legal and administrative information set out earlier in this document forms part of this report.

In the period covered by this report the church has continued to face the aftereffects of the coronavirus pandemic. Many of the services and activities of the church, along with attendance numbers, have returned to our pre-pandemic pattern.

We have continued with some repairs to the building this year and have commissioned full building survey with production of plan and stone by stone elevation drawings. A full survey of the spire has been undertaken in August and we await the full structural report on its condition.

As we strive to fulfil our mission statement, to Love, Serve and Follow, we pray that St Mark's will be a beacon of light and hope in the midst of this community in this vibrant and multi-cultural part of London and that God will equip, empower and guide us in our endeavours to see the transformation of Tollington through the saving power of Jesus Christ.

I. Structure, Governance & Management

I.1 Trustees

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio* or elected by the Annual Parish Meetings in accordance with the Church Representation Rules and are trained at the first meeting on how to participate.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Mark's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met six times during the period. The Standing committee consisting of the Vicar, Churchwardens and treasurer met on several occasions to discuss important urgent issues and help set the agenda for PCC meetings and giving feedback and offer proposals on specific matters referred from previous PCC meetings to the Standing committee.

I.2 Electoral Roll

At the APCM in 2023 there were 131 names on the Electoral Roll. As of 31st December 2023, there were 126 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 78 of whom are not resident within the parish. 4 names were added during the period and 9 others were removed either through death or because they moved away from the parish.

I.3 Risk Management

The PCC has a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the risks that the PCC may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the PCC should those risks materialise.

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2. Activities & Strategies

The PCC has given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Mark's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship within the parish and seeks ways in which our services and activities can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship aim to help people put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the period, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- Seeking the infilling of the Holy Spirit to equip and empower people in their faith, worship and ministry;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish and
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mark and the adjoining Church Hall and facilities.

3. PCC

3.1 PCC

The PCC has 10 elected member positions, 2 Deanery Synod member positions and 2 churchwardens. The Clergy also attend the PCC as ex-officio members.

The PCC met six times during the period with good attendance (average 80%). Minutes and attendance are recorded at each PCC meeting.

The PCC complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy discipline measure 2018 in relation to having due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and adults.

3.2 Standing Committee

The Standing Committee plans the agenda for the PCC and presents to the PCC various matters which need its attention.

4. Parish life and Ministry

4.1 Worship and Prayer

The Vicar and PCC are keen to offer a range of services and activities during the week, and over the course of the year, that our community and congregation find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Since the coronavirus pandemic our provision has been both online and in person, and we continue to stream Sunday services of which numbers vary.

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This year we have been able to restart many of the church activities that were enjoyed pre-pandemic: fellowship lunches, The Ark Stay & Play etc. In addition to this, we have been able to start new initiatives, such as the Family Funday and Breakfast Club, and are looking forward to further developing our church activities and community outreach in the coming year. As we return to 'normal' church life, it has been encouraging to see new families and individuals engage with the many services and activities we have on, choosing to stay and be part of the church family at St Mark's.

Many of the Life Groups have continued to meet, with one new Life Group forming this year following the autumn Alpha course.

The average weekly attendance, counted during October 2023, was 85 adults and 23 children in church but with 10 or so engagements online. (The online figure indicates the number of devices connected, but there may be multiple people watching one device).

As well as our regular services, we have been privileged to undertake occasional offices and this year have conducted funerals for 3 families and baptised 3 children and 1 adult. In March we held a confirmation service, where 9 church members and 1 external candidate were confirmed. We have not had any weddings conducted here at St Mark's this past year.

At the end of July, approximately 50 from St Mark's, half of whom were under 18, joined with other HTB network churches for Focus. Around 8000 people attended the event held at the Newark Showground for 4 days of worship, teaching, fellowship, and fun.

Starting in September, Trevor and Lois undertook a three-month extended study leave. Throughout this period, we were visited by many guest speakers who delivered sermons and led communion. We are so grateful to all visiting speakers and clergy both for their teaching and for their support of St Mark's during Trevor's absence.

In September, a group from St Mark's began running occasional services at local care homes, St Anne's and Lennox House. These have been greatly appreciated by local residents, and it has been a fantastic opportunity to both serve our local community and further our evangelistic reach as a church.

In November we held 'The Father's House' evening of prayer and worship. We have since been discussing opportunities to join with other North London churches for similar events next year.

As a church we continue to look to God and the ministry of The Holy Spirit to empower us in mission and ministry so that we might see His kingdom come to Tollington and His will being done in our lives and the lives of those in this Parish.

