



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 2024**

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

Report and Financial Statements 2024
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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 2024

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 2024 was to transform Tollington through our love for God and one another by serving the community in which God has placed us and by following Jesus and calling others to follow Him. By engaging in worship, outreach, and discipleship, we hope to cultivate a Christ-centred community that beautifully reflects God's Kingdom right here in Finsbury Park.</p>	
Members of the PCC	The members of the PCC who served during the twelve months to 31 December 2024 or who were serving at the time of the approval of this report were:	
	Incumbent	Rev Trevor Golding <i>vacancy</i> (Chair, until June 2024)
	Church Wardens	Andrew Down (Reappointed April 2024) Omofunmilayo Sulaiman (Reappointed April 2024)
	Treasurer	Thomas Waters (Resigned April 2024) Lucilla Ting (Appointed May 2024)
	Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Stewart Mason Anita Mason (Appointed May 2024)
	Elected PCC Members	Inge Diamond Aurore Down Chloe McDonald (Resigned July 2024) Barbara Nyamah (Resigned May 2024) Henriett Hadler (Resigned May 2024) Rachel D'Souza Jeremy Porter (Departed St Mark's September 2024) Laura Porter (Departed St Mark's September 2024) Tyler Overton (Appointed April 2024) Clement Adebayo (Appointed April 2024) Bea Fenton (Appointed May 2024) Chung Ting (Appointed May 2024) Thomas Waters (Transitioned from Treasurer role May 2024)

Legal & Administrative Information
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Key Management Personnel	Those in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis are the members of the Standing Committee: -	
	Revd Trevor Golding	(Vicar, until June 2024)
	Andrew Down	(Warden)
	Omofunmilayo Sulaiman	(Warden)
	Rachel D'Souza	(Chair from July 2024)
	Thomas Waters	(Treasurer)
	Lucilla Ting	(Treasurer)
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 For the year ended 31 December 2024

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Saint Mark, Tollington Park ("PCC") submits its report and the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024. 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 has been marked by significant developments as there have been considerable changes in ministry throughout the year.

Throughout this time, St Mark's has strived to know Christ and see His Kingdom extended in this diverse area of London, through worship and presence, through evangelism, acts of service and the witness of Christian lives lived out with integrity in families, schools, the local neighbourhood and the workplace.

A constant theme for our ministry is Love, Serve and Follow, which continues, and we also want to develop and use the gifts of the Spirit in all of this, expecting the unexpected.

1. Structure, Governance & Management

1.1 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, Chair 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 refereed from previous PCC meetings to the Standing committee.

1.2 Electoral Roll

At the APCM in 2024 there were 126 names on the Electoral Roll. As of 31st December 2024, there were 120 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll as 6 were removed because they moved away from the parish.

1.3 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.

Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

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 (when St Mark's not in vacancy) also attend the PCC as ex-officio members.

The PCC met six times during the period with good attendance. 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

It has been an interesting time during 2024, as we have seen a lot of change in ministry over the course of the year. Our much beloved Vicar Trevor Golding and his wife Lois sadly left us in June 2024 to take up a semi-retirement post at St Elizabeth's Becontree. We would like to pay tribute to the huge contribution Trevor and Lois made to the ministry at St Marks over the last few years, joining us just before Covid hit. Before he could find his feet, Trevor was forced to take on the role of TV Evangelist, broadcasting from an empty church during those early dark days of Covid. He had exactly the right technical and presentational skills to make this a real success. His teaching was always powerful and relevant, and his organisational skills to steer a course through the church of England administrative processes have been sorely missed.

**Report of the Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31 December 2024**



WE SAID GOODBYE TO REV TREV AND LOIS IN JUNE

We do have to say thank you to Archdeacon Peter who came to our rescue and arranged for an interim minister Matt Tinsley to join us for 3 months from July onwards whilst we found our feet. We really enjoyed having Matt, his wife Laura and the twins as part of our community, where he seemed to settle in and know everyone almost instantly. We thank Matt for his leadership during this time, and for setting up systems to encourage members of the leadership team to lead services. Despite our best efforts to encourage him to stay, he was well down the path of interviewing for the post of Vicar at St John's Holloway, and we had to graciously let him go.



