

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

England & Wales · Charity number 1190026

Details

Other names	CRADLEY PCC, PCC OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2020-06-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Rectory Cradley Malvern WR13 5LQ
Phone	01886880494
Email	secretary@cradleychurch.org.uk
Website	www.cradleychurch.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: REGULAR PUBLIC WORSHIP FOR ALL. THE PROVISION OF SACRED SPACE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER. PASTORAL WORK, INCLUDING VISITING THE SICK AND THE BEREAVED. PROMOTING THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Classification

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

Geography

- Herefordshire

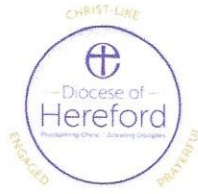
Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£80,594	£70,069	-	-
2023-12-31	£69,204	£55,637	-	-
2022-12-31	£45,854	£40,565	-	-
2021-12-31	£47,741	£48,148	-	-
2020-12-31	£41,267	£48,356	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
REVD ROBERT WARD	Chair	2007-07-25
CHRISTOPHER STEVEN ROBERTS		2013-04-29
Diane Mary Roberts		2020-10-26
Eryl Margaret Lloyd Copp		2013-04-20
IAN PETER BAILEY		2002-04-23
John Parsons		2021-06-28
MARGARET EDGAR		2016-04-18
Peter Warner		2023-05-15
Susan Bailey		2017-04-05
Susan Warner		2023-05-15
William Michael John Hames MA, ADAEP		2013-04-29

Accounts



CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Aim and purposes

Cradley Parochial Church Council (PCC) is specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade II church of St. James the Great, Cradley, Herefordshire and has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Prebendary Robert Ward, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Sadly Robert's period of office comes to an end in April 2025 after 17 years of dedication to Cradley Church. We are very grateful for his devotion to St James's Church, his generosity of spirit, his reflective approach to ministry and his sincere integrity. We wish him and his wife, Mel, a long and happy retirement in Wells. Of course, our aims and purposes will not change with the new incumbent, whom we look forward to working with in the same positive spirit.

Objectives and Activities

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 Cradley. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship seek to bring people closer to God through Word and Sacrament, prayer and music.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable everyone to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing an understanding and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach work

The Diocese of Hereford (of which we are part) has identified five strategic priorities for the 2020s in its shared vision of Proclaiming Christ and Growing Disciples:

- 1. Stronger congregations - growing faith**
- 2. Schools and intergenerational mission to help us grow younger**
- 3. Equipping and supporting Lay leaders for mission**
- 4. Creating generous giving and asset development (See financial report)**
- 5. Sustainable building strategy and support for Parish offer**

The PCC has found these priorities a good basis for writing this report, with Priority 4 being addressed within the Financial Review

Priority 1: Stronger Congregations - growing faith

Diocesan Goal: Minimum 3% of the population attending a regular act of worship, i.e. approximately 42 regular attendees from the parishes of Cradley and Storrridge combined.

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that will be beneficial and spiritually nourishing for our community and all are welcome to attend our regular services. Up to December 2024, there were 64 persons on the Church Electoral Roll.

On Wednesday mornings Holy Communion is normally celebrated using Common Worship. Evening prayer is live-streamed from the rectory on Wednesday evenings.

A Family Communion Service is held on the second Sunday and a lay-led service of Morning Worship on the 3rd Sunday, while a Parish Communion service is held on the 4th Sunday. Where there is a fifth Sunday, a joint benefice service is held.

2024 has seen a great deal of love and effort go into developing our new Church4All service, which replaced our traditional Family Service in February of this year, with the aim of appealing to a wider demographic of worshippers. This service is held on the first Sunday of each month and aims to provide an opportunity for more informal worship. The service, together with the rector, is devised by a team of around a dozen parishioners and differs from previous services in several ways:

- Each Church4All service is based on a theme designed to generate wider interest, e.g. Peace, The Bells, Promises, etc.
- It roughly follows the structure of the previous Family Service but in a more flexible way, changing the order and modifying the words to become more inclusive.
- The hymns are selected with a mind to mix the traditional with more modern hymns that may be more familiar to younger people. Some are really lively, others are much more contemplative, using Taize chants to enhance the intercessions. We have also introduced the singing of the Lord's Prayer using the same version that children at Cradley School are familiar with.
- Jimmy's Band plays a vital role with its combination of acoustic and electric instruments and we have welcomed two singers to the band to help lead the singing. The band also plays for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.
- We have tried to link with Cradley School, encouraging people to attend and take part. The Head Teacher led the very successful Harvest Festival in the Autumn.

Contemporary forms of liturgy are used at the Parish and Church4All services and coffee is served afterwards to encourage members of the congregation to stop and chat. Tea and coffee-making equipment is left out at all times for visitors to the church to make their own hot drinks should they wish to.

The following table shows our attendance figures for 2024, which has been compared, where possible with the two previous years. The table shows that our attendance, has not changed significantly. We continue to work on this as a PCC and initiated strategy meetings during 2024 to explore ways in which we could encourage further involvement from the community, encourage more young people to attend services and plan for succession into the future. These meetings will continue into 2025.

	2022	2023	2024
Average Overall Attendance at Regular Sunday Services	31.17	30.17	30.19
Of which adults:	29.79	29.15	29.07
Of which young people:	1.38	1.02	1.12
Average Overall Attendance at Regular Sunday Services by Type			
Parish Communion	28.80	31.36	33.42
Family Communion	35.00	32.25	30.18
Family Services/Church4All	34.80	31.60	34.22
Morning Service	24.22	23.63	23.36
Average Overall Attendance at Regular + Special Services (Adults + Young People)	44.68	41.46	41.57
Special Services vary from year to year but included are Mothering Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter, Ascension, Evensong, Baptisms, School Harvest, Remembrance, All Souls, Carol Service, School Carols, Christingle, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day			

One service a month continues to be live-streamed from the church to cater for those who are unable to be physically present. On other Sundays a service is streamed either from the Rectory or elsewhere and is appreciated by those in the Benefice or beyond who join via the internet or by telephone.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of our journey through life. At baptism we thank God for the gift of life and celebrate the start of our journey as children of God. In marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief, giving thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and commending the person into God's keeping.

In 2024 at Cradley we celebrated three baptisms, four weddings, three church funerals and 1 'freestanding' Cradley burial of ashes. Two further funerals were held at crematoria.

Communication

In order to advertise services and events and celebrate our successes, the parish has its own Facebook page as well as a website, and a weekly communication similar to the paper copy traditionally available in church is distributed electronically. Information about our church can also be found on the 'A Church Near You' website. In 2023 we updated our 'Welcome Leaflet' to go to new families moving into the village to make it more colourful and welcoming.

Music

Cradley Church has a thriving and well-balanced SATB choir which normally sings at two services a month including a choral communion setting at the Parish Communion, under professionally trained directorship. The choir is affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music. A very successful carol service was again held this year, including members of the parish not regularly in the choir itself (along with musical friends from nearby). There have also been occasional choral evensong services, and the choir took part in a more secular concert along with other community groups, in the church. Three members of the congregation have taken it in turns to play the organ for services throughout the year, displaying the glorious range of sounds available from our historic Nicholson organ from the 1870s. During the year we have again been delighted to have recitals from visiting professional organists, and other music groups have presented concerts in the

building. This year we have been delighted to acquire, through donation, an acoustic piano, which will increase the range of concerts possible in the building. Jimmy's Band, a group consisting of keyboard, violins, oboe and guitars, features prominently in the monthly Church 4All services (see above). In addition to this we have a thriving and accomplished handbell group who perform at events and special services.

Bells

We have a fine ring of bells, which were rehung and augmented from six to eight at the Millennium. A special service was held on the 4th of August with the theme of the service being 'Bells'. During the service the congregation were invited into the ringing chamber to see a demonstration of ringing with a brief presentation on ringing theory and a tower bell installation. The bells were originally installed in 1724 and in order to celebrate the 300 year anniversary, an extended 'Quarter Peal of 1724 changes' was rung on the 21st of December. With the help of ringers from Mathon, our thriving group usually manages to ring at least six bells for the main services each Sunday. Visiting ringers frequently like to ring at Cradley and the space in and around the ringing chamber facilitates training and observation. Our ringers also visit other churches around the country from time to time.

Pastoral Care, mission and Evangelism

The clergy and/or members of the Three Villages Visiting Group visit members of the community who would appreciate a visit or are unable to get to church, and to take Communion.

The Rector is Chairman of the committee that produces a monthly community Newsletter for Cradley, Mathon and Storridge. This keeps our parishioners informed of important matters affecting our church as well as reporting on the numerous other organisations in the villages. The PCC is grateful to the committee, and all of its volunteer helpers.

"Coffee Stop at The Leys" meets monthly, usually on the last Thursday and provides an opportunity for residents at The Leys and their friends to meet socially. It is organised by a small group of members from the church congregation, and in recent years, has been supported financially by the local Charities of Richard Hill and Others.

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Some mission giving is organised on a benefice-wide basis, including the provision of frugal lunches in Lent.

Ecumenical Relationships

When there is a fifth Sunday in a month the three parishes in the benefice come together for a "gathered service", which may be formal or informal in nature; if non-Eucharistic, a said service of Holy Communion is celebrated, at a different time, in one of the churches in the Benefice.

Members of all three parish churches in the benefice and Cradley chapel (which belongs to The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion) form Christians Together, which holds monthly meetings. Members of the congregation join this group for prayer, Bible Study, discussion and worship.

Deanery Synod

The PCC has three seats on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Priority 2: Schools and intergenerational mission to help us grow younger

Diocesan Goal: Increasing the number of young people and children engaged with worshipping communities

The Chair of Governors of Cradley VA Primary School is also responsible for safeguarding in the parish church and is a member of the PCC. The Rector is on the governing body as an ex-officio member. He fortnightly visits school to lead a simplified communion service, where the children participate by taking bread. The children know it as their 'Breaking Bread' service.

'Open the Book' volunteers have grown this year and they take it in turns to deliver and act out with the children different Bible stories. The whole school frequently attends church for special services, and parents and children alike enjoy it very much.

Cradley School continues with a government initiative designed to build a sustainable pool of 'Community Champions' to actively engage young people to 'pass on the baton' and build on the foundations of trust established by groups in the community, our church being one of those groups. The church has worked closely with the school to minimise barriers, grow understanding, and improve engagement with our community. This has involved several visits from the school's Community Champions to make music with our church band, build a bug sanctuary in the churchyard and currently designing a simple 'treasure hunt' to entertain visiting children. It may be the start of bigger and better booklets.

There is a small but active branch of the Mothers' Union and they continue to raise money for MU projects, sometimes from serving coffee after the morning service. They participate in church services, Mothering Sunday, Harvest, Christingle and other events.

Stir-up Sunday is a very popular event in the parish, growing annually where children, parents and grand-parents participate. Many Christmas puddings are consumed in Cradley every Christmas!

Our Church4All services are flourishing where every effort is made for it to be inclusive. All ages join in the acting of stories about camels, sheep, dragons... However, for all the efforts made, growth in young families and children attending church services changes little.

The Chair of Governors writes weekly in the school newsletter drawing attention to events in church, services where the children would enjoy taking part.

Priority 3: Equipping and supporting Lay leaders for mission

Diocesan Goal: New voluntary or lay leaders

Lay volunteers continue to be invaluable to the life of the benefice, especially in enabling and taking part in worship, online and in church, and in co-ordinating visiting and pastoral care throughout the community. Some have taken a regular and active role in leading lay led worship, in ensuring the continuation of our worship on-line, and developing our outreach through electronic and social media.

A number of people have been approved by the PCC as Local Worship Leaders, one of whom we are delighted to announce completed, in 2024, an 'Introduction to Local Ministry' training course with the Diocese and now takes a very active role in leading Lay worship across the benefice. We are very grateful to her for putting in so much of her own time and hard work towards achieving this qualification.

All Lay worship leaders are offered training to become authorised to take a more central and active role in the leading of worship.

Priority 5: Sustainable building strategy

Diocesan Goal: A sustainable clear future for every church

The Church Building and Churchyard

Cradley Church is in the Malvern Hills 'National Landscape', formerly known as Malvern Hills 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty', and has arrangements with the AONB Partnership, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust, for them to provide information and displays in our church as part of our commitment to involvement and partnerships within the community. This also encourages local tourism and, alongside leaflets and literature sponsored by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, brings visitors into the building, including local people who may not otherwise enter it. Brown tourism signs directing people from the main roads to the church and village hall have recently been provided.

The PCC is responsible for maintaining the church and churchyard in good condition and extends its thanks to all who volunteer to keep the churchyard in such good condition. We are grateful for the contributions from the Parish Council to the cost of employing contractors to cut the grass in the churchyard to the north side of the church.