4.2 Worship + Production Team Report

It has been a good year for the worship and production team here at St Mark's. It has been a pleasure to witness the team develop in leading and facilitating worship, and to see them come together and create closer bonds as a group.

Most recently, we have built a relationship with the Hillsong Reading worship team. In a short period of time, this connection has produced fruit: they have already led worship at one of our evening services, and we have set up mentoring relationships for specific members of our worship team. At the end of November, we held a worship night titled 'The Father's House'. Despite the cold, a great evening was had by all, and we look forward to holding more mid-week prayer and worship sessions in the coming year.

In December, our worship team were once again invited to perform at the St Mark's Primary School Christmas fair. This was a great opportunity to be able to show God's love in our local community.

We have lots of exciting plans and objectives for the future of worship and production at St Mark's. Surj has been in discussion with the worship leaders at HTB and KXC about gaining their support and developing the culture of worship at St Mark's.

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The worship and production team have been meeting earlier on a Sunday morning at 9.45 to talk and pray together. This has had a positive impact on the calibre and effectiveness of our worship.



Looking back, it is amazing to see what God has done, and we're excited to see what he will do in the future of the worship team here at St Mark's.

4.3 Children's Ministry Report

It has been wonderful to see the children's ministry at St Mark's thrive and grow over the last year. Laura joined the team in January as Children's Ministry Support Worker on a part time basis, taking on the planning and running of children's church on a Sunday morning as Jake has started the young youth group.

Children's Church on a Sunday morning provides a space where children can explore faith in fun and interactive ways. Throughout the year, it has been fantastic to see children grow in their understanding of the Bible and who Jesus is to them. We have covered a wide range of topics such as the miracles of Jesus, the life and ministry of Paul and what it means to be part of God's family. It has been a privilege to see the faiths of the children grow as they begin to pray more intentionally and return to church with stories of answered prayer as well as their reflections on how they can rely on God in their day-to-day life. They have been keen to learn and share the Bible verses we look at each week.

The groups have not only grown in number but have stayed consistent throughout term time. Many new families have joined St Mark's in the last year, and we have enjoyed getting to know the children more and more each week. With the help of our volunteers, we are now able to split the group based on age. This has made children's church more accessible and fun for all the children, as the teaching can be tailored more specifically towards different age groups and abilities.

There is a designated creche area now available in the vestibule for very young children and babies. However, we have really enjoyed having some younger children in Children's Church and have seen their confidence grow as they become more familiar with the other children and adults in their church community.

We are so grateful to Aunty Vicky, Leo and Regina for their consistent help and support in the running of The Ark Stay & Play, which relaunched in January. We've been excited to see a steady increase in numbers over the year and have enjoyed getting to know more families from our parish and beyond. Going forward, we are looking forward to developing the sense of community the group provides and are considering how best to connect these families into the wider church. We were encouraged to see many familiar faces at our Light Party and Carols by Candlelight service and hope to invite more families from The Ark to future events put on by the church.

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Amongst schools and the local authority, there is an increased worry around food provision during school holidays due to the cost-of-living crisis. Many local families are reliant on free school meals and breakfast clubs to feed children during term time. In response to this, during October half term, we hosted a free breakfast club each school day, where families could come and enjoy breakfast together. We also provided games and activities for the children to enjoy. We were pleased to receive positive feedback both from guests and local schools and look forward to continuing this next year. Jake continues to run a 'Going 4 God' lunchtime club on Fridays at St Mark's School, where children have the opportunity to discuss and take part in activities based on biblical stories and principles.

A highlight of the year was the Family Funday in July, attended by over 150 adults and children, fostering community, and opening the church to families in the parish. The Light Party in October exceeded expectations with even greater attendance, marking another successful community event. We are excited to be discussing the potential for similar events in the future, which align with our vision to be open, hospitable and compassionate towards our community.



4.4 Youth Ministry

It's that time of year again to look back and be encouraged by all God has done with our young people.

Young Youth started in September, providing a specific group for 11-14 year olds during the service on a Sunday morning. When starting new ministries, it can be daunting as attendance is usually low to begin with. However, the group launched with a core group of 5 youth, and it has been great to see growth in this area with an additional 2 or 3 young people most weeks.

We were so excited to have around 50 people going to Focus in July, and even more encouraged that over half of our group were under 18! We had an amazing time with our young people, and we're thrilled to already have more young people expressing an interest in joining us for Focus in 2004.

Jake continues to support with the youth group on the Andover Estate, providing young people with activities and a warm meal. Please pray for the conversations and issues that arise or are revealed through communication with and the actions of the young people.