WE SAID HELLO AND GOODBYE TO MATT AND LAURA

**Report of the Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Since the departure of Matt in October we have been on our own regarding the leadership of the church. However, nothing feels further from the truth in this statement. We have felt the power of the Holy Spirit moving, bringing new people into the church and equipping many within the congregation to lead services and preach. The church wardens would like to thank all those who have stepped up in so many different areas, to allow the church to flourish during the interregnum.

We look forward to appointing a new vicar in 2025 and pray God will lead the correct leader to our door.

This year we have had a number of fellowship lunches, although often as a result of celebrating those who have been leaving.



The Ark Stay & Play which were such a success under Laura, our children's workers' tenure, have been able to keep open thanks to the selfless dedication of church members, particularly, Inge who has taken on this particular mid-week ministry.

Anita has reinvigorated Craft Circle, which meets on Thursday morning and is open to anyone. It is based on the following - that we pass on our handicraft skills to others. It has become a place of support, encouragement and friendship. Craft Circle started making quilt hugs for a charity called Q4CL which gave the rugs away to Care Leavers throughout the country, starting at Christmas Lunches and now throughout the year.

We thank Tyler for giving Life Groups a relaunch, with five life groups meeting regularly to explore the bible and encourage one another in our faith. Life groups are led by: Tyler and Sarah, Patience, Georgina, Margaret and Laurie, and Heather

The average weekly attendance, counted during October 2024, was 87 adults and 19 children under 16. We no longer count those who attend online as it is not possible with the YouTube platform.

As well as our regular services, we have been privileged to undertake occasional offices, and this year have conducted 1 funeral and baptised 2 children and 1 adult and had 2 renewals of baptismal vows. There were no weddings in 2024.

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.

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St Mark's continues to run 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.

There have been a number of Alpha, courses run during the year from people's homes, and we are encouraged at the interest people have shown in learning about the Christian faith in a relaxed setting, with the added bonus of food. We would like to thank all the Alpha leaders for their service. Trevor and Lois, Margaret and Lawrie, Rachel and JD.

4.2 Worship + Production Team Report

We said goodbye to our part time staff worship leader Surj who has been such a blessing to us over the last few years. He has moved onto a multi-site church in Exeter where he looks after a team of worship leaders, so this has been a progressive move for him. We do miss all he has been doing for the church, with preaching, graphics and generally been fully involved with the life of the St Marks.



WE SAID GOODBYE TO SURJ

Surj kindly came back for a few weeks whilst we were looking for new worship leaders and also provided us with prerecorded music we used on a couple of occasions.

4.3 Children's Ministry Report

Laura our children's ministry worker left St Marks in October 2024. We were grateful for what Laura achieved during her time with St Marks. She headed up the children's family fun day where she organised various acts such as bouncy castles, animal petting zoo with animals such as small reptiles, parrots, rabbits, for the children to see touch and learn about, candy floss making, climbing frames and soft play. It brought together families from the area and beyond enabling, St Marks to reach out to the community.

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Laura left us with a catalogue of lessons, and as the bible does not change her planned lessons have been a canvass we have used to produce fresh material for the children.

Aurore is heading up the children's work now, and the original team of volunteers has increased slightly, and are the backbone to the children's work, working with great delight and enthusiasm. Attendance is good with the number of children growing. The use of video, presently Saddleback kids have allowed the children to engage very well. We have discussed the stories within the group to allow the children to relate to the bible teaching to everyday life. We have continued to cover topics such as the Heros in the Old Testament, miracles of Jesus the parables and so forth. Our discussion allows the children to ask questions about faith, which can be very insightful. Teaching in groups is flexibly depending on the age range attending, we have also encouraged the older children to help the younger children, this allowed bonds of friendships to be formed.

We still have a designated Creche area in the vestibule.

Despite not having a children support worker, with thanks to Inge Diamond a member of the PCC, the Ark which is still a strong cornerstone in the community takes place once a week. With Inge's direction, it is a delight to see members of the congregation pitching in after service on Sundays to prepare the hall for Ark, this has helped foster a bond between the adults and the children as they help.