Many thanks, yet again, to the team of 30 volunteers who regularly mow the lawns and help harvest the hay. The yellow rattle sown last year in the summer meadow did not take, but the quality of the hay improves annually. The hay was used by villagers and sheep in Cradley and Ledbury and the grass compost is available for the 2025 WI/Cradley Wild planters project. In 2024 the old petrol lawn mower was replaced by a battery model – much lighter and more ECO-friendly. The shed has been moved to just behind the village hall shed to make way for the new toilet.

Our Churchyard has many historical tombs and features that we maintain. The stone foundation of the tomb just outside the Chancel door has been repaired and saplings removed from the tomb just east of the church. The Maclean & Clementina Maxwell graves were tidied for the well attended Housman society talk in September and there is interest in the Ayscough graves. Ann and Jen's bench by the Glastonbury Thorn has been taken home, washed, winterised and re-oiled ready for St David's Day.

The SW corner of the wall by the lychgate has been repaired and the meadow flowers, sponsored by Cradley Wild, flourished. We will have a WI/Cradley Wild planter for pollinators by the lychgate.

Christmas decorations were cleared from the churchyard at Candlemas. Parishioners and those tending graves should be aware of the churchyard regulations at [CradleyChurch.org.uk](https://www.CradleyChurch.org.uk).

A 'consultation' article about the Garden of Remembrance has been included in the three villages newsletter. There are kerbs and a stone memorial, (which may be a tomb) a few inches under the surface and a sunken grave void. We wait for the toilet drain plans to be clarified before we obtain permissions to go ahead. We will continue to use the existing ashes memorial area and whole body burial while space remains, the Garden of Remembrance is currently an additional and alternative proposal designed to conserve other existing space for as long as possible.

Frequent, regular inspections of the church fabric ensures that early action is taken to rectify problems and help prevent the need for major repair works. As in previous years, volunteers carried out routine maintenance tasks and regular inspections of all aspects of the building were made in order to detect any deteriorating elements.

Some maintenance does, of course, need to be carried out by specialist contractors, such as checks to fire protection equipment, lightning conductors and any work at high level requiring scaffolding, etc. In 2024 it was necessary to engage contractors to carry out repairs to the vestry roof, re-pointing of open joints to the east end of the Lady Chapel and urgent works to repair and re-install

the chancel cross, the base of which had been found to be fracturing and crumbling. The 5 yearly inspection of the electrical system was also carried out.

The organ was tuned twice during the year, but no other work was carried out. The tuner mentioned that the Great soundboard leaks, and that therefore the Great Fifteenth has become unstable and difficult to tune. This will need to be attended to in due course.

We are in receipt of both Planning Permission and Faculty for the new toilet facility, which we feel is key to a sustainable future for our church. We have now raised sufficient funds to enable the building work to proceed and we look forward to reporting on its completion in next year's annual report.

Overarching Priority: Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the requirements imposed by the code under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Priority 4: Creating generous giving and asset development

Diocesan Goal: Breakeven budget/sustainable benefices

Financial Review

The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1 on page 13. Total receipts and payments on unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in detail in the Statement of Financial Activities. For the year ended 31 December 2024, total income was £80593.61 (£69,203.63- 2023) and total expenditure was £70,069.45 (£55,637.19-2023).

Net receipts from fundraising events for general purposes amounted to £5775.11 which is lower than £7,139.91 in 2023. This was due to £4418.02 being raised specifically for the Toilet project.

The Village Fete contributed £2100 to the general funds and the 200 Club has raised £743 net of prized money which is lower than the £830.00 in 2023 due to a number of members moving out of the parish. The Around the world in 80minutes presentation given by Derek and Anne Carver raised a total of £2724.10 which was shared with the Midlands Air Ambulance, St Michaels Hospice and the Church. The St David's Day Concert in March, which was held jointly with the Village Hall, raised £494.52 for Church funds. The Lent talks and Lunches raised £790.85 and were held for Mtwara and We are Farming Minds charities. The Organ recital in May raised £585.74 and the Housman talk in September, which was held for the Toilet project raised £343.74

The Summer raffle was held as part of the Village Fete so the proceeds were included in the Church share indicated above. The Cream Teas held in Church throughout the summer months raised a total £847.13 which was only slightly lower than the 2023 amount of £991.75. The Christmas Fair raised £87.50 and the Christmas Raffle raised a further £254 making a total of £341.50.

We contributed £33,000 to the Diocesan Common Fund, which pays for ministry and mission in our diocese, an increase of £1,000 on the previous year. We have pledged to contribute £33,000 in 2025 in view of the need to ensure we have sufficient funds to complete the toilet project.

The Church Yard Wall was repaired at a cost of £3000 this was funded by the insurance claim of £2500 and £500 from the general fund. The West End wall of the Church was repointed at a cost of £3,300.00 and the east gable cross was repaired at a cost of £2947.20. Further roof repairs were also required costing £1535. These repairs were funded from our Fabric and NCT Maintenance Funds which now have balances of £3308.23 and £1661.67 respectively. The electrical installation required replacing due to the heavy load placed on the supply for the electrical overhead heaters. The cost of materials for this was £1112.72 and the required inspection charge was £480. We are very fortunate to have a church warden who is a qualified electrician, and carried out the electrical installation replacement, otherwise the cost would have been considerably more.

During the year we managed to secure further funding for the disabled toilet from the Lasletts Charities, the Beatrice Laing Trust and the National Lottery Heritage Fund. We subsequently went out to tender and are in the process of awarding the contract. The estimated cost is approximately £82,000 plus VAT and outstanding architect fees. However there are a number of provisional sums included in the estimate with respect to the drainage and electrical supply. The toilet fund currently stands at £67,436 with a further £30,032 in outstanding grants. This should be sufficient as we will be able to claim back the VAT from the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme.

The net result for the year was a deficit of income over expenditure of £6,018.80 (£1096.04 – 2023 surplus) on unrestricted funds. The restricted funds increased by £16,542.96 as a result of a number of donations and grants for the installation of the Disabled Toilet and the purchase of a piano. The piano is treated as a restricted asset purchase and will be depreciated over a 5 year period.

Including bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December 2024 on unrestricted funds totalled £30,508.23 (£36,572.03 – 2023) of which £32,836.09 (£35,406.50 – 2023) was in cash, current accounts and on deposit. Overall there was an increase of £11,228.34 in the financial balances mainly due to increased grants, donations, Gift Aid and fund raising activities. The restricted fund balance increased to £85,055.17 (£68,512.21 – 2023) mainly due to donations

and grants for the Church Toilet. The gift aid is shown apportioned between the refurbishment and general funds as a significant amount is due to the donations for the Toilet.

The revaluation of the Dr Webster investment saw a welcome increase in value to £14,498.07. For many years voluntary giving was insufficient to meet our contribution to the diocese. Since our successful stewardship campaign in 2017 this has been covered by planned giving, open plate collections at services, donations and the associated Gift Aid, but we continue to rely upon fees for weddings and funerals and fundraising events to cover the other costs of ministry and the running expenses of our large building and churchyard. During 2024 we saw a number of regular givers move out of the Parish so we anticipate a reduction during 2025 unless additional regular givers can be found

Within the year the Parish Council contributed £2,000 towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Expenditure on the Church Graveyard is taken from a restricted fund into which the Parish Councils' contribution is deposited along with other donations for the upkeep of the Church Yard. In 2024 a total of £4,066.66 was spent on Church Yard Maintenance, which included the purchase of new mower for £849. This partially funded by a one of donation of £400 from a member of the church. It is anticipated that the expenditure in 2025 will hopefully remain around the £4,000 mark.

The contactless payment devices have proved beneficial for donations and fundraising and in 2024 £2020.00 was paid via these devices.

The PCC tries to build on the help and guidance given by the diocese on encouraging giving within the wider context of Christian stewardship. We hope 2025 will be a year where more fundraising events are held and further regular giving can be secured. Members of the Church family will again be asked to review the giving of their time and talents as well as their financial support. Diocesan priority 4 recognises the urgent need to become financially sustainable to resource mission.

Our thanks go to Howard Painter who has again very generously given his services as Independent Examiner of the 2024 finances *pro bono*.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds which equates to at least six months' unrestricted payments, equivalent to about £25,000.00. This is less than the figure for 2024 as a result of stable running costs and Parish Share paid to the Diocese. It is held to smooth out cash flow and to meet emergencies that may arise from time to time. The cash and bank balances of £30,508.23 held on unrestricted funds at the year-end exceeded this target. The PCC also holds other funds that cannot be included as "free" reserves as they are held for restricted purposes. These represent the proceeds of donations and fund raising projects, including grants, for specific purposes.

Investments

It is our general policy to invest our funds' balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. The Dr Webster Fund however is invested in accumulation units in the CBF Investment Fund for the Church of England. Income is reinvested within the fund itself, and not distributed in cash to unit holders.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular, we want to mention our Churchwardens Ian Bailey and Diane Roberts who worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running. In particular, we wish to thank Ian Bailey for his work on the electrical installation, Kevin Brewer for arranging and hosting the twice weekly live streaming of services and Tony Copp for his work in the Church Yard.

Administrative information

The church of St. James the Great is situated in Rectory Lane, Cradley. It is part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Cradley, Malvern, WR13 5LQ.

The parish forms part of the United Benefice of Cradley, Mathon and Storridge.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent: The Reverend Robert Ward (Chairman)

Churchwardens: Ian Bailey
Diane Roberts

Diocesan Synod Member: Ian Bailey

Deanery Synod Representatives: Mike Hames
Christopher Roberts

Elected members: Sue Bailey
Eryl Copp
Margaret Edgar

John Parsons

Sue Warner

Peter Warner

Jane MacFarlane (elected April 2024)

Structure, governance and management

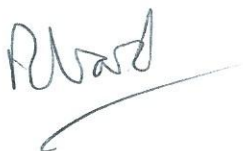
The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 16 June 2020, number 1190026. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. James' the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

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. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The full PCC met eight times in person during the year, with an average level of attendance of 75%. Business was also transacted by email. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees and working parties, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include churchyard, outreach and events, repairs and development, and worship are all responsible to the PCC; their reports are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

The following officers served during the year:

Lay vice-chair:	Mike Hames
Treasurer	Christopher Roberts
Secretary	Susan Warner
Minute Taker	John Parsons

Approved by the PCC on 21st March 2025 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC chairman)



Independent examiner's report to the trustees/members of the Parochial Church Council of St James the Great, Cradley

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 12 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

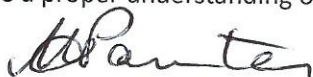
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records, or
- statutory fees were not accounted for correctly.

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



H N Painter JP BSc FCA
The Firs
Church Road
Crowle
Worcester
WR7 4AX

21st March 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
Income and endowments						
Voluntary income	2(a)	30,868.54	-	27,915.96	58,784.50	48,783.64
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	7,050.37	-	5,066.58	12,116.95	8,103.48
Income from investments	2(c)	1,600.43	-	3,282.73	4,883.16	3,393.51
Church activities	2(d)	2,894.00	-	1,915.00	4,809.00	8,923.00
Total incoming resources		<u>42,413.34</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,180.27</u>	<u>80,593.61</u>	<u>69,203.63</u>
Expenditure						
Church activities	3(a)	45,531.88	-	22,613.75	68,145.63	53,323.03
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	1,275.26	-	648.56	1,923.82	2,314.16
Total resources expended		<u>46,807.14</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,262.31</u>	<u>70,069.45</u>	<u>55,637.19</u>
Net incoming resources before transfers		(4,393.80)	-	14,917.96	10,524.16	13,566.44
Transfer between funds	4	<u>(1,625.00)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,625.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(6,018.80)	-	16,542.96	10,524.16	13,566.44
Revaluation gains on investments	6	-	704.18	-	704.18	1,549.00
Net movement in funds		(6,018.80)	704.18	16,542.96	11,228.34	15,115.44
Balances brought forward 1 January 2024		36,527.03	13,793.89	68,512.21	118,833.13	103,717.69
Balances carried forward 31 December 2024	9	<u>30,508.23</u>	<u>14,498.07</u>	<u>85,055.17</u>	<u>130,061.47</u>	<u>118,833.13</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
Fixed assets						
Tangible	5	-	-	2,103.20	2,103.20	0.00
Investments	6	-	14,498.07	-	14,498.07	13,793.89
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>14,498.07</u>	<u>2,103.20</u>	<u>16,601.27</u>	<u>13,793.89</u>
Current assets						
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,351.37	-	6,509.06	10,860.43	7,369.43
Short-term deposits		30,181.34	-	66,779.26	96,960.60	92,073.50
Cash at bank and in hand		2,654.75	-	11,066.21	13,720.96	10,012.68
		<u>37,187.46</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,354.53</u>	<u>121,541.99</u>	<u>109,455.61</u>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>6,679.23</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,402.56</u>	<u>8,081.79</u>	<u>4,416.37</u>
Net current assets		<u>30,508.23</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,951.97</u>	<u>113,460.20</u>	<u>105,039.24</u>
Total net assets		<u>30,508.23</u>	<u>14,498.07</u>	<u>85,055.17</u>	<u>130,061.47</u>	<u>118,833.13</u>
Represented by Parish Funds						
Unrestricted					30,508.23	36,527.03
Designated					14,498.07	13,793.89
Restricted					85,055.17	68,512.21
Endowment						
					<u>130,061.47</u>	<u>118,833.13</u>