This past year, we have started to host large events for the community. This started with our Family Funday in the summer, which was well attended.

We have always been encouraged by how much our young people are involved in wider ministries in the church and beyond. They have continued to volunteer as part of the worship team, leading, reading and intercessions and other ministries.

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It was also amazing to have our young people invited to the Stepney area conference, where they led leaders from all over the Stepney area in worship.

We are excited for 2024 and cannot wait to see what God will do!



4.5 Staff

This year the staff team has seen both continuity and change. Surjit Sembi-Harding remains our worship Pastor and Jacob Sudworth has also continued as our Youth and Children's Worker. Darren Oderinde left the role of Operations Manager in April. In January, Laura Porter joined the staff team as Children's Ministry Support Worker and later took on the additional role of Operations Manager in September. Stephen Tisnell and his wife, Ffion, moved to Preston in July in order to start his ministry and Stephen will be ordained this coming June.

4.6 Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community that it is. We particularly want to mention our churchwardens Andrew Down and Funmi Sulaiman who have been so supportive and bring years of experience and wisdom from their own work life and their walk with God. In particular, we would like to extend a special thank you to the wardens for their support of the staff team during Trevor's period of extended study leave from September to December. Thank you also to all those who serve on the PCC, including our Treasurer, Thomas Waters, who oversees our accounts.

We thank all those who serve at our services and behind the scenes, making St Mark's the welcoming community that it is: - those who help with children and youth, the welcome and stewarding team, the worship and production team, those who serve refreshments, those who provide the wonderful floral displays, the money counters. We thank those who preach, lead prayers, read and assist at communion, and lead life groups.

It is not possible to mention all the volunteers and all the areas they serve, partly from the fear of missing someone or an aspect of church life from the list, but we want to say we are deeply grateful for every contribution made in volunteering for ministry and service in the church.

4.7 Deanery Synod

In the Church of England, a deanery synod is a synod convened by the Area Dean and/or the Joint Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod, who is elected by the elected lay members. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within the deanery, plus elected lay members. It acts as an intermediary between the Parochial Church Councils of each parish in its deanery and the synod of the diocese as a whole. Thank you to Anita and Stewart Mason, our Deanery Synod Reps.

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4.8 Church Complex

The Church and hall complex have seen an increase in casual hire use this year, including one regular hire by a local choral group. Both upper and lower halls are used on Sundays for children and youth work. During the week, the lower hall is also used on a Tuesday, for The Ark Stay & Play, and on Thursday mornings for Craft Circle. Narcotics Anonymous continue to use the vestibule on a Friday evening.

4.9 Pastoral care

Pastoral care has been mainly through life groups and individuals doing home visits. We continue to operate a prayer chain for those who request prayer support.

4.10 Mission & Outreach

Soul in The City

SiTC did not run this year due to various challenges and organisational restrictions, including funding. We look forward to participating in this event in the coming year, after discussions with the Andover centre and the council about our future involvement.

Homeless person Ministry

One key aspect of mission and ministry in this period has been to supply vouchers, food, clothing, hot meals and drinks to the homeless or those in hostels. It is often interesting to hear the stories of people who come to our doorstep and how much our hospitality is appreciated.

Thank you to those who have generously contributed both financially and in supplies of clothing and toiletries. This has meant that as well as giving vouchers, hot food and drinks we have also been able to contribute to some of their clothing and hygiene needs.

Food Bank Referrals

We regularly make collections for the Hive Food Bank, and we have made referrals for people who live in our parish to the food bank. Thank you to those who have donated food towards the food bank, such as during our Harvest service in October.

The Marriage Course

In the Summer, we ran The Marriage Course: seven sessions, designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a strong marriage based on Christian principles. The course was attended by 17 couples. With thanks to Rachel and JD D'Souza and the volunteer team for enabling this course to run so successfully.

4.11 St Marks Church of England Primary School

Our strong and valuable relationship with St Mark's School has continued throughout the period. The school has held several services in church, and Rev Trev (as the children know him) and other members of staff visit the school most weeks for assemblies, sessions and pastoral support of the staff and children.

At the end of the summer term the staff were invited to the Vicarage for a social evening and as a thank you for all the hard work they had done. A great evening was had by all.

4.12 Safeguarding

The PCC complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy discipline measure 2018 in relation to having due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and adults. The parish Safeguarding Officer is Rachel D'Souza.

At 31st December 2023 there were 33 members of the church with valid DBS certificates and 29 members of the parish whose safeguarding training was up to date.