4.4 Youth Ministry

Throughout 2024 our Young Youth group for 11–14-year-olds has met most Sundays within school term times, during the morning service. At the start of the year this was led by Jake, our Youth worker, with approximately 4 volunteers helping alongside him. Unfortunately, the Youth Worker post was discontinued mid 2024 due to financial pressures, which included the loss of a valuable grant. However, we have been able with volunteers to continue with this group, having approximately 6 young people per session (and 9 on the register) by the end of the year. We have enjoyed looking at Who is God, followed by reviewing the Jesus said I am statements, and how this relates to our lives today.

We had a great Christingle service at Christmas in which 6 of the young people enjoyed being involved, either reading from the bible, praying, or helping with the lighting of candles.

The Evening Youth group meetings on Sunday evenings were stopped in January as no young people attended. This group was happily reestablished, again by volunteers, at the end of 2024, with a small group of approximately 4-6 aged 16-25yrs. Whilst still in post Jake continued to help at the weekly youth group on the Andover Estate, providing young people with activities and a warm meal. Unfortunately, we have not had the capacity to continue involvement in this great outreach opportunity but hope to do so in the future.

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The HTB Focus camp in July was again a highlight for some of our young people - of the 55 people going to Focus over half were under 18!

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, reading and intercessions and other ministries.

A few of our young people attended the newly established North Islington Youth Gatherings, starting from September. Plus, two of the girls have enjoyed the monthly after school get-togethers for girls at a Costa coffee shop in Archway.

We would love to secure funding to be able again to appoint a part-time youth worker, to help us build relationships with the local schools.

4.5 Staff

This was the year we lost all our staff, so it has been challenging for the church wardens and PCC to arrange for all the roles previously taken by staff to be taken over by PCC members and volunteers. There have been substantial financial pressures on the church with a fall in income and increase in costs, which has made it necessary for the church to operate for a season without any staff. However, we are hopeful that next year we may be able to appoint a part-time children's worker and youth worker. The one part-time volunteer we have who has morphed into a 10-hour-a-week staff member is Shilton, who has proved most valuable in dealing with some of the routine operational matters around sending out the weekly e-mail, preparing the projection slides and order of service, as well as his ongoing work with social media. Surj has been working remotely to tutor Shilton into this role, for which we are very grateful.

We wished fond farewells to Jake, our full-time youth and children's worker, Laura our part-time children and part-time operations manager, and Surj our part-time worship leader. We wish them all well in their new jobs working with different churches around the country.



WE SAID GOODBYE TO JAKE, AND TO LAURA AND JEREMY

4.6 Volunteers

We are grateful to all the volunteers that do so much to make St Mark's church function, particularly those that have stepped up whilst we have been in Interregnum, and with no paid church staff.

Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

We particularly appreciate our two churchwardens, Andy Down and Funmi Sulaiman, who have brought their experience and wisdom with tireless enthusiasm, hard work and a never-ending commitment to serving God and his people with such humility. We would like to thank all those who serve on the PCC, especially our Treasurers Lucilla and Chung Ting (from April 24) and Tom Waters prior to this, and Anita Mason who does so much behind-the-scenes admin.

We thank the many others who serve at our service, both seen and unseen, 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, Chris Charie who provides the wonderful floral displays, cleaning etc. We thank those who preach, lead prayers, read and assist at communion, and lead life groups.

We also are grateful to all who provide regular services in our local Elderly Care Homes, and others who visit those in hospital and are confined at home. It is not possible to mention all the volunteers and all the areas they serve, partly in 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.

4.8 Church Complex

The Church and hall complex continue to be let out through the Sharesy web site for occasional, such as children's parties mainly. Both upper and lower halls are used on Sundays for children and youth work. During the week, the lower hall is also used for life groups during the evening and 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. With no full time Vicar, the PCC have split the various roles within the church and Funmi is heading up our Pastoral care outreach.

4.10 Mission & Outreach

Soul in The City relaunched this year, with an amazing day of celebration in the Andover community in July, working alongside the Andover community centre staff and the council. Many volunteers from St Mark's church rocked up to provide a massive BBQ. And St Mark's church stall was well received, providing bibles and tracts, and the opportunity to pray with people. St Mark's also provided children's crafts and facepainting.