Approved by the PCC on 21st March and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC Chairman)



1 Accounting policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS 102.

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

Fund accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place. The PCC currently has no Endowment Funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments that is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds that are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes. *Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are readily quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently the only items costing more than £1,000 are the chairs and tables purchased as part of the reordering of the north aisle (including the Lady Chapel) in 2019 and the purchase of an acoustic piano in 2024.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2		Income and endowments				
		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
a)	Voluntary income					
	Planned giving	16,208.38	-	-	16,208.38	17,801.71
	Collections at services	5,651.54	-	813.67	6,465.21	8,051.67
	Donations	1,670.90	-	9,118.65	10,789.55	8,855.35
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	Grants	500.00	-	17,792.50	18,292.50	7,000.00
	Gift Aid recovered	6,709.85	-	180.93	6,890.78	6,974.91
	Other voluntary receipts	127.87	-	10.21	138.08	100.00
		30,868.54	-	27,915.96	58,784.50	48,783.64
b)	Activities for generating funds					
	Fundraising	7,050.37	-	5,066.58	12,116.95	8,103.48
		7,050.37	-	5,066.58	12,116.95	8,103.48
c)	Investment income					
	Interest	1,600.43	-	3,282.73	4,883.16	3,393.51
		1,600.43	-	3,282.73	4,883.16	3,393.51
d)	Church activities					
	Fees for weddings and funerals	2,894.00	-	495.00	3,389.00	6,376.00
	Disbursements	-	-	1,420.00	1,420.00	2,547.00
		2,894.00	-	1,915.00	4,809.00	8,923.00
	Total income	42,413.34	-	38,180.27	80,593.61	69,203.63
3		Expenditure				
a)	Church activity expenses					
	Missionary and charitable giving		-			
	Overseas	-	-	304.03	304.03	1,731.71
	Home	217.00	-	3,069.97	3,286.97	2,282.10
	Diocesan parish contribution	33,000.00	-	-	33,000.00	32,000.00
	Other ministry costs	1,178.55	-	1,561.00	2,739.55	5,506.96
	Church running and maintenance	10,305.72	-	8,992.12	19,297.84	6,799.80
	Major repairs - structural renewal	-	-	3,818.88	3,818.88	0.00
	Churchyard upkeep	-	-	4,066.66	4,066.66	3,807.92
	Printing and stationery etc	225.73	-	-	225.73	100.14
	Other payments	604.88	-	275.29	880.17	150.34
	Depreciation	0.00	-	525.80	525.80	944.06
		45,531.88	-	22,613.75	68,145.63	53,323.03
b)	Stewardship costs					
	Costs of grant applications	-	-	-	-	-
	Fundraising costs	1,275.26	-	648.56	1,923.82	2,314.16
		1,275.26	-	648.56	1,923.82	2,314.16
	Total expenditure	46,807.14	-	23,262.31	70,069.45	55,637.19

4 Transfers between funds

Brtfwd o/s Restricted Funds paid into General Account	2046.88
Less Corrected Disbursement and Special Collection	966.79
Unrestricted Funds paid from the Restricted Account	14
Restricted funds paid into GA account in 2024	4,441.03
Net Transfer between Funds using Creditors /Debtors	5,535.12

Transfer from General to Restricted Funds	
Transfer to Church Yard Maintenance Fund	1,000.00
Transfer of Gift Aid on Piano donations	625
Total	1,625.00

5 Tangible fixed assets

	General	Restricted
Cost		
At 1 January 2021	4,720.26	0
Additions	0.00	2629
At 31December 2024	4,720.26	2,629.00
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2024	4,720.26	0
Depreciation charged in the year	0.00	525.8
At 31 December 2024	4,720.26	525.80
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2024	0.00	2,103.20
At 31 December 2023	0.00	0.00

6 Fixed Asset Investments

Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2024	13,793.89
Additions	0.00
Valuation changes	704.18
Disposals	0.00
At 31 December 2024	14,498.07
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	14,498.07
At 31 December 2023	13,793.89

7 Debtors

	Unrestricted	Restricted
Gift Aid recoverable	3,982.96	180.93
DCMS Listed Places of Worship grant		
Late Raffle Ticket Sales	10.00	
Christmas Draw sponsorship		
Sponsorship of streaming licences		
CCLA Interest	358.41	793.01
Transfer from Restricted bank account		5,535.12
Transfer from General bank account		
	4,351.37	6,509.06

8 Creditors

Dawson & MEW Invoices	84.00	111.60
Christingle & Carol Service collections		381.06
Vale Dehumidifier for Piano		265.00
Verger, Organist & Ringers Fees		
4QTR Electricity	986.51	
Printing Costs		
CY Mowing		380.00
Unpresented Cheques	73.60	264.90
Transfer to General Bank Account		
Transfer to Restricted Bank Account	5,535.12	

9. Funds

		6,679.23	1,402.56			
Fund	Brought forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers in	Transfers out	Carried forward
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>						
General	36,527.03	42,413.34	46,807.14	0.00	1,625.00	30,508.23
<i>Designated funds</i>						
Dr Webster Fund	13,793.89	704.18	0.00			14,498.07
<i>Restricted funds</i>						
200 Club	368.74	-109.00	0.00			259.74
Bell & Tower	8,328.28	517.03	0.00			8,845.31
Choir	0.00	310.21	141.00			169.21
Church fabric	9,652.57	1,162.86	7,507.20			3,308.23
Disbursements	0.00	1,950.00	1,950.00			0.00
Flower	131.23	78.02	0.00			209.25
Hassocks & Cushions	48.09	2.22	0.00			50.31
NCT Maintenance	3,113.84	144.35	1,596.52			1,661.67
Organ & Piano	300.42	2,588.38	1,050.80	625.00	0.00	2,463.00
Refurbishment	45,090.95	26,140.47	3,794.86	0.00	0.00	67,436.56
Church Yard Maintenance	194.54	2,466.00	3,801.66	1,000.00		-141.12
Restricted fundraising	472.06	1,247.71	1,719.77		0.00	0.00
Special collections	0.00	889.01	889.01			0.00
Unallocated Interest	811.49	793.01	811.49			793.01
	68,512.21	38,180.27	23,262.31	1,625.00	0.00	85,055.17
Total all Funds	118,833.13	81,297.79	70,069.45			130,061.47

The General Fund represents income to be used for the general purposes of the PCC

The Dr Webster Fund represents the residue of a legacy from the late Dr Webster, received in 1962. For many years it was thought that this was restricted to the maintenance of the church fabric, but research in 2019 has confirmed that it is for the general purposes of the church. The PCC has however earmarked it for maintenance of the fabric. It is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Units and therefore no dividend is received as the income of the fund is re-invested.

The 200 Club Fund represents subscriptions paid in advance, which are held in this fund until the month of the draw to which they refer, when they are transferred to the General (Unrestricted) Fund.

The Bell & Tower Fund represents surplus funds raised in 2000 for the refurbishment and augmentation of the bells and associated necessary work on the tower, and subsequent donations when the bells are used at weddings.

The Church Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance.

Disbursements represent fees for bell ringers, the vergers and the organist at weddings and funerals, where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

The Flower Fund represents donations to be spent on the purchase of flowers to decorate the church.

The Hassocks & Cushions Fund represents funds held for the purchase of materials for making these items.

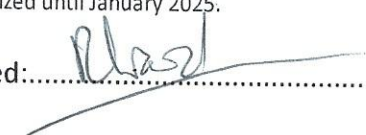
The Organ & Piano Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for maintenance of the organ and for the purchase and maintenance of the church piano and contains the remaining value of £2103.20 for the piano. The £625 transfer into the fund is in lieu of the gift aid claimed on the donations for the piano. This will be paid into the general fund in 2026.

The Refurbishment Fund represents donations to finance the necessary refurbishment and adaptation of church premises to facilitate greater community use. This will be used for the installation of the Disabled Toilet.

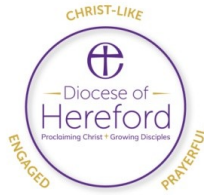
The Church Yard Maintenance Fund was setup in 2021 to hold the contribution made by the Parish Council and other donations for Church Yard Maintenance

Restricted Fundraising and Special Collections represent the proceeds of fundraising events and collections which are specifically for the benefit of some other organisation, and where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

The unallocated interest represents the interest income from the restricted CCLA account for the 4th Quarter of 2024, which is now not capitalized until January 2025.

Signed:  Rector Signed:  Ind. Examiner

Accounts



CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Aim and purposes

Cradley Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Robert Ward, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade II* church of St. James the Great, Cradley, Herefordshire.

Objectives and Activities

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 Cradley. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship seek to bring people closer to God through Word and Sacrament, prayer and music.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable everyone to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing an understanding and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach work

The Diocese of Hereford (of which we are part) has identified five strategic priorities for the 2020s in its shared vision of Proclaiming Christ and Growing Disciples:

- **Stronger congregations - growing faith**
- **Schools and intergenerational mission to help us grow younger**
- **Equipping and supporting Lay leaders for mission**
- **Sustainable building strategy and support for Parish offer**
- **Creating generous giving and asset development (See financial report)**

The PCC has found these priorities a good basis for writing this report, with Priority 4 being addressed within the Financial Review

Priority: Stronger Congregations - growing faith

Diocesan Goal: Minimum 3% of the population attending a regular act of worship, i.e. approximately 42 regular attendees from the parishes of Cradley and Storrige combined.

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that will be beneficial and spiritually nourishing for our community and all are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 66 persons on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom three are not resident within the parish.

On Wednesday mornings Holy Communion is normally celebrated using Common Worship. Evening prayer is live-streamed from the rectory on Wednesday evenings. On the first Sunday of each month the opportunity is usually provided for informal worship at the Family Service with music provided by Jimmy's Band, a small group of instrumentalists. The band also plays for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve. Contemporary forms of liturgy are used at the Parish and Family Communion services and coffee is served after services to encourage members of the congregation to stop and chat. Tea and coffee-making equipment is left out at all times for visitors to the church to make their own hot drinks should they wish to.

A simple form of Morning Worship, which can be lay led, continues to thrive, establishing a range of speakers from within and beyond the congregation.

2023 saw an average attendance of 30.17 from Cradley, with an average of 77.08 at special services. Whilst our attendance at special services was good overall, this demonstrates that we are not achieving the Diocesan target of 3% average attendance which equates to approximately 42 attendees, although this figure does apply to the parishes of Storrige and Cradley combined. It has been clear to the PCC that we need to encourage more people into the church and with this in mind, a meeting was held in December with the aim of designing a new style of worship in family services. We look forward to seeing the development of this service in 2024.

One service a month continues to be live-streamed from the church to cater for those who are unable to be physically present. On other Sundays a service is streamed either from the Rectory or elsewhere and is appreciated by those in the Benefice or beyond who join via the internet or by telephone.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of our journey through life. At baptism we thank God for the gift of life and celebrate the start of our journey as children of God. In marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief, giving thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and commending the person into God's keeping. In 2023 we celebrated three weddings, two wedding blessings and two baptisms. Seven funerals and five ash burials were conducted at our church.

In order to advertise services and events and celebrate our successes, the parish has its own Facebook page as well as a website, and a weekly communication similar to the paper copy traditionally available in church is distributed electronically. Information about our church can also be found on the 'A Church Near You' website. In 2023 we updated our 'Welcome Leaflet' to go to new families moving into the village to make it more colourful and welcoming.

Cradley Church has an SATB choir which normally sings at two services a month including a choral

communion setting at the Parish Communion. The choir is affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music. A very successful Carol Service was again held jointly with Bosbury Church Choir and it is hoped co-operation will continue. We also have a fine ring of bells, which were rehung and augmented from six to eight at the Millennium. With the help of ringers from Mathon, our thriving group usually manages to ring at least six bells for the main services each Sunday.

Pastoral Care, mission and Evangelism

The clergy and/or members of the Three Villages Visiting Group visit members of the community who would appreciate a visit or are unable to get to church, and to take Communion.

The Rector is Chairman of the committee that produces a monthly community Newsletter for Cradley, Mathon and Storridge. This keeps our parishioners informed of important matters affecting our church as well as reporting on the numerous other organisations in the villages. The PCC is grateful to the committee, and all of its volunteer helpers.

"Coffee Stop at The Leys" meets monthly, usually on the last Thursday and provides an opportunity for residents at The Leys and their friends to meet socially. It is organised by a small group of members from the church congregation, and for the past 3 years it has been supported financially by the local Charities of Richard Hill and Others.

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Some mission giving is organised on a benefice-wide basis, including the provision of frugal lunches in Lent.

Ecumenical Relationships

When there is a fifth Sunday in a month the three parishes in the benefice come together for a "gathered service", which may be formal or informal in nature; if non-Eucharistic, a said service of Holy Communion is celebrated, at a different time, in one of the churches in the Benefice.