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4.13 Fabric and Buildings

St Mark's last had its quinquennial (5-Yearly) inspection in August 2022, and it highlighted a significant number of repairs to stonework, general repairs and possible major works on the tower and spire. We are grateful to the Richard Cloudesley trust for grants towards our ongoing building repairs and Paul Travis, our QI, for all his advice and input in maintaining our buildings. We continue to work through our quinquennial report (2022), addressing the issues raised.

Cloudesley have also supported us in conducting an accessibility audit of the building in January, through which we have started to implement vital changes which will make our building more inclusive and welcoming to people of all abilities.

During this period we have:

- Maintained the cleaning regime, adjusting schedules to changing needs.
- Undertaken numerous minor repairs.
- Kept up to date on all our Mechanical, Electrical, and safety obligations including the regular service and testing of all our systems and appliances.
 - Main Church Gas Heating Boilers, Church Hall Gas Water Heater, Church Hall Gas Heaters, Electrical Installation, Lightning Conductor Testing, Fire Alarm System, Emergency Lighting System, Portable Appliance Testing, Portable Fire Fighting Equipment (Fire Extinguishers, etc), passenger lift.
- Continued with Precision Safety Services Ltd to undertake the majority of our compliance testing and update all our risk assessments, etc:
 - undertaken a Fire Risk Assessment and taken necessary action on a priority and practical basis.
 - undertaken a General Risk Assessment and taken necessary action on a priority and practical basis.
 - undertaken a Food Hygiene Risk Assessment and taken necessary action on a priority and practical basis.
 - undertaken an Equality Risk Assessment and taken necessary action on a priority and practical basis.
 - undertaken a Documentation and Training Risk Assessment and taken necessary action on a priority and practical basis.
 - updated our lettings policy template to manage our risk.
 - updated all the related policy sheets.
 - these will all need reviewing in November 2024.
- Continued with Precision Fire Safety to carry out testing and maintaining our fire-fighting equipment, fire alarm system and emergency lighting systems.
- Continued with the planned pest control programme.
- Carried out a full 'hand-on' inspection of the stonework and general condition of the church spire.
- Update and added information to the electronic maintenance log book and scheduling software.

5. Financial Review

The PCC's main sources of funding were the free will offerings of church members and grants from third parties. The PCC is very grateful to the Richard Cloudesley Charity, the Porters Trust, Islington Borough Council, and specific gifts from private individuals for their support.

5.1 Financial Activity and Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet can be found on pages 15 and 16. The PCC's reserves decreased by £59,378 during the year (2022: decreased by £25,555). The balance sheet shows total net assets of £110,568 (2022: £169,946).

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Included in total funds are amounts totalling £21,203 (2022: £32,438) which are restricted. These monies have either been raised for, and their use restricted to, specific purposes or they comprise donations subject to donor-imposed conditions. Full details of these restricted funds can be found in note 8 to the accounts together with an analysis of movements in the year.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £186,987 of which £138,595 was unrestricted voluntary donations and £24,190 from Gift Aid. Income derived from the flats at Besant Walk and Moray Road amounted to £22,682. Restricted donations and grants of £65,227 were also received, including for children and youth work, and children and families work. Grantors included Islington Borough Council, the Richard Cloudesley Charity and the Porters Trust. We are very grateful to each of these organisations for the support that has enabled us to continue ministry and maintenance of our church buildings in these particularly unusual circumstances.

A total of £75,000 was contributed toward the diocesan parish share, which provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The sum that the churches in the deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a cost of ministry in each parish. We are fully committed to increasing our Common Fund contribution and hope to be paying the full share within 5 years from the formation of the new parish.

5.2 Reserves Policy

The PCC has adopted a policy whereby the equivalent of 3 months' worth of non-discretionary committed expenditure is to be reserved.

These reserves enable St Mark's to deal with the following contingencies: -

- Problems with cash flow, for instance when waiting for funding to clear in our account.
- Staffing shortages such as those due to sickness, maternity or paternity leave.
- Reductions in or withdrawal of funding.
- In the event of closure, ongoing running costs to wind up the organisation and pay redundancies and leasehold liabilities.

This policy is reviewed annually when the PCC sets the budget for the following financial year. At 31 December 2023 the PCC had net free reserves of £76,983 (2022: £119,603) as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Total reserves	110,568	169,946
Less: unrestricted fixed assets	(12,382)	(17,905)
Less: restricted funds	(21,203)	(32,438)
Free reserves	76,983	119,603
Free reserves requirement	40,000	40,000

5.3 Investment Policy

Spare funds are placed on bank deposit.