We also hosted a Family Funday in the summer, which was well attended by many families from the local community.

A New Year's Eve family party was also a great success with many from outside the congregation attending.

We continued where it is possible to supply vouchers, food, clothing, hot meals and drinks to the homeless or those in need who come to the vicarage doorstep, although the vicarage was largely empty from September. Thank you to those who have generously contributed both financially and in supplies of clothing and toiletries.

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 to the food bank, such as during our Harvest service in October.

**Report of the Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

4.11 St Marks Church of England Primary School

Our strong and valuable relationship with St Mark's School has continued, although we have not been able to provide regular Assemblies or the weekly lunchtime club since Rev Trev (as the children knew him) and our youth worker moved on. The school has held several services in church. Marlon Dixon became a foundation governor in June. We hope to appoint a second foundation governor once a place becomes available, having agreed on a temporary basis for Cathryn Sheehan to take the second foundation governor place enabling her to take up place of chair.

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.

We continue to work to ensure all members of the church have, as relevant to their role, valid DBS certificates and are up to date with their safeguarding training.

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 with a number of grants which are ongoing.

MISSING LEADWORK

Sadly, at the start of the year some unfriendly parties took it upon themselves to remove the lead flashing to the front vestry area which resulted in leaks into the kitchen and vestry below. We had to install new lead work.

EMERGENCY GRANT FOR REPAIRS

We had various leaks coming into the gallery area, and at a high level above the altar, and around the glass roof over the main staircase leading to the upper hall. All were the result of roof problems with missing lead or dislodging or broken slates. We applied and were granted an emergency grant to make these good, and the work has now been carried out. Redecoration work still needs to be done now everything has dried out.

WORK TO ELECTRICAL UPGRADE TO USE SOLAR PANELS

The ongoing saga of effectively connecting the solar panels to the electric meter so we can make use of the feedback tariff continues. Trevor (who was an electrical engineer in a former life) got the process started but it seems a horribly complicated process involving UK power networks, Octopus, our power providers and our own electrician who all need input. We have engaged a consultant to try and work through the issues so we can make use of the Cloudesley grant available and be able to drastically reduce our electricity consumption.

STONWORK REPAIRS TO CHUCH HALL ENTRANCE

There is a Cloudesley grant available for around £29,000 to repair the broken lintel above the church hall doors and make repairs to the stonework. We are trying to engage the specialist stonemasons for this work to take place this summer.

FACULTY FOR INCLUSION OF NEW INNER GLASS DOORS TO CHURCH HALL

We were given a £10,000 grant from Cloudesley to fit a new frameless glass door inside the existing double doors to the church hall. This has now been approved in principle by the diocese, and we are making the formal faculty application. This would allow the outer timber double doors to be left open when the hall is in use, with the glass door providing easier access and visibility for all visitors including those who are wheelchair users.

**Report of the Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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 16 and 17. The PCC's reserves decreased by £2,564 during the year (2023: decreased by £59,378). The balance sheet shows total net assets of £108,004 (2023: £110,568).

Included in total funds are amounts totalling £24,857 (2023: £21,203) 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 9 to the accounts together with an analysis of movements in the year.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £197,861 of which £149,159 was unrestricted voluntary donations and £25,171 from Gift Aid. Income derived from the flats at Besant Walk and Moray Road amounted to £21,548. Restricted donations and grants of £18,025 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 £45,250 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 2024 the PCC had net free reserves of £76,421 (2023: £76,983) as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Total reserves	108,004	110,568
Less: unrestricted fixed assets	(6,726)	(12,382)
Less: restricted funds	(24,857)	(21,203)
Free reserves	76,421	76,983
Free reserves requirement	40,000	40,000

Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

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 and The Caleb Initiative. For details of grants made, see note 4b.

6. Plans for Future Periods

In 2025, we hope to conclude the process of appointing a new vicar who will be able to lead St Mark's, to carry out our vision, and to continue developing holy habits. Expanding upon the holy habits of 2024, we would like to do further outreach in perhaps, running Alpha courses, and also further fellowship and discipleship, in strengthening the range and depth of our life groups. Following the appointment of the vicar, we hope to be able to reappoint staff to further support the vision.