Members of all three parish churches in the benefice and Cradley chapel (which belongs to The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion) form Christians Together, which holds monthly meetings. Members of the congregation join this group for prayer, Bible Study, discussion and worship.

Deanery Synod

The PCC has three seats on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Rector, having been Rural Dean since September 2013, stepped down from the role in March 2023.

Priorit: Schools and intergenerational mission to help us grow younger

Diocesan Goal: Increasing the number of young people and children engaged with worshipping communities

The Chair of Governors of Cradley Primary School, a Church of England VA School, who is also responsible for Safeguarding issues, is a member of the PCC. The Rector sits on the Governing Body ex-officio. The Rector regularly goes in to the school to lead corporate worship, including the 'Breaking of Bread', and a small group of volunteers also delivers the 'Open the Book' programme during whole school worship. The school also holds its special services, e.g. Harvest, in the church.

In 2023 Cradley School joined a new government initiative designed to build a sustainable pool of 'Community Champions' to actively engage young people to 'pass on the baton' and build on the foundations of trust established by groups in the community, our church being one of those groups. The church has worked closely with the school to minimise barriers, grow understanding, and improve engagement with our community. This has involved several visits from the school's Community Champions, e.g. to make music with our church band, which have proved to be very popular amongst the children.

There is a small active branch of the Mothers' Union in the benefice, who continue to offer support for local MU projects and contributed to several services in Cradley during 2023, such as Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Christingle.

Stir-up-Sunday, when children are invited to make Christmas puddings assisted by volunteers from the church, was well supported by local children.

In spite of efforts to develop close links with the school, the number of children attending church remains low. We hope that the development of our new Church4All will encourage more to attend.

Priority: Equipping and supporting Lay leaders for mission

Diocesan Goal: New voluntary or lay leaders

Lay volunteers continue to be invaluable to the life of the benefice, especially in enabling and taking part in worship, online and in church, and in co-ordinating visiting and pastoral care throughout the community. Some have taken a regular and active role in leading lay led worship, in ensuring the continuation of our worship on-line, and developing our outreach through electronic and social media.

We presently have seven named lay leaders, one of whom has been accepted on the one year Introduction to Local Ministry training course with the Diocese. All Lay worship leaders are offered training to become authorised to take a more central and active role in the leading of worship, but uptake to date has not been forthcoming.

Priority: Sustainable building strategy

Diocesan Goal: A sustainable clear future for every church

The Church Building and Churchyard

Cradley Church is in the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and has arrangements with the AONB Partnership, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust, for them to provide information and displays in our church as part of our commitment to involvement and partnerships within the community. This also encourages local tourism and, alongside leaflets and literature sponsored by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, brings visitors into the building, including local people who may not otherwise enter it. Brown tourism signs directing people from the main roads to the church and village hall have recently been provided.

The PCC is responsible for maintaining the church and churchyard in good condition and extends its thanks to all who volunteer to keep the churchyard in such good condition. We are grateful for the contributions from the Parish Council to the cost of employing contractors to cut the grass in the churchyard to the north side of the church.

The path in the north-west corner of the churchyard has been stoned to match the path in Stoney

Villa. Following Candlemas 2023, we no longer have a suitable site for a bonfire in the churchyard. Garden waste sacks from Hereford Council are now provided to manage green waste properly, with material that cannot be composted being bagged and taken to the tip. The area to the South of the lychgate has been dug out to protect the woodwork, and weeds continue to be removed from the south wall. Wall repairs are pending. The path from the lychgate to the porch has been weeded.

In June a Bioblitz was held at Cradley Churchyard, to record plants, fungi, insects, mammals, birds and lichens. Cradley School Community Champions built Glaston-bug Tor, a bug and reptile sanctuary on the tree stump by the Glastonbury Thorn and planted wild daffodil bulbs in the North churchyard. Lindsay Williams from Colwall Orchard group, found a high phosphorous level in our meadows, making it difficult to establish wild flowers, but we have sown more yellow rattle to compete with the grasses anyway. We will continue to cut and remove hay twice a year - we get 20 bales of hay each from the first cut of the spring and summer meadows.

Rev. Robert now has a scaled plan for future burials in the north eastern area of the churchyard. The Diocesan Advisory Committee has advised us that they will not give permission for the existing ashes memorial tablet area to be extended beyond the current lawn. A Remembrance Garden proposal is therefore being discussed and we are advised to seriously consider an area just to the north of the church in the summer wildflower hay meadow as a location that can be used for interred cremated remains in perpetuity. Parishioners will be updated as our plans evolve.

Frequent, regular inspections of the church fabric ensures that early action is taken to rectify problems and help prevent the need for major repair works. As in previous years, volunteers carried out routine maintenance tasks and regular inspections of all aspects of the building were made in order to detect any deteriorating elements.

Some maintenance does, of course, need to be carried out by specialist contractors, such as checks to fire protection equipment, lightning conductors and any work at high level requiring scaffolding, etc. Regular tuning of the organ was undertaken on two separate occasions in 2023, with a further visit necessary to carry out some additional work.

We are in receipt of both Planning Permission and Faculty for the new toilet facility, which we feel is key to a sustainable future for our church. Some funding is already in place but sadly a grant application to the National Churches Trust was not successful. With the current inflation rates it is difficult to predict the final costs and further funding will be necessary to complete the project. Raising this money continues to be a major challenge, but we continue to explore further possible avenues of funding.

Priority: Creating generous giving and asset development

Diocesan Goal: Breakeven budget/sustainable benefices

Financial Review

The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1 on page 11. Total receipts and payments on unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in detail in the Statement of Financial Activities. For the year ended 31 December 2023, total income was £69,203.63 (£58,477.59 - 2022) and total expenditure was £55,637.19 (£53,493.98 - 2022).

Net receipts from fundraising events for general purposes amounted to £7,139.91, which is £1,439.75 lower than £8,579.66 in 2022. This result is in spite of missing the significant income in 2022 from the Jubilee Weekend which raised £3,819.61 after expenses.. The 200 Club has raised £830.50 net of prized money which is lower than the £957.00 in 2022 due to a number of members moving out of the parish. Burns night and the St David's Day Concert in March, which were held jointly with the Village Hall, raised £1,282.40 for Church funds. The Lent talks and Lunches raised £692.5 and were held for DEC Turkey/ Ukraine and Ledbury Food Bank and a donation £50 to the Slarvic Gospel Association. The Organ recital in April raised £502 and the Silent Move Night in June, which was held for the Hereford Historic Churches Trust raised £101.50

The Summer raffle raised £307 and the Cream Teas held in Church throughout the summer months raised a total £991.75 which was only slightly lower than the 2022 record £1,043.57. We did not hold a Christmas raffle in 2023 as it was decided to incorporate this into the Around the World in 80mins talk in January 2024. The Oak at Staplow held a Quiz Night in December for the designated charities of the Talk and raised £425 which is reflected in the Fundraising carried forward balance in the accounts. The Christmas Fair raised £119.50 on the day but further sales in church added a further £102 making a total of £221.50.

We contributed £32,000 to the Diocesan Common Fund, which pays for ministry and mission in our diocese, an increase of £1,000 on the previous year. We have pledged to contribute £33,000 in 2024.

Minor repairs were carried out to the Organ for £119.52 and a heater was replace in the Vestry at a cost of £111.60. No significant maintenance expense was incurred during 2023. We were also successful in our insurance claim for repairs to the Church Yard Wall and Ecclesiastical have paid us £2500 to cover the cost of repair, which is £3000 less our excess fee of £500. In the coming year the West End wall of the Church will be repointed at a cost of £3,960.00

The net result for the year was a surplus of income over expenditure of £1,096.04 (£5,288.77 - 2022) on unrestricted funds after allowing for depreciation on the chairs and tables purchased in 2019, which are now completely written off. The restricted funds increased by £12,407.40 as a result of a number of donations for the installation of the Disabled Toilet. Including bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December 2023 on unrestricted funds totalled £36,572.03 (£35,430.99 – 2022) of which £35,406.50 (£33,126.89 – 2022) was in cash, current accounts and on deposit. Overall there was an increase of £1,096.04 in the financial balances mainly due to increased Gift Aid and other fund raising activities. The restricted fund balance increased to £68,512.21 (£56,041.81 – 2022) mainly due to donations for the Church Toilet. The gift aid is currently shown totally within the general fund, but a significant proportion will need to be transferred to the refurbishment fund as a large amount is due to the donations for the Toilet.

The revaluation of the Dr Webster investment saw a welcome increase in value to £13,793.89. For many years voluntary giving was insufficient to meet our contribution to the diocese. Since our successful stewardship campaign in 2017 this has been covered by planned giving, open plate collections at services, donations and the associated Gift Aid, but we continue to rely upon fees for weddings and funerals and fundraising events to cover the other costs of ministry and the running expenses of our large building and churchyard. During 2023 we say a number of regular givers move out of the Parish so we anticipate a reduction during 2024 unless additional regular givers can be found

Within the year the Parish Council contributed £2,000 towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Expenditure on the Church Graveyard is taken from a restricted fund into which the Parish Councils' contribution is deposited along with other donations for the upkeep of the Church Yard. In 2023 a total of £3,807.92 was

spent on Church Yard Maintenance and it is anticipated that the expenditure in 2024 will exceed £4,000 as a result of the significant rise in the inflation rate.

The PCC have been trialling two contactless payment devices, which has proved beneficial for donations and fundraising. During the year we obtained a more permanent device which is now installed securely in the church. This will enable casual visitors to the Church to donate using credit/debit cards.

The PCC tries to build on the help and guidance given by the diocese on encouraging giving within the wider context of Christian stewardship. We hope 2024 will be a year where more fundraising events are held, and further grants and donations made for the installation of the Disabled Toilet. Members of the Church family will again be asked to review the giving of their time and talents as well as their financial support. Diocesan priority 4 recognises the urgent need to become financially sustainable to resource mission.

Our thanks go to Howard Painter who has again very generously given his services as Independent Examiner of the 2023 finances *pro bono*.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds which equates to at least six months' unrestricted payments, equivalent to about £30,000.00. This has increased over the figure for 2022 as a result of a 25% increase in running costs and Parish Share paid to the Diocese. It is held to smooth out cash flow and to meet emergencies that may arise from time to time. The cash and bank balances of £36,527.03 held on unrestricted funds at the year-end exceeded this target. The PCC also holds other funds that cannot be included as "free" reserves as they are held for restricted purposes. These represent the proceeds of donations and fund raising projects, including grants, for specific purposes.

Investments

It is our general policy to invest our funds' balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. The Dr Webster Fund however is invested in accumulation units in the CBF Investment Fund for the Church of England. Income is reinvested within the fund itself, and not distributed in cash to unit holders.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular, we want to mention our Churchwardens Ian Bailey and Diane Roberts who worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running. In particular, we wish to thank Kevin Brewer for arranging and hosting the twice weekly live streaming of services.

Administrative information

The church of St. James the Great is situated in Rectory Lane, Cradley. It is part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Cradley, Malvern, WR13 5LQ.

The parish forms part of the United Benefice of Cradley, Mathon and Storridge.

Two long serving PCC members, Sheila Mullaney (since 2013) and Julia Maclagan (since 2010), both retired from the PCC in April 2023. We are extremely grateful for their tireless service and dedication to the PCC over the years.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Robert Ward	(Chairman)
Churchwardens:	Ian Bailey	
	Diane Roberts	
Diocesan Synod Member:	Ian Bailey	
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mike Hames	
	Christopher Roberts	

Elected members:

Sue Bailey
Eryl Copp
Margaret Edgar
John Parsons
Sue Warner
Julia Maclagan (retired April 2023)
Sheila Mullaney (retired April 2023)
Peter Warner (appointed April 2023)

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 16 June 2020, number 1190026. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. James' the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

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. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The full PCC met eight times in person during the year, with an average level of attendance of 75%. Business was also transacted by email. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees and working parties, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include churchyard, outreach and events, repairs and development, and worship are all responsible to the PCC; their reports are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

The following officers served during the year:

Lay vice-chair:	Mike Hames
Treasurer	Christopher Roberts
Secretary	Susan Warner
Minute Taker	John Parsons

Approved by the PCC on 20th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC chairman)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees/members of the Parochial Church Council of St James the Great, Cradley

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 10 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records, or
- statutory fees were not accounted for correctly.