5.4 Grants Policy

The PCC aims to give 10% of its unrestricted donations, basing the amount on the total from the previous year (excluding grants and donations intended for particular projects). This annual giving is used to support missionary endeavours both in the UK and abroad and a discretionary fund for the Vicar which is used to help people in need. The missionary societies regularly supported include Interserve, The Caleb Initiative, A Rocha, Open Doors, CPAS and Spear Islington. For details of grants made, see note 4b.

**Report of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Tollington
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

6. Plans for Future Periods

As we emerge from the pandemic's effects, the church has returned to a normal pattern of worship, and we are actively reviving suspended activities like the Ark Stay & Play. Simultaneously, we're in the planning stages for exciting new initiatives and activities to diversify our church activities and engage our community.

In 2024 we will be taking time to look at developing holy habits: prayer, Bible reading, fellowship, worship, gladness and generosity and making more disciples. From that, it will help us to think about how we as a church can better engage and contribute to the vision of the diocese "For every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ." In line with the vision of the diocese to make confident disciples through our worship, teaching, fellowship in Church and through our small / Life group ministry. To be a compassionate community, seeking to support the homeless who come to our doors and supporting those in need. We will also try to develop creative ways in which we can engage with the community to encourage the growth of the church.

7. Responsibilities of Trustees for the Financial Statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice.

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare a statement of financial activities and balance sheet for each financial year, which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of its financial activities for that year and adequately distinguishes any material special trust or another restricted fund of the PCC.

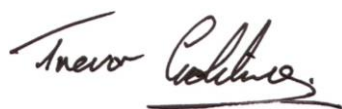
In preparing those financial statements, the PCC is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State, whether the policies adopted, are by the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue to operate.

The PCC is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included in the charity's website.

8. Approval

The report of the PCC was approved by PCC on 18 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



**Revd Trevor Golding
Vicar**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK



Report of the Independent Examiner to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Saint Mark, Tollington Park

I report on the accounts of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mark, Tollington Park for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 15 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of PCC and examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The treasurers of the new parishes consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeds £250,000, and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

The basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Helm', written over a light blue horizontal line.

John Helm ACA
Tandem Accounting
17 Heathville Road
London N19 3AL
18 March 2024

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK**



**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:	2						
Donations and legacies		162,784	65,227	228,011	192,624	73,509	266,133
Charitable activities		1,306	70	1,376	1,100	-	1,100
Other trading activities		22,682	-	22,682	22,193	-	22,193
Investments		214	-	214	120	-	120
Total Income		186,986	65,297	252,283	216,037	73,509	289,546
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	14,014	-	14,014	12,419	-	12,419
Charitable activities	4	223,114	74,533	297,647	214,081	88,601	302,682
Total Expenditure		237,128	74,533	311,661	226,500	88,601	315,101
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income		(50,142)	(9,236)	(59,378)	(10,463)	(15,092)	(25,555)
Transfers between funds		1,999	(1,999)	-	5,968	(5,968)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(48,143)	(11,235)	(59,378)	(4,495)	(21,060)	(25,555)
Total funds brought forward		137,508	32,438	169,946	142,003	53,498	195,501
Total funds carried forward		89,365	21,203	110,568	137,508	32,438	169,946

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK**



**Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	5	12,382	-	12,382	17,905
		12,382	0	12,382	17,905
Current Assets					
Debtors	6	53,024	-	53,024	49,409
Cash At Bank And In Hand		58,903	21,203	80,106	114,284
		111,927	21,203	133,130	163,693
Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	7	34,944	-	34,944	11,652
Net Current Assets		76,983	21,203	98,186	152,041
Net Assets		89,365	21,203	110,568	169,946
Represented By:					
Restricted Income Funds	8	-	21,203	21,203	32,438
Unrestricted Income Funds		89,365	-	89,365	137,508
Total Funds		89,365	21,203	110,568	169,946

The financial statements were approved by PCC on 18 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Thomas Waters
Treasurer

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

I. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and by the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis.

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 an affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, and accordingly, the accounts have been drawn up on a going concern basis.

Income recognition

Voluntary income and donations (including legacies) are accounted for once the Charity has an entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured. Income from the recovery of tax on gift aided donations is accounted for in the period to which the relevant donation is received. Grant income is recognised on a receivable basis.

The income from trading activities includes rental income from the letting of church premises which is accounted for when earned. It is shown gross, with the associated costs included in fundraising costs.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable, and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Longer term liabilities are discounted to present value. The PCC is not registered for VAT, and accordingly, expenditure includes VAT where appropriate.