The St Mark's Parish Profile that was created to support the appointment process contains more detail around our exciting church plans.

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 15 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



**Andrew Down
Church Warden**

**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 2024, which are set out on pages 16 to 26.

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'.

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

15 May 2025

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



**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:	2						
Donations and legacies		174,330	18,025	192,355	162,784	65,227	228,011
Charitable activities		1,847	-	1,847	1,306	70	1,376
Other trading activities		21,548	-	21,548	22,682	-	22,682
Investments		136	-	136	214	-	214
Total Income		197,861	18,025	215,886	186,986	65,297	252,283
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	15,626	-	15,626	14,014	-	14,014
Charitable activities	4	188,453	14,371	202,824	223,114	74,533	297,647
Total Expenditure		204,079	14,371	218,450	237,128	74,533	311,661
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income		(6,218)	3,654	(2,564)	(50,142)	(9,236)	(59,378)
Transfers between funds				-	1,999	(1,999)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(6,218)	3,654	(2,564)	(48,143)	(11,235)	(59,378)
Total funds brought forward		89,365	21,203	110,568	137,508	32,438	169,946
Total funds carried forward		83,147	24,857	108,004	89,365	21,203	110,568

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



Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	5	6,726	-	6,726	12,382
		6,726	0	6,726	12,382
Current Assets					
Debtors	6	18,187	-	18,187	53,024
Cash At Bank And In Hand		63,499	32,077	95,576	80,106
		81,686	32,077	113,763	133,130
Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	7	5,265	4,560	9,825	27,724
Net Current Assets		76,421	27,517	103,938	105,406
Creditors - Amounts Falling Due After More than One Year	8	-	2,660	2,660	7,220
Net Assets		83,147	24,857	108,004	110,568
Represented By:					
Restricted Income Funds	9	-	24,857	24,857	21,203
Unrestricted Income Funds		83,147	-	83,147	89,365
Total Funds		83,147	24,857	108,004	110,568

The financial statements were approved by PCC on 15 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

L. Ting

Lucilla Ting
Treasurer

Notes to the Financial Statements For the period ended 31 December 2024

1. 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 2024

1. 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 2024

2. Income

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations & legacies				
Offerings and donations	149,159	3,600	152,759	141,734
Income tax reclaimed	25,171	375	25,546	31,752
Grants	-	14,050	14,050	54,526
	174,330	18,025	192,355	228,012
Charitable activities				
Fee income (net)	1,287	-	1,287	1,306
Course, events, and outings	560	-	560	70
	1,847	0	1,847	1,376
Other trading activities				
Lettings income	21,548	-	21,548	22,332
Other	-	-	-	350
	21,548	0	21,548	22,682
Investment income				
Interest	136	-	136	-
	197,861	18,025	215,886	252,070

Grants include £3,750 (2023: £18,750) from Islington VCS, a local government funded scheme.
£3,500 from The Porters Trust.
£6,800 from Cloudsley, a grant for stonework repair.

3. Expenditure – Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Rent (Flat 1A, Moray Road)	13,348	-	13,348	11,139
Council tax	1,412	-	1,412	2,539
Repairs and maintenance	379	-	379	-
Collecting agent fees	487	-	487	336
	15,626	0	15,626	14,014