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

H N Painter JP BSc FCA
The Firs
Church Road
Crowle
Worcester
WR7 4AX

20th March 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
Income and endowments						
Voluntary income	2(a)	33,650.10	-	15,133.54	48,783.64	40,909.52
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	7,139.91	-	963.57	8,103.48	11,309.91
Income from investments	2(c)	1,110.02	-	2,283.49	3,393.51	818.16
Church activities	2(d)	5,976.00	-	2,947.00	8,923.00	5,440.00
Total incoming resources		<u>47,876.03</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,327.60</u>	<u>69,203.63</u>	<u>58,477.59</u>
Expenditure						
Church activities	3(a)	42,947.23	-	10,375.80	53,323.03	52,474.04
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	2,314.16	-	-	2,314.16	1,019.94
Total resources expended		<u>45,261.39</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,375.80</u>	<u>55,637.19</u>	<u>53,493.98</u>
Net incoming resources before transfers		2,614.64	-	10,951.80	13,566.44	4,983.61
Transfer between funds	4	<u>(1,518.60)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,518.60</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		1,096.04	-	12,470.40	13,566.44	4,983.61
Revaluation gains on investments	6	<u>-</u>	<u>1,549.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,549.00</u>	<u>(1,227.79)</u>
Net movement in funds		1,096.04	1,549.00	12,470.40	15,115.44	3,755.82
Balances brought forward 1 January 2023		35,430.99	12,244.89	56,041.81	103,717.69	99,961.87
Balances carried forward 31 December 2023	9	<u><u>36,527.03</u></u>	<u><u>13,793.89</u></u>	<u><u>68,512.21</u></u>	<u><u>118,833.13</u></u>	<u><u>103,717.69</u></u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
Fixed assets						
Tangible	5	-	-	-	0.00	944.06
Investments	6	<u>-</u>	<u>13,793.89</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,793.89</u>	<u>12,244.89</u>
		<u>-</u>	<u>13,793.89</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,793.89</u>	<u>13,188.95</u>
Current assets						
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,499.96	-	2,869.47	7,369.43	2,661.56
Short-term deposits		31,563.90	-	60,509.60	92,073.50	62,927.72
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>3,842.60</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,170.08</u>	<u>10,012.68</u>	<u>26,277.60</u>
		<u>39,906.46</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,549.15</u>	<u>109,455.61</u>	<u>91,866.88</u>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>3,379.43</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,036.94</u>	<u>4,416.37</u>	<u>1,338.14</u>
Net current assets		<u>36,527.03</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,512.21</u>	<u>105,039.24</u>	<u>90,528.74</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>36,527.03</u></u>	<u><u>13,793.89</u></u>	<u><u>68,512.21</u></u>	<u><u>118,833.13</u></u>	<u><u>103,717.69</u></u>
Represented by Parish Funds						
Unrestricted					36,527.03	35,430.99
Designated					13,793.89	12,244.89
Restricted					68,512.21	56,041.81
Endowment						
					<u><u>118,833.13</u></u>	<u><u>103,717.69</u></u>

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these accounts

Approved by the PCC on 20th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC Chairman)

1 Accounting policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Fund accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place. The PCC currently has no Endowment Funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments that is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds that are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes. *Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are readily quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently the only items costing more than £1,000 are the chairs and tables purchased as part of the reordering of the north aisle (including the Lady Chapel) in 2019.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2	Income and endowments	Unrestricted	Designate	Restricted	TOTAL	TOTAL
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		d			
	funds	funds	funds	2023	2022
a) Voluntary income					
Planned giving	17,801.71	-	-	17,801.71	19,748.99
Collections at services	5,051.13	-	3,000.54	8,051.67	5,155.91
Donations	1,072.35	-	7,783.00	8,855.35	1,366.40
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	2,750.00	-	4,250.00	7,000.00	8,460.00
Gift Aid recovered	6,974.91	-	-	6,974.91	5,816.32
Other voluntary receipts	-	-	100.00	100.00	361.90
	<u>33,650.10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,133.54</u>	<u>48,783.64</u>	<u>40,909.52</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising	7,139.91	-	963.57	8,103.48	11,309.91
	<u>7,139.91</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>963.57</u>	<u>8,103.48</u>	<u>11,309.91</u>
c) Investment income					
Interest	1,110.02	-	2,283.49	3,393.51	818.16
	<u>1,110.02</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,283.49</u>	<u>3,393.51</u>	<u>818.16</u>
d) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	5,976.00	-	400.00	6,376.00	3,700.00
Disbursements	-	-	2,547.00	2,547.00	1,740.00
	<u>5,976.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,947.00</u>	<u>8,923.00</u>	<u>5,440.00</u>
Total income	<u>47,876.03</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,327.60</u>	<u>69,203.63</u>	<u>58,477.59</u>

3 Expenditure

a) Church activity expenses					
Missionary and charitable giving		-			
Overseas	-	-	1,731.71	1,731.71	1,329.00
Home	217.00	-	2,065.10	2,282.10	898.32
Diocesan parish contribution	32,000.00	-	-	32,000.00	31,000.00
Other ministry costs	2,890.84	-	2,616.12	5,506.96	2,668.11
Church running and maintenance	6,680.28	-	119.52	6,799.80	8,082.93
Major repairs - structural renewal	-	-	0.00	0.00	3,787.73
Churchyard upkeep	-	-	3,807.92	3,807.92	3,497.54
Printing and stationery etc	100.14	-	-	100.14	228.29
Other payments	114.91	-	35.43	150.34	38.07
Depreciation on movable furniture	944.06	-	-	944.06	944.05
	<u>42,947.23</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,375.80</u>	<u>53,323.03</u>	<u>52,474.04</u>
b) Stewardship costs					
Costs of grant applications	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising costs	2,314.16	-	-	2,314.16	1,019.94
	<u>2,314.16</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,314.16</u>	<u>1,019.94</u>
Total expenditure	<u>45,261.39</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,375.80</u>	<u>55,637.19</u>	<u>53,493.98</u>

4 Transfers between funds

Transfer to Church Yard Maintenance Fund	1500.00
200Club Prize Donated to Refurbishment Fund for the Toilet	18.60
Total Transfer From General Fund	1518.60

5 Tangible fixed assets

Cost

At 1 January 2021	4,720.26
Additions	-
At 31December 2021	4,720.26

Depreciation

At 1 January 2023	3,776.20
Depreciation charged in the year	944.06
At 31 December 2023	4,720.26

Carrying amount

At 31 December 2023	-
At 31 December 2022	944.06

6 Fixed Asset Investments

Cost or valuation

At 1 January 2023	12,244.89
Additions	-
Valuation changes	1,549.00
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2023	13,793.89

Carrying amount

At 31 December 2023	13,793.89
At 31 December 2022	12,244.89

7 Debtors

	Unrestricted	Restricted
Gift Aid recoverable	4,048.66	-
DCMS Listed Places of Worship grant	-	-
Late Christingle Donation	-	11.10
Christmas Draw sponsorship	28.00	-
Sponsorship of streaming licences	-	-
CCLA Interest	423.30	811.49
Transfer from Restricted bank account	-	-
Transfer from General bank account	-	2,046.88
	4,499.96	2,869.47

8 Creditors

Dawson Electrical Inspection	84.00	-
Christingle & Carol Service collections	-	506.94
VH Hire Diaries Expenses	49.40	-
Verger, Organist & Ringers Fees	-	530.00
4QTR Electricity	997.59	-
Printing Costs	64.32	-
Fund Raising Costs	92.94	-
Unpresented Cheques	44.30	-
Transfer to General Bank Account	-	-
Transfer to Restricted Bank Account	2,046.88	-
	3,379.43	1,036.94

9. Funds

Fund	Brought forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers in	Transfers out	Carried forward
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>						
General	35,430.99	47,876.03	45,261.39		1,518.60	36,527.03
<i>Designated funds</i>						
Dr Webster Fund	12,244.89	1,549.00	0.00			13,793.89
<i>Restricted funds</i>						
200 Club	604.00	-235.26	0.00			368.74
Bell & Tower	7,904.90	423.38	0.00			8,328.28
Church fabric	9,422.15	230.42	0.00			9,652.57
Disbursements	0.00	2,577.00	2,577.00			0.00
Flower	97.89	135.46	102.12			131.23
Hassocks & Cushions	46.95	1.14	0.00			48.09
NCT Maintenance	3,039.62	74.22	0.00			3,113.84
Organ	243.99	175.95	119.52			300.42
Refurbishment	34,579.85	10,492.50	0.00	18.60		45,090.95
Church Yard Maintenance	102.46	2,400.00	3,807.92	1,500.00		194.54
Restricted fundraising	0.00	1,165.50	693.44			472.06
Special collections	0.00	3,105.54	3,105.54			0.00
Unallocated Interest	0.00	811.49	0.00			811.49
	56,041.81	23,018.60	12,066.80	1,518.60		68,512.21
Total all Funds	103,717.69	72,443.63	57,328.19			118,833.13

The General Fund represents income to be used for the general purposes of the PCC

The Dr Webster Fund represents the residue of a legacy from the late Dr Webster, received in 1962. For many years it was thought that this was restricted to the maintenance of the church fabric, but research in 2019 has confirmed that it is for the general purposes of the church. The PCC has however earmarked it for maintenance of the fabric. It is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Units and therefore no dividend is received as the income of the fund is re-invested.

The 200 Club Fund represents subscriptions paid in advance, which are held in this fund until the month of the draw to which they refer, when they are transferred to the General (Unrestricted) Fund.

The Bell & Tower Fund represents surplus funds raised in 2000 for the refurbishment and augmentation of the bells and associated necessary work on the tower, and subsequent donations when the bells are used at weddings.

The Church Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance.

Disbursements represent fees for bell ringers, the vergers and the organist at weddings and funerals, where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

The Flower Fund represents donations to be spent on the purchase of flowers to decorate the church.

The Hassocks & Cushions Fund represents funds held for the purchase of materials for making these items.

In 2022 the PCC was the first winner of the Hereford Churches Trust's Good Guardianship Awards which carried a prize of £5,000 to be spent on maintenance of the church building.

The Organ Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for maintenance of the organ.

The Refurbishment Fund represents donations to finance the necessary refurbishment and adaptation of church premises to facilitate greater community use. This will be used for the installation of the Disabled Toilet.

The Church Yard Maintenance Fund was setup in 2021 to hold the contribution made by the Parish Council and other donations for Church Yard Maintenance

Restricted Fundraising and Special Collections represent the proceeds of fundraising events and collections which are specifically for the benefit of some other organisation, and where the PCC is merely acting as agent. The carried forward balance represents payments in advance for the Round the World in 80mins talk given on the 28th of January.

The unallocated interest represents the interest income from the restricted CCLA account for the 4th Quarter of 2023, which is now not capitalized until January 2024

Signed:..... Rector Signed:..... Ind. Examiner

Accounts

CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Aim and purposes

Cradley Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Robert Ward, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade II* church of St. James the Great, Cradley, Herefordshire.

Objectives and Activities

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 Cradley. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship seek to bring people closer to God through Word and Sacrament, prayer and music.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable everyone to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their understanding and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach work

The Diocese of Hereford (of which we are part) formerly identified four strategic priorities in its shared vision of Proclaiming Christ and Growing Disciples:

1. spiritual and numerical growth
2. enriching the life of the community
3. re-imagining ministry (i.e. shared and collaborative ministry)
4. working towards financial sustainability

The PCC has found these former priorities a good basis for writing this report.

We have ensured that we maintain the fabric of our church building and its environs and that the churchyard remains open for burials - residents and anyone who dies in the parish are entitled to be buried there, whether they attended church or not.

The PCC has due regard to appropriate legislation and governance best practice, and during the year confirmed its policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, and the General Data Protection Regulation.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that will be beneficial and spiritually nourishing for our community. Members of the congregation join with Christians Together in Cradley for prayer, Bible Study, discussion and worship on a monthly basis. On Wednesday mornings Holy Communion is normally celebrated using Common Worship. Evening prayer is live-streamed from the rectory on Wednesday evenings. On the first Sunday of each month the opportunity is usually

provided for informal worship at the Family Service with music provided by Jimmy's Band, a group of around 6 instrumentalists. The band also plays for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve. Contemporary forms of liturgy are used at the Parish and Family Communion services. A simple form of Morning Worship which can be lay led continues to thrive, establishing a range of speakers from within and beyond the congregation. When there is a fifth Sunday in a month the three parishes in the benefice come together for a "gathered service", which may be formal or informal in nature; if non-Eucharistic, a said service of Holy Communion is celebrated, at a different time, in one of the churches in the Benefice.

Although public worship has resumed following the Covid-19 pandemic, one service a month continues to be live-streamed from the church to cater for those who are still uncomfortable with venturing out. On other Sundays a service is streamed either from the Rectory or elsewhere and is appreciated by those in the Benefice or beyond who join via the internet or by telephone.

To date, members of The Local Ministry Group have been invaluable to the life of the benefice, especially in enabling and taking part in worship, online and in church, and in co-ordinating visiting and pastoral care throughout the community. The group has helped to promote lay involvement generally in the life of the churches, a key part of diocesan priority 3, and some members of the group have taken a regular and active role in leading lay led worship, in ensuring the continuation of our worship on-line, and developing our outreach through electronic and social media. Lay worship leaders are likely, in future, to be offered further training and become authorised to take a more central and active role in the leading of worship and so the future path of this group will be under review in the coming year.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of our journey through life. At baptism we thank God for the gift of life and celebrate the start of our journey as children of God. In marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief, giving thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and commending the person into God's keeping. There were four weddings, two baptisms and two funerals, the low frequency continuing to be lower than would normally be expected, due to the Covid pandemic.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 73 persons on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom six are not resident within the parish.