Charitable expenditure includes those costs in fulfilling the PCC's principal objects, as outlined in the Report of the PCC. These include grants payable and governance costs:

- Grants payable are payments made to third parties in furtherance of the PCC's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer, this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant. Grants awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant, and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the PCC.
- Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to the independent examination and legal fees.

Rentals under operating leases are charged as incurred over the term of the lease.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

I. Accounting Policies (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Consecrated Property and Moveable Church Furnishings

Consecrated land and benefice property such as the church building and vicarage is excluded in the accounts in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church contents are held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and require a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. All expenditure incurred on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is expensed within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Freehold Land & Buildings

The freehold land and building, comprising St Saviour's church hall, is currently stated at nominal value pending redevelopment of the site. The freehold land and building are not depreciated as depreciation would be immaterial.

Other Fixtures, Fittings & Office Equipment

The cost of other furniture, fittings and equipment, less any expected residual value, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the effective, useful life of the asset, which has been estimated as five years. Only the assets that cost at least £1,000 are capitalised.

Debtors

Debtors are included in the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation arising from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

Fund accounting

The funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

2. Income

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations & legacies				
Offerings and donations	138,595	3,139	141,734	154,830
Income tax reclaimed	24,190	7,562	31,752	30,783
Grants	-	54,526	54,526	80,520
	<u>162,785</u>	<u>65,227</u>	<u>228,012</u>	<u>266,133</u>
Charitable activities				
Fee income (net)	1,306	-	1,306	525
Course, events, and outings	-	70	70	575
	<u>1,306</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>1,376</u>	<u>1,100</u>
Other trading activities				
Lettings income	22,332	-	22,332	22,193
Other	350	-	350	-
	<u>22,682</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>22,682</u>	<u>22,193</u>
Investment income				
Interest	214	-	214	120
	<u>186,987</u>	<u>65,297</u>	<u>252,284</u>	<u>289,546</u>

Grants include £11,250 (2022: £18,750) from Islington VCS, a local government funded scheme.

3. Expenditure – Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Rent (Flat 1A, Moray Road)	11,139	-	11,139	11,010
Council tax	2,539	-	2,539	1,118
Collecting agent fees	336	-	336	291
	<u>14,014</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,014</u>	<u>12,419</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF SAINT MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK**



**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

4. Expenditure – Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Provision of Clergy				
Common Fund	75,000	-	75,000	64,000
Clergy expenses/pastoral costs	2,804	-	2,804	771
	77,804	0	77,804	64,771
Staff costs				
Gross salaries	17,531	43,018	60,549	68,306
Employer NI	4,347	-	4,347	4,819
Employment allowance	(3,465)	-	(3,465)	(4,677)
Pension contributions	1,140	-	1,140	1,503
Staff hospitality	483	-	483	357
	20,036	43,018	63,054	70,308
Church Life & Outreach				
Children/Youth/Families work	1,561	146	1,707	646
Ministry & Mission Outreach	5,601	7,700	13,301	3,644
Service costs	4,575	-	4,575	4,326
Worship	3,304	-	3,304	2,046
Gifts and grants (see note 4b below)	19,275	60	19,335	18,672
	34,316	7,906	42,222	29,334
Provision of Buildings & Facilities				
Heat, light & water	12,671	-	12,671	7,826
Insurance	5,595	-	5,595	7,018
Repairs, maintenance, equipment & cleaning	25,613	18,692	44,305	82,478
Health & safety	1,261	-	1,261	1,740
Besant Walk	2,382	1,386	3,768	9,074
Depreciation	11,378	-	11,378	10,932
	58,900	20,078	78,978	119,068
Provision of Office & Support				
Freelance Operations Manager	5,440	-	5,440	-
Bank Fees	140	-	140	-
Subscriptions	2,152	-	2,152	1,308
Printing, stationery, postage & telephone	5,212	-	5,212	5,140
IT Costs	123	3,531	3,654	1,222
Legal & professional	5,141	-	5,141	1,872
Bookkeeping & accountancy	7,500	-	7,500	7,500
Other	4,790	-	4,790	370
	30,498	3,531	34,029	17,412
Governance				
Independent examination	1,560	-	1,560	1,640
PCC meeting expenses	-	-	-	149
	1,560	0	1,560	1,789
	223,114	74,533	297,647	302,682

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

4. Expenditure – Charitable Activities (continued)

4a Charitable expenditure – staff costs

In addition to the many volunteers who give their time to the church, there were 7 employees whose costs are included within the cost categories of “Expenditure – Charitable Activities” above. These figures exclude the amounts paid to the Diocese for the incumbent who is funded through the Common Fund. No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year.