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

4. Expenditure – Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Provision of Clergy				
Common Fund	45,250	-	45,250	75,000
Clergy expenses/pastoral costs	639	-	639	2,804
	45,889	0	45,889	77,804
Staff costs				
Gross salaries	49,351	3,639	52,990	60,549
Employer NI	4,316	-	4,316	4,347
Employment allowance	(4,234)	-	(4,234)	(3,465)
Pension contributions	973	111	1,084	1,140
Staff hospitality	279	-	279	483
	50,685	3,750	54,435	63,054
Church Life & Outreach				
Children/Youth/Families work	778	-	778	1,707
Ministry & Mission Outreach	6,022	8,213	14,235	13,301
Service costs	2,725	-	2,725	4,575
Worship	2,755	-	2,755	3,304
Gifts and grants (see note 4b below)	5,571	-	5,571	19,335
	17,851	8,213	26,064	42,222
Provision of Buildings & Facilities				
Heat, light & water	15,760	-	15,760	12,671
Insurance	6,845	-	6,845	5,595
Repairs, maintenance, equipment & cleaning	14,331	2,408	16,739	44,305
Health & safety	1,768	-	1,768	1,261
Besant Walk	6,479	-	6,479	3,768
Depreciation	5,656	-	5,656	11,378
	50,839	2,408	53,247	78,978
Provision of Office & Support				
Freelance Operations Manager	1,052	-	1,052	5,440
Bank Fees	158	-	158	140
Subscriptions	1,805	-	1,805	2,152
Printing, stationery, postage & telephone	6,934	-	6,934	5,212
IT Costs	2,558	-	2,558	3,654
Legal & professional	118	-	118	5,141
Bookkeeping & accountancy	6,930	-	6,930	7,500
Other	1,904	-	1,904	4,790
	21,459	0	21,459	34,029
Governance				
Independent examination	1,620	-	1,620	1,560
PCC meeting expenses	110	-	110	-
	1,730	0	1,730	1,560
	188,453	14,371	202,824	297,647

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

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 3 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 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
To organisations:				
A' Rocha	-	-	-	3,209
DEC Ukraine	-	-	-	60
Caleb Initiative	2,400	-	2,400	2,400
Church Pastoral Aid Society	-	-	-	6,419
St Mark's	-	-	-	100
Apple	-	-	-	500
Interserve	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Open Doors	-	-	-	3,209
	<hr/> 5,400	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 5,400	<hr/> 18,897
To individuals:				
	<hr/> 171	<hr/> -	<hr/> 171	<hr/> 438
	<hr/> 5,571	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 5,571	<hr/> 19,335

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	49,590
Additions	-
Disposals	-
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2024	49,590
	<hr/> <hr/>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2024	37,208
Charge for Year	5,656
Disposals	-
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2024	42,864
	<hr/> <hr/>
Net Book Value	
At 31 December 2024	6,726
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 December 2023	12,382
	<hr/> <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

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	-	2,943
Lettings receivable	-	3,715
Gift Aid receivable	8,488	3,034
Tollington Team Parish	9,699	43,202
Other	-	130
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18,187	53,024
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

7. Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	1,734	2,248
Rental deposits	-	500
Loan	4,560	2,280
Trade creditors	3,287	21,442
Other creditors including taxation and social security	244	1,254
	9,825	27,724

The loan is with the Diocese of London. The loan of £9,500, drawn down in 2023, is repayable over 25 months with repayment commencing one year after draw-down. The loan is interest free.

8. Creditors - Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year

	2024 £	2023 £
Loan	2,660	7,220

See note on the loan in note 7 above.

9. Restricted Income Funds

9a Current Year	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
Islington VCS	0	3,750	(3,750)	-	0
Children & Youth	0			-	0
Richard Cloudesley Charity:					
Live streaming	68	-	-	-	68
Church Clock	0	2,000	(2,000)	-	0
Building works	250	-	(153)	-	97
South Transept Porch Stonework	4,152	6,800	(255)	-	10,697
West End Repairs	0			-	0
Youth Fun	400	100	-	-	500
Focus	0	3,500	(3,500)	-	0
Love Your Neighbour	100	-	-	-	100
Leadership conference	0	1,875	(1,367)	-	508
Porters Trust – Electrical Works	7,594	-	-	-	7,594
Porters Trust – Falcon Camps	8,619	-	(3,346)	-	5,273
DEC Ukraine	20	-	-	-	20
	21,203	18,025	(14,371)	0	24,857

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2024

9. Restricted Income Funds (continued)

9b Prior 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.

Descriptions of the main restricted funds are as follows:

Islington VCS – 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.

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

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

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

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

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 2024

10. Operating Lease Commitments

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than one year	422	1,690
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	422
	<u>422</u>	<u>2,112</u>

11. Related Party Transactions

The members of the PCC gave a total of £37,455 (2023: £32,422) in unrestricted offerings and donations during the period.

Rev Trevor Golding, Vicar until June 2024, was paid £114 as a leaving gift. Amounts totalling £1,784, collected by the PCC on his behalf, were also passed on.

There were no other related party transactions.