The parish has its own Facebook page as well as a website, and a weekly communication similar to the paper copy traditionally available in church is distributed electronically.

Cradley Church has an SATB choir of around 12 people who normally sing at two services a month including a choral communion setting at the Parish Communion. The choir is affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music. Two long-serving members of the choir have retired in the last year but we have welcomed one new member who moved to the area. A very successful Carol Service was held jointly with Bosbury Church Choir and it is hoped co-operation will continue. We also have a fine ring of bells, which were rehung and augmented from six to eight at the Millennium. We currently have 8 bell ringers registered to the tower, including two beginners. Overall we have six who are regularly active, and with the help of ringers from Mathon we usually manage to ring at least six bells for the main services each Sunday.

Deanery Synod

The PCC has three seats on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Rector has been Rural Dean since September 2013.

Pastoral Care and Enriching the Life of the Community

Diocesan priority 2 recognises the important role of the church, and its members, in enriching the life of the community.

The Chair of Governors of Cradley Primary School, a Church of England VA School, who is also responsible for Safeguarding issues, is a member of the PCC. The Rector sits on the Governing Body ex-officio.

There is a small active branch of the Mothers' Union in the benefice, which currently has ten members, who continue to offer support for local MU projects and contributed to several services in Cradley during 2022, such as Mothering Sunday, The Queen's Jubilee, Harvest and Christingle.

The clergy and/or members of the Three Villages Visiting Group offer to visit members of the community who would appreciate a visit or are unable to get to church, and to take Communion, if appropriate

The Rector is Chairman of the committee that produces a monthly community Newsletter for Cradley, Mathon and Storridge. This keeps our parishioners informed of important matters affecting our church as well as reporting on the numerous other organisations in the villages. The PCC is grateful to the committee, and all of its volunteer helpers.

The PCC is responsible for maintaining the churchyard in good condition. We are grateful for the resumption of contributions from the Parish Council to the cost of employing contractors to cut the grass in the churchyard to the north side of the church. The PCC extends its thanks to the dedicated volunteers who continue to keep the lawn to the south side of the church in such neat order, and to all of the other volunteers who take responsibility for specific areas of maintenance. We have continued to develop parts of the sloping area on the north side of the church as spring and summer wildflower areas, to increase biodiversity whilst offering a much needed refuge for our native wildlife. A flower bed close to the main entrance to the church is maintained by children from Cradley Primary School, and attracts favourable comments. Over the past year, we have been working closely with the 'Caring For God's Acre' initiative towards providing a flowery burial ground to inspire. This has included cataloguing the wildflowers in the church yard and conducting a fungi survey. We have submitted a proposal to be included on the Caring for Gods' Acre web pages.

"Coffee Stop at The Leys" meets monthly, usually on the last Thursday and provides an opportunity for residents at The Leys and their friends to meet socially. It is organised by a small group of members from the church congregation, and for the past 3 years it has been supported financially by the local Charities of Richard Hill and Others.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Some mission giving is organised on a benefice-wide basis, including by frugal lunches in Lent.

The church is in the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and has arrangements with the AONB Partnership, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust, for them to provide information and displays in our church as part of our commitment to involvement and partnerships within the community. This also encourages local tourism and, alongside leaflets and literature recently sponsored by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and produced as part of the recent development project, brings visitors into the building, including local people who may not otherwise enter it. Brown tourism signs directing people from the main roads to the church and village hall have recently been provided as part of the same project.

Ecumenical Relationships

Members of all three parish churches in the benefice and Cradley chapel (which belongs to The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion) form Christians Together, which holds monthly meetings.

Church Fabric

Frequent, regular inspections of the church fabric can ensure that early action is taken to rectify problems and help prevent the need for major repair works. To encourage communities to plan for preventative

maintenance, the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust launched the Best Kept Churches Award and we were delighted to be awarded the first prize of £5,000. As in previous years, volunteers carried out routine maintenance tasks and regular inspections of all aspects of the building were made in order to detect any deteriorating elements.

Some maintenance does, of course, need to be carried out by specialist contractors, such as checks to fire protection equipment, lightning conductors and any work at high level requiring scaffolding, etc. During 2022 replacement of slipped and broken tiles to the main roof, together with re-bedding and re-pointing of some of the ridge tiles was undertaken. In addition to regular tuning, repairs to the organ were undertaken in respect of regulation of the mechanical key action and pedal action.

We are now in receipt of both Planning Permission and Faculty for the new toilet facility. Some funding is already in place and a grant application has been made to the National Churches Trust. With the current inflation rates it is, however, difficult to predict the final costs and further funding will be necessary to complete the project.

In the past year, considerable attention has been paid to improving the condition of the churchyard west wall, by removing vegetation so that its overall condition can be accurately assessed, and liaising with the owner of the Old Rectory and with the Diocese over questions regarding responsibility for its maintenance: correspondence is currently on-going. The Lychgate and the Sundial, both Grade II Listed monuments, have also been cleared of vegetation, and the soil level on either side of the Lychgate significantly lowered in order to protect its oak timbers.

Financial Review

The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1 on page 10. Total receipts and payments on unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in detail in the Statement of Financial Activities. For the year ended 31 December 2022, total income was £58,477.59 (£47,741.32–2021) and total expenditure was £53,493.98 (£49,575.48–2021).

Net receipts from fundraising events for general purposes amounted to £8,579.66 up from £5,840.33 an increase of £2639.63 on 2021. The largest contributor was the Jubilee Weekend held in June which raised £3,819.61 after expenses. This was organised jointly with the Village Hall Committee and although the concert held on the 3rd of June was shared, the donations for refreshments of £113.11 were reserved for the Organ Fund. The 200 Club has raised £957.00 net of prize money. The Saxophone Concert in April raised £780 for the DEC-Ukraine appeal and the Lent Lunches and talks raised £549 for Medecins Sans Frontiers. We also hosted a visit by the Three Choirs Festival on the 27th of July who wished to see the Church where their founder Thomas Bisse was the Vicar, in particular the Tenor Bell, which was donated by Bisse and bears his inscription. We received a donation of £100 for the visit and sold a number of Cream Teas during their visit. We also received a donation of £200 from the Short family

The Cream Teas held in Church throughout the summer months raised a total £1043.57 which is a record. This was followed by the Organ Recital in September which produced a further £155.00 for the Organ Fund. The OneAchor concert in October raised £390.14. This event was held in the Village Hall where numbers were restricted to 60. The Christmas Fair and Draw raised a further £372.00 after expenses. We contributed £31,000 to the Diocesan Common Fund, which pays for ministry and mission in our diocese, an increase of £1,000 on the previous year. We have pledged to contribute £32,000 in 2023.

The PCC carried out routine repairs to the roof of the Church Building costing £850 which was paid out of the Fabric Fund. There were repairs to the Organ of £1562.52 in addition to the annual tuning costs of £577.80. A total of £3,787.73 was paid out of the Refurbishment Fund to pay for architect's drawing fees and planning fees for the installation of a disabled toilet adjacent to the Vestry. There was further expenditure on activities to promote the heritage and wider use of the building, which were a condition of the grant funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The net result for the year was a surplus of income over expenditure of £5,288.77 on unrestricted funds after allowing for depreciation on the chairs and tables purchased in 2019, but a reduction in restricted funds of £620.16 as a result of the above expenditure. Including bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December 2022 on unrestricted funds totalled £35,430.99 of which £33,126.89 was in cash, current accounts and on deposit. Overall there was an increase of £3,755.82 in the financial balances mainly due to Jubilee Weekend and other fund raising activities.

The revaluation of the Dr Webster investment saw a decrease in value to £12,244.89. For many years voluntary giving was insufficient to meet our contribution to the diocese. Since our successful stewardship campaign in 2017 this has been covered by planned giving, open plate collections at services, donations and the associated Gift Aid, but we continue to rely upon fees for weddings and funerals and fundraising events to cover the other costs of ministry and the running expenses of our large building and churchyard.

Within the year the Parish Council agreed to contribute £1,000 towards the upkeep of the churchyard, invoices for church yard maintenance have to be submitted to obtain the funds. Expenditure on the Church Graveyard is taken from a restricted fund into which the Parish Council contribution is deposited along with other donations for the upkeep of the Church Yard. In 2022 a total of £3497.54 was spent on Church Yard Maintenance and it is anticipated that the expenditure in 2023 will be similar.

During the year the PCC have been trialling two contactless payment devices, which has proved beneficial for donations and fundraising. One device can only be used in conjunction with a mobile phone (Sumup Air). The second device (Sumup Solo) is free standing but cannot be secured and therefore can only be used

with a person present. In 2023 we will be looking to have a more permanent device in the church which will enable casual visitors to the Church to donate using credit/debit cards.

The PCC tries to build on the help and guidance given by the diocese on encouraging giving within the wider context of Christian stewardship. 2023 will be a year where more fundraising events can be held, especially with the Coronation Celebrations in May. Members of the Church family will again be asked to review the giving of their time and talents as well as their financial support. Diocesan priority 4 recognises the urgent need to become financially sustainable to resource mission.

Our thanks go to Howard Painter who has again very generously given his services as Independent Examiner of the 2022 finances *pro bono*.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds which equates to at least six months' unrestricted payments, equivalent to about £25,000.00. This has increased over the figure for 2021 as a result of a 50% increase in running costs and Parish Share paid to the Diocese. It is held to smooth out cash flow and to meet emergencies that may arise from time to time. The cash and bank balances of £33,126.89 held on unrestricted funds at the year-end exceeded this target. The PCC also holds other funds that cannot be included as "free" reserves as they are held for restricted purposes. These represent the proceeds of donations and fund raising projects, including grants, for specific purposes.

Investments

It is our general policy to invest our funds' balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. The Dr Webster Fund however is invested in accumulation units in the CBF Investment Fund for the Church of England. Income is reinvested within the fund itself, and not distributed in cash to unit holders.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular, we want to mention our Churchwardens Ian Bailey and Diane Roberts who worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running. In particular, we wish to thank Kevin Brewer for arranging and hosting the twice weekly live streaming of services.

Administrative information

The church of St. James the Great is situated in Rectory Lane, Cradley. It is part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Cradley, Malvern, WR13 5LQ.

The parish forms part of the United Benefice of Cradley, Mathon and Storridge.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Robert Ward	(Chairman)
Churchwardens:	Ian Bailey	
	Diane Roberts	

Diocesan Synod Member:	Ian Bailey
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mike Hames
	Christopher Roberts

Elected members:

Sue Bailey
Eryl Copp
Margaret Edgar
Julia Maclagan
Sheila Mullaney
John Parsons
Sue Warner
David Helm (recently resigned)

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 16 June 2020, number 1190026. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. James' the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

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. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The full PCC met three times in person and once online during the year, with an average level of attendance of 75%. Business was also transacted by email. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees and working parties, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include churchyard, outreach and events, repairs and development, and worship are all responsible to the PCC; their reports are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

The following officers served during the year:

Lay vice-chair:	Mike Hames
Treasurer	Christopher Roberts
Secretary	Susan Warner
Minute Taker	John Parsons

Approved by the PCC on 13th March 2023 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC chairman)



Independent examiner's report to the trustees/members of the Parochial Church Council of St James the Great, Cradley

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records, or
- statutory fees were not accounted for correctly.