4b Charitable expenditure - gifts and grants

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
To organisations:				
A' Rocha	3,209	-	3,209	2,925
Project Leadership London	-	-	-	350
DEC Ukraine	-	60	60	222
Caleb Initiative	2,400	-	2,400	2,400
Church Pastoral Aid Society	6,419	-	6,419	5,850
Pentonville Prison Chaplaincy	-	-	-	200
St Mark's	100	-	100	150
Holy Trinity Brompton	-	-	-	450
Apple	500	-	500	-
Interserve	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Open Doors	3,209	-	3,209	2,925
	<u>18,837</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>18,897</u>	<u>18,472</u>
To individuals:	<u>438</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>200</u>
	<u>19,275</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>19,335</u>	<u>18,672</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2023	43,735
Additions	5,855
Disposals	-
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2023	49,590
	<hr/>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2023	25,830
Charge for Year	11,378
Disposals	-
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2023	37,208
	<hr/>
Net Book Value	
At 31 December 2023	12,382
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2022	17,905
	<hr/>

All of the fixed assets are used for charitable purposes.

The PCC had use of the following properties.

Property	Property type	Ownership
St Mark's Church, Corner of Moray Road & Tollington Park, N4 3LD	Church building	Diocese of London
St Mark's Vicarage, 1 Moray Road, N4 3LD	Vicarage	Diocese of London
St Mark's Vicarage Flat, 1A Moray Road, N4 3LD	Residential	Diocese of London
16 Besant Walk, Andover Estate, London N7 7RG	Residential	Porters Trust

6. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	2,943	354
Lettings receivable	3,715	5,835
Gift Aid receivable	3,034	3,474
Tollington Team Parish	43,202	35,876
Other	130	3,870
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	53,024	49,409
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

7. Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	2,248	2,248
Rental deposits	500	500
Trade creditors	21,442	5,725
Other creditors including taxation and social security	754	3,179
	24,944	11,652

8. Restricted Income Funds

8a Current Year

	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Islington VCS	4,958	11,250	(16,208)	-	0
Richard Cloudesley Charity:					
Live streaming	68	5,530	(3,531)	(1,999)	68
Church Clock	470	-	(470)	-	0
Building works	0	250	-	-	250
South Transept Porch Stonework	0	9,500	(5,348)	-	4,152
West End Repairs	4,241	7,613	(11,854)	-	0
Youth Fun	0	400	-	-	400
Children & Families	1,624	250	(1,874)	-	0
Focus	0	5,861	(5,861)	-	0
Love Your Neighbour	100	-	-	-	100
Porters Trust - Salaries	3,082	22,000	(25,082)	-	0
Porters Trust – Electrical Works	10,000	-	(2,406)	-	7,594
Porters Trust – Falcon Camps	7,875	2,583	(1,839)	-	8,619
DEC Ukraine	20	60	(60)	-	20
	32,438	65,297	(74,533)	(1,999)	21,203

The transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds was to recognise the purchase of capitalised equipment during the year in fulfilment of the restricted funding obligation.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

8. Restricted Income Funds (continued)

8b Prior Year	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Islington VCS	10,368	18,750	(24,160)	-	4,958
Children & Youth	6,083	-	(6,083)	-	0
Richard Cloudesley Charity:					
Live streaming	68	-	-	-	68
Church Clock	966	-	(496)	-	470
Building works	8,289	-	(2,321)	(5,968)	0
South Transept Porch Stonework	0	17,959	(17,959)	-	0
West End Repairs	0	15,225	(10,984)	-	4,241
Children & Families	1,131	3,000	(2,507)	-	1,624
Love Your Neighbour	100	-	-	-	100
Porters Trust - Salaries	11,243	15,708	(23,869)	-	3,082
Porters Trust – Electrical Works	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Porters Trust – Falcon Camps	5,250	2,625	-	-	7,875
DEC Ukraine	0	242	(222)	-	20
	53,498	73,509	(88,601)	(5,968)	32,438

The transfer between restricted and unrestricted funds was to recognise the purchase of capitalised equipment during the year in fulfilment of the restricted funding obligation.

Descriptions of the main restricted funds are as follows:

Islington VCS (formerly Somali Youth) – represents funds received specifically to fund the position of a Somali youth worker (commenced in 2016). During the year the nature of the grant was changed by Islington VCS Funding to cover the costs of a general youth worker.

Richard Cloudesley Charity – represents various grants to the churches for various projects including maintenance, insurance, computer purchases, building project etc.

Children & Families – represents funds applied for with relation to the support of the staff employed to work with children and families.