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



H N Painter BSc FCA
The Firs
Church Road
Crowle
Worcester
WR7 4AX

13th March 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
Income and endowments						
Voluntary income	2(a)	32,677.20	-	8,232.32	40,909.52	35,055.47
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	9,459.40	-	1,850.51	11,309.91	7,486.50
Income from investments	2(c)	272.44	-	545.72	818.16	33.35
Church activities	2(d)	3,445.00	-	1,995.00	5,440.00	5,166.00
Total incoming resources		<u>45,854.04</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,623.55</u>	<u>58,477.59</u>	<u>47,741.32</u>
Expenditure						
Church activities	3(a)	39,585.53	-	12,888.51	52,474.04	48,147.60
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	979.74	-	40.20	1,019.94	1,427.88
Total resources expended		<u>40,565.27</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,928.71</u>	<u>53,493.98</u>	<u>49,575.48</u>
Net incoming resources before transfers		5,288.77	-	(305.16)	4,983.61	(1,834.16)
Transfer between funds	4	315.00	-	(315.00)	0.00	-
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		5,603.77	-	(620.16)	4,983.61	(1,834.16)
Revaluation gains on investments	6	-	(1,227.79)	-	(1,227.79)	1,987.75
Net movement in funds		5,603.77	(1,227.79)	(620.16)	3,755.82	153.59
Balances brought forward 1 January 2021		29,827.22	13,472.68	56,661.97	99,961.87	99,808.28
Balances carried forward 31 December 2022	9	<u>35,430.99</u>	<u>12,244.89</u>	<u>56,041.81</u>	<u>103,717.69</u>	<u>99,961.87</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
Fixed assets						
Tangible	5	944.06	-		944.06	1,888.11
Investments	6	<u>944.06</u>	<u>12,244.89</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>13,188.95</u>	<u>13,472.68</u>
Current assets						
Debtors and prepayments	7	2,404.89	-	256.67	2,661.56	3,816.14
Short-term deposits		20,890.12	-	42,037.60	62,927.72	62,110.81
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>12,236.77</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,040.83</u>	<u>26,277.60</u>	<u>20,455.86</u>
		35,531.78	-	56,335.10	91,866.88	86,382.81
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>1,044.85</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>293.29</u>	<u>1,338.14</u>	<u>1,781.73</u>
Net current assets		<u>34,486.93</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,041.81</u>	<u>90,528.74</u>	<u>84,601.08</u>
Total net assets		<u>35,430.99</u>	<u>12,244.89</u>	<u>56,041.81</u>	<u>103,717.69</u>	<u>99,961.87</u>
Represented by Parish Funds						
Unrestricted					35,430.99	29,827.22
Designated					12,244.89	13,472.68
Restricted					56,041.81	56,661.97
Endowment						
					<u>103,717.69</u>	<u>99,961.87</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

Approved by the PCC on 13th March 2023 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC Chairman)

1 Accounting policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS 102.

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

Fund accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place. The PCC currently has no Endowment Funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments that is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds that are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes. *Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are readily quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently the only items costing more than £1,000 are the chairs and tables purchased as part of the reordering of the north aisle (including the Lady Chapel) in 2019.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2 Income and endowments

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
a) Voluntary income					
Planned giving	19,748.99	-	-	19,748.99	20,317.47
Collections at services	4,478.59	-	677.32	5,155.91	3,610.44
Donations	721.40	-	645.00	1,366.40	1,059.80
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	1,600.00	-	6,860.00	8,460.00	4,084.00
Gift Aid recovered	5,816.32	-	-	5,816.32	5,603.76
Other voluntary receipts	311.90	-	50.00	361.90	380.00
	<u>32,677.20</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,232.32</u>	<u>40,909.52</u>	<u>35,055.47</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising	9,459.40	-	1,850.51	11,309.91	7,486.50
	<u>9,459.40</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,850.51</u>	<u>11,309.91</u>	<u>7,486.50</u>
c) Investment income					
Interest	272.44	-	545.72	818.16	33.35
	<u>272.44</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>545.72</u>	<u>818.16</u>	<u>33.35</u>
d) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	3,445.00	-	255.00	3,700.00	4,196.00
Disbursements	-	-	1,740.00	1,740.00	970.00
	<u>3,445.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,995.00</u>	<u>5,440.00</u>	<u>5,166.00</u>
Total income	<u>45,854.04</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,623.55</u>	<u>58,477.59</u>	<u>47,741.32</u>

3 Expenditure

a) Church activity expenses

Missionary and charitable giving	-	-	-	-	-
Overseas	-	-	1,329.00	1,329.00	157.50
Home	245.00	-	653.32	898.32	620.90
Diocesan parish contribution	31,000.00	-	-	31,000.00	30,000.00
Other ministry costs	799.71	-	1,868.40	2,668.11	2,340.19
Church running and maintenance	6,330.41	-	1,752.52	8,082.93	9,502.31
Major repairs - structural renewal	-	-	3,787.73	3,787.73	1,218.72
Churchyard upkeep	-	-	3,497.54	3,497.54	2,125.52
Printing and stationery etc	228.29	-	-	228.29	56.41
Other payments	38.07	-	-	38.07	1,182.00
Depreciation on movable furniture	944.05	-	-	944.05	944.05
	<u>39,585.53</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,888.51</u>	<u>52,474.04</u>	<u>48,147.60</u>

b) Stewardship costs

Costs of grant applications	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising costs	979.74	-	40.20	1,019.94	1,427.88
	<u>979.74</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40.20</u>	<u>1,019.94</u>	<u>1,427.88</u>
Total expenditure	<u>40,565.27</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,928.71</u>	<u>53,493.98</u>	<u>49,575.48</u>

4 Transfers between funds		
The £315 transfer was to pay 50% of the Organ Repair cost from the Organ Fund		
Restricted Funds paid into General Account	1106.67	
Unrestricted Funds paid into the Restricted Account	850	
Net Transfer between Funds using Creditors /Debtors	256.67	
5 Tangible fixed assets		
Cost		
At 1 January 2021	4,720.26	
Additions	-	
At 31December 2021	4,720.26	
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2022	2,832.15	
Depreciation charged in the year	944.05	
At 31 December 2022	3,776.20	
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2022	944.06	
At 31 December 2021	1,888.11	
6 Fixed Asset Investments		
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2022	13,472.68	
Additions	0.00	
Valuation changes	-1,227.79	
Disposals	0.00	
At 31 December 2022	12,244.89	
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2021	12,244.89	
At 31 December 2020	13,472.68	
7 Debtors		
	Unrestricted	Restricted
Gift Aid recoverable	2,379.29	
DCMS Listed Places of Worship grant		
Christmas Draw ticket sales		
Christmas Draw sponsorship	25.60	
Sponsorship of streaming licences		
Fees		
Transfer from Restricted bank account		256.67
Transfer from General bank account		256.67
	2,404.89	256.67
8 Creditors		
Dawson Electrical Inspection	84.00	
Children's Society - Christingle collection		239.29
Christingle Expenses		24.00
Verger Fee		30.00
4QTR Electricity	627.89	
Printing Costs	76.29	
Transfer to General Bank Account		
Transfer to Restricted Bank Account	256.67	
	1,044.85	293.29

9. Funds

Fund	Brought forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers in	Transfers out	Carried forward
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>						
General	29,827.22	45,854.04	40,565.27	315.00		35,430.99
<i>Designated funds</i>						
Dr Webster Fund	13,472.68		1,227.79			12,244.89
<i>Restricted funds</i>						
100 Club	489.00	115.00	0.00			604.00
Bell & Tower	7,708.42	196.48	0.00			7,904.90
Church fabric	4,474.97	5,767.18	820.00			9,422.15
Disbursements	0.00	1,740.00	1,740.00			0.00
Flower	68.50	133.79	104.40			97.89
Hassocks & Cushions	46.35	0.60	0.00			46.95
NCT Maintenance	3,000.66	38.96	0.00			3,039.62
Organ	1,133.66	357.85	932.52		315.00	243.99
Refurbishment	37,740.41	627.17	3,787.73			34,579.85
Church Yard Maintenance	2,000.00	1,600.00	3,497.54			102.46
Restricted fundraising	0.00	1,419.20	1,419.20			0.00
Special collections	0.00	627.32	627.32			0.00
	56,661.97	12,623.55	12,928.71	0.00	315.00	56,041.81
Total all Funds	99,961.87	58,477.59	54,721.77			103,717.69

The General Fund represents income to be used for the general purposes of the PCC

The Dr Webster Fund represents the residue of a legacy from the late Dr Webster, received in 1962. For many years it was thought that this was restricted to the maintenance of the church fabric, but research in 2019 has confirmed that it is for the general purposes of the church. The PCC has however earmarked it for maintenance of the fabric. It is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Units and therefore no dividend is received as the income of the fund is re-invested.

The 200 Club Fund represents subscriptions paid in advance, which are held in this fund until the month of the draw to which they refer, when they are transferred to the General (Unrestricted) Fund.

The Bell & Tower Fund represents surplus funds raised in 2000 for the refurbishment and augmentation of the bells and associated necessary work on the tower, and subsequent donations when the bells are used at weddings.

The Church Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance.

Disbursements represent fees for bell ringers, the vergers and the organist at weddings and funerals, where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

The Flower Fund represents donations to be spent on the purchase of flowers to decorate the church.

The Hassocks & Cushions Fund represents funds held for the purchase of materials for making these items.

In 2022 the PCC was the first winner of the Hereford Churches Trust's Good Guardianship Awards which carried a prize of £5,000 to be spent on maintenance of the church building.

The Organ Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for maintenance of the organ.

The Refurbishment Fund represents donations to finance the necessary refurbishment and adaptation of church premises to facilitate greater community use. This will be used for the installation of the Disabled Toilet.

The Church Yard Maintenance Fund was setup in 2021 to hold the contribution made by the Parish Council and other donations for Church Yard Maintenance

Restricted Fundraising and Special Collections represent the proceeds of fundraising events and collections which are specifically for the benefit of some other organisation, and where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

Accounts

CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Aim and purposes

Cradley Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Robert Ward, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade II* church of St. James the Great, Cradley, Herefordshire.

Objectives and Activities

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 Cradley. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship seek to bring people closer to God through Word and Sacrament, prayer and music.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable everyone to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their understanding and trust in God.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

Mission and outreach work

The Diocese of Hereford (of which we are part) has identified four strategic priorities in its shared vision of Proclaiming Christ and Growing Disciples:

1. spiritual and numerical growth
2. enriching the life of the community
3. re-imagining ministry (i.e. shared and collaborative ministry)
4. working towards financial sustainability

The PCC has taken all of these into account, and will continue to do so in the coming year.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church building. In December 2020 we received the final certificate from our architect at the end of the defects retention period with respect to the major repairs carried out in 2019, which will ensure the building can continue to serve future generations, and provide enhanced facilities that will make it suitable for wider community use. The churchyard remains open for burials - residents and anyone who dies in the parish are entitled to be buried there, whether they attended church or not – and during the year we continued to develop parts of this as spring and summer wildflower areas. We have also worked in partnership with various organisations, for example, by holding a fundraising event jointly with the Village Hall Committee. Much of the giving by members of the congregation and other supporters is on a planned basis, and this held up well; although we were limited in the fundraising we were able to do because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we were able to meet our increased offer to the diocese for the year. Further reference is made at appropriate stages in this report.

The PCC has due regard to appropriate legislation and governance best practice, and during the year confirmed its policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, and the General Data Protection Regulation.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that will be beneficial and spiritually nourishing for our community. A service of Evening Prayer has been live-streamed on a weekly basis, since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, and attracts better attendance than did the services previously held in individual parish churches. Members of the congregation join with Christians Together in Cradley for prayer, Bible Study, discussion and worship on a monthly basis, and these meetings have recently been hosted by the parish church. On Wednesday mornings Holy Communion is normally celebrated using Common Worship. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, a prayer and bible study group met monthly on a Monday, during the daytime. On the first Sunday of each month the opportunity is usually provided for informal worship at the Family Service with music provided by Jimmy's Band of up to eight adults and children. The band also plays, in more normal times, for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve. Contemporary forms of liturgy are used at the Parish and Family Communion services, each held once a month. In 2017 a simple form of Morning Worship which could be lay led was introduced; this has continued to thrive, when worship in church has been possible, establishing a wide range of speakers from within and beyond the congregation. When there is a fifth Sunday in a month the three parishes in the benefice come together for a "gathered service", which may be formal or informal in nature; if non-Eucharistic, a said service of Holy Communion is celebrated, at a different time, in one of the churches in the Benefice.

Restrictions imposed in March 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic meant that changes to the pattern of worship were necessary. When the church was closed for public worship, services were live streamed from the Rectory. They continue to be live streamed now public worship was resumed, and it is encouraging to see the number of people from the Benefice and beyond, who join via the internet or telephone each Sunday, numbering now about thirty, since the easing of the Covid-19 threat. A smaller number, typically around half a dozen, join Evening Prayer (using the Book of Common Prayer) on-line, on Wednesday evenings, again from the whole Benefice.

Members of The Local Ministry Group have struggled to meet during the times of Covid-19 restrictions, but have continued to be invaluable to the life of the benefice, especially in enabling and taking part in worship, online and in church, and in co-ordinating visiting and pastoral care throughout the community. The group helps to promote lay involvement generally in the life of the churches, a key part of diocesan priority 3, and some members of the group have taken a regular and active role in leading lay led worship, in ensuring the continuation of our worship on-line, and developing our outreach through electronic and social media.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of our journey through life. At baptism we thank God for the gift of life and celebrate the start of our journey as children of God. In marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief, giving thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and commending the person into God's keeping. The number of funerals declined markedly during the worst of the Covid-19 times, with families opting instead for 'direct cremations' at the crematoria, but an avalanche of short services in the churchyard followed the easing of restrictions, as those who had been unable to mark the passing of loved ones in the usual way chose to make an occasion of the interment of cremated remains. For much of the year the holding of occasional offices was restricted. We did celebrate three weddings, though others have had to be deferred, along with baptisms.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 68 persons on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom six are not resident within the parish. A socially-distanced Christingle service held in the churchyard on Christmas Eve attracted fewer people this year than last, due to the appalling weather.

The parish has its own Facebook page as well as a website, and a weekly communication similar to the paper copy traditionally available in church is distributed electronically.