Children & Youth – Restricted to the provision of Children's and Youth ministry.

Focus – Restricted to provision of communal provision and bursaries for the HTB Network annual gathering.

Youth Fun – Restricted to youth work games, equipment and refreshments.

Love your neighbour – funds received for the purpose of projects responding to local needs and non-proselytising social transformation.

Gunner Grant – funding for the youthwork activities in the community.

Porters Trust – Salaries – funding restricted to electrical works.

Porters Trust – Electrical – funding restricted to the cost of Operations Manager, Youth Worker, and Worship Pastor.

Porters Trust – Falcon Camps – funding restricted to the cost of Falcon Camps

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023**

9. Operating Lease Commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are payable:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than one year	1,690	1,690
Later than one year and not later than five years	422	2,112
	2,112	3,802

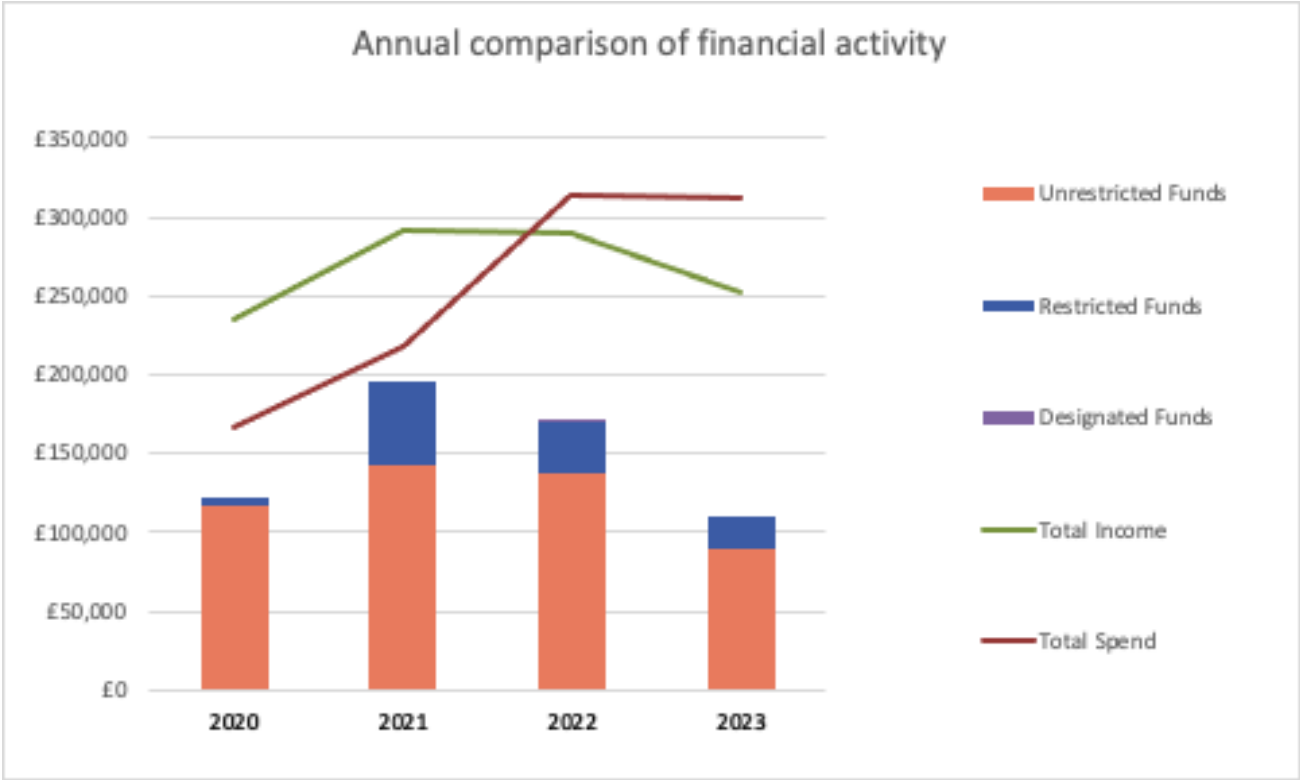
10. Related Party Transactions

The PCC includes several members who also served as part of the PCC of Tollington Team Parish, prior to the parish separation. At 31 December 2023 Tollington Team Parish owed the PCC £nil (2022: £5,866), which includes the share of reserves at the time of the parish separation, together with funds collected on behalf of St Marks during 2019, 2022 and 2023.

The members of the PCC gave a total of £32,422 (2022: £46,011) in unrestricted offerings and donations during the period.

There were no other related party transactions.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023



Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2023