Cradley church has a SATB choir of around ten people who normally sing at two services a month including a choral communion setting at the Parish Communion; it is affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music, and has been pleased to welcome several members who have come new to the parish in the last twelve to eighteen months. We also have a fine ring of bells, which were rehung and augmented from six to eight at the Millennium. We currently have a group of six active bell ringers of our own, and with the help of ringers from Mathon we usually manage to ring at least six bells for the main services each Sunday, when not restricted by Covid-19.

Deanery Synod

The PCC has three seats on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Rector has been Rural Dean since September 2013, and Sheila Mullaney, a member of Cradley congregation and a former Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union, was Lay Co-Chair of the Deanery Synod until December 2020. In recognition of her service to the church she was made a member of the order of St Ethelbert in 2021.

Pastoral Care and Enriching the Life of the Community

Diocesan priority 2 recognises the important role of the church, and its members, in enriching the life of the community.

The Chair of Governors of Cradley Primary School, a Church of England VA School, who is also responsible for Safeguarding issues, is a member of the PCC. The Rector sits on the Governing Body ex-officio. There is a small active branch of the Mothers' Union in the benefice, which currently has ten members, and in recent months has again been able to meet in person.

The clergy and/or members of the Three Villages Visiting Group offer to visit members of the community who would appreciate a visit or are unable to get to church, and to take Communion, if appropriate. Many individuals took part during the pandemic in a volunteer support scheme set up by former Cradley GPs Bruce and Sarah Herriot, in collaboration with the Rector.

The Rector is Chairman of the committee that produces a monthly community Newsletter for Cradley, Mathon and Storridge. This keeps our parishioners informed of important matters affecting our church as well as reporting on the numerous other organisations in the villages. The PCC is grateful to the committee, and all of its volunteer helpers. Although it has not always been possible due to Covid-19 restrictions to distribute hard copies, publication continued via the internet. A limited number of paper copies were made available from the churches, for those without internet access.

The PCC is responsible for maintaining the churchyard in good condition. We are grateful for the resumption of contributions from the Parish Council to the cost of employing contractors to cut the grass in the churchyard to the north side of the church. The PCC extends its thanks to the dedicated volunteers who continue to keep the lawn to the south side of the church in such neat order, and to all of the other volunteers who take responsibility for specific areas of maintenance. We have continued to develop parts of the sloping area on the north side of the church as spring and summer wildflower areas, to increase

biodiversity whilst offering a much needed refuge for our native wildlife. A flower bed close to the main entrance to the church is maintained by children from Cradley Primary School, and attracts favourable comments.

"Coffee Stop at The Leys" resumed in Autumn 2021 after the COVID lockdown. This meets monthly, usually on the last Thursday and provides an opportunity for residents at The Leys and their friends to meet socially. It is organised by a small group of members from the church congregation, and for the past 3 years it has been supported financially by the local Charities of Richard Hill and Others.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Some mission giving is organised on a benefice-wide basis, including by frugal lunches in Lent, the number of which was limited by the Covid-19 lockdown, though other methods of fundraising are being developed.

The church is in the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and has arrangements with the AONB Partnership, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust, for them to provide information and displays in our church as part of our commitment to involvement and partnerships within the community. This also encourages local tourism and, alongside leaflets and literature recently sponsored by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and produced as part of the recent development project, brings visitors into the building, including local people who may not otherwise enter it. Brown tourism signs directing people from the main roads to the church and village hall have recently been provided as part of the same project.

Ecumenical Relationships

Members of all three parish churches in the benefice and Cradley chapel (which belongs to The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion) form Christians Together, which holds monthly meetings.

Church Fabric

Following the major repairs during 2019, snagging was carried out following the 12-month inspection at the end of 2020.

Further work was carried out by C J Bayliss (Hereford) during 2021 to the tower roof mortar and cleaning of the bell tower.

A Quinquennial inspection was carried out in December 2020, and the subsequent detailed report (43 Pages) listed work to be carried out during the next 5 years. Fortunately, there are no areas of immediate concern.

Some money was left from our National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, and we were allowed to spend this on repairs to the west end wall adjacent to the kitchen window.

Routine maintenance tasks are carried out by volunteers, and regular inspections of all aspects of the building are made in order to detect any deteriorating elements. Some maintenance does of course need to be carried out by specialist contractors, such as checks to fire protection equipment, lightning conductors and any work at high level requiring scaffolding etc. The organ has required six visits by Nicholson & Co. and there is still work required in the near future.

Financial Review

The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1 on page 10. Total receipts and payments on unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in detail in the Statement of Financial Activities.

For the year ended 31 December 2021, total income was £47,741.32 (£41,268 – 2020) and total expenditure was £49,575.48 (£48,356 – 2020).

Net receipts from fundraising events for general purposes amounted to £5,840.33, up by £3,081.70 on 2020. The largest contributor was the Summer Open Gardens and raffle held in July which raised £2,465.62 after expenses. The 100 club expanded in 2021 and became the 200 Club and raised £933.50 net of prize money. In March we received a grant of £1,334.00 from Hereford Council's Covid-19 relief fund. The Summer Serenade Concert raised a total £465.49 after printing expenses. This was followed by the Community day in September which produced a further £356.66 and the OneAChord concert in October which raised £231.00. This event was held in the Village Hall where numbers were restricted. The Fete and Christmas Draw raised a further £393.59 after expenses. Throughout the summer months, after the relaxing of Covid-19 restrictions in July Strawberry Teas were sold in the Church, this raised £763.15

We contributed £30,000 to the Diocesan Common Fund, which pays for ministry and mission in our diocese, an increase of £1,000 on the previous year. We have pledged to contribute £31,000 in 2022.

The PCC carried out routine repairs to the West End of the Church Building costing £3,960 which was paid out of the Fabric Fund. A total of £1,218.72 was paid out of the Refurbishment Fund to pay for architect's fees and survey fees for the planned installation of a disabled toilet adjacent to the Vestry. There was further expenditure on activities to promote the heritage and wider use of the building, which were a condition of the grant funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Following the final payment to the main contractor at the end of the defects retention period the remaining funds in the Repair & Development Fund were transferred back *pro-rata* to the funds from which they originally came.

The net result for the year was a surplus of income over expenditure of £979.47 on unrestricted funds after allowing for depreciation on the chairs and tables purchased in 2019, but a reduction in restricted funds of £2,813.63 as a result of the above expenditure. Including bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December 2021 on unrestricted funds totalled £29,827.22 of which £27,421.78 was in cash, current accounts and on deposit. Overall there was a marginal increase of £153.59 in the financial balances mainly due to the revaluation of the Dr Webster investment. For many years voluntary giving was insufficient to meet our contribution to the diocese. Since our successful stewardship campaign in 2017 this has been covered by planned giving, open plate collections at services, donations and the associated Gift Aid, but we continue to rely upon fees for weddings and funerals and fundraising events to cover the other costs of ministry and the running expenses of our large building and churchyard. Within the year the Parish Council agreed to contribute £2,000 towards the upkeep of the churchyard, invoices for church yard maintenance have to be submitted to obtain the funds. As at the end of the year £1,235.30 is still to be received from the Parish Council, which is included in the debtors on the balance sheet, as invoices have been sent to the Council to cover the outstanding amount. The PCC tries to build on the help and guidance given by the diocese on encouraging giving within the wider context of Christian stewardship. 2022 will be year where more fundraising events can be held, especially with the Jubilee Celebrations in June. Members of the Church family will again be asked to review the giving of their time and talents as well as their financial support. Diocesan priority 4 recognises the urgent need to become financially sustainable to resource mission.

Our thanks go to Howard Painter who has again very generously given his services as Independent Examiner of the 2021 finances *pro bono*.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments, equivalent to about £12,000.00. This has increased over the figure for 2020 as a result of a 50% increase in electricity costs and an increase in Parish Share. It is held to smooth out cash flow and to meet emergencies that may arise from time to time. The cash and bank balances of £27,421.78 held on unrestricted funds at the year-end exceeded this target. The PCC also holds other funds that cannot be included as "free" reserves as they are held for restricted purposes. These represent the proceeds of donations and fund raising projects, including grants, for specific purposes.

Investments

It is our general policy to invest our funds' balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. The Dr Webster Fund however is invested in accumulation units in the CBF Investment Fund for the Church of England. Income is reinvested within the fund itself, and not distributed in cash to unit holders.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular, we want to mention our Churchwardens Ian Bailey and Diane Roberts who worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running. In particular, we wish to thank Kevin Brewer for arranging and hosting the twice weekly live streaming of services.

Administrative information

The church of St. James the Great is situated in Rectory Lane, Cradley. It is part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Cradley, Malvern, WR13 5LQ.

The parish forms part of the United Benefice of Cradley, Mathon and Storridge.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Robert Ward	(Chairman)
Churchwardens:	Ian Bailey	
	Diane Roberts	

Diocesan Synod Member: Ian Bailey

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Mike Hames
Christopher Roberts

Elected members:

Sue Bailey
Eryl Copp
Margaret Edgar
David Helm
Julia MacLagan
Sheila Mullaney
Sue Ronan

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 16 June 2020, number 1190026. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. James' the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

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. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The full PCC met three times in person and once online during the year, with an average level of attendance of 75%. Business was also transacted by email. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees and working parties, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include churchyard, outreach and events, repairs and development, and worship are all responsible to the PCC; their reports are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

The following officers served during the year:

Lay vice-chair:	Mike Hames
Treasurer	Christopher Roberts
Secretary	Vacant
Minute Taker	John Parsons

Approved by the PCC on 29th March 2022 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC chairman)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees/members of the Parochial Church Council of St James the Great, Cradley

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records, or
- statutory fees were not accounted for correctly.

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

H N Painter BSc FCA
The Firs
Church Road
Crowle
Worcester
WR7 4AX

29th March 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
Income and endowments					
Voluntary income	32,556.87	-	2,498.60	35,055.47	32,637.36
Activities for generating funds	7,268.01	-	218.49	7,486.50	4,995.89
Income from investments	11.75	-	21.60	33.35	271.58
Church activities	3,921.00	-	1,245.00	5,166.00	3,363.00
Total incoming resources	43,757.63	-	3,983.69	47,741.32	41,267.83
Expenditure					
Church activities	41,350.48	-	6,797.12	48,147.60	47,283.53
Costs of generating funds	1,427.68	-	0.20	1,427.88	1,072.93
Total resources expended	42,778.16	-	6,797.32	49,575.48	48,356.46
Net incoming resources before transfers	979.47	-	(2,813.63)	(1,834.16)	(7,088.63)
Transfer between funds		-		-	-
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)	979.47	-	(2,813.63)	(1,834.16)	(7,088.63)
Revaluation gains on investments	-	1,987.75	-	1,987.75	1,063.13
Net movement in funds	979.47	1,987.75	(2,813.63)	153.59	(6,025.50)
Balances brought forward 1 January 2021	28,847.75	11,484.93	59,475.60	99,808.28	105,833.78
Balances carried forward 31 December 2021	29,827.22	13,472.68	56,661.97	99,961.87	99,808.28

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
Fixed assets					
Tangible	1,888.11	-	-	1,888.11	2,832.16
Investments		13,472.68	-	13,472.68	11,484.93
	1,888.11	13,472.68	0.00	15,360.79	14,317.09
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	2,103.84	-	1,712.30	3,816.14	4,737.14
Short-term deposits	20,618.93	-	41,491.88	62,110.81	62,078.48
Cash at bank and in hand	6,802.85	-	13,653.01	20,455.86	19,844.76
	29,525.62	-	56,857.19	86,382.81	86,660.38
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	1,586.51	-	195.22	1,781.73	1,169.19
Net current assets	27,939.11	-	56,661.97	84,601.08	85,491.19
Total net assets	29,827.22	13,472.68	56,661.97	99,961.87	99,808.28
Represented by Parish Funds					
Unrestricted				29,827.22	28,847.75
Designated				13,472.68	11,484.93
Restricted				56,661.97	59,475.60
Endowment					
				99,961.87	99,808.28

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

Approved by the PCC on [date] and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC Chairman)

1 Accounting policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS 102.

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

Fund accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place. The PCC currently has no Endowment Funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments that is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds that are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are readily quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently the only items costing more than £1,000 are the chairs and tables purchased as part of the reordering of the north aisle (including the Lady Chapel) in 2019.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2 Income and endowments	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
a) Voluntary income					
Planned giving	20,317.47	-	-	20,317.47	19,733.32
Collections at services	3,111.84	-	498.60	3,610.44	3,134.32
Donations	1,059.80	-	-	1,059.80	1,873.55
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	2,084.00	-	2,000.00	4,084.00	1,912.45
Gift Aid recovered	5,603.76	-	-	5,603.76	5,525.67
Other voluntary receipts	380.00	-	-	380.00	458.05
	<u>32,556.87</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,498.60</u>	<u>35,055.47</u>	<u>32,637.36</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising	7,268.01	-	218.49	7,486.50	4,995.89
	<u>7,268.01</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>218.49</u>	<u>7,486.50</u>	<u>4,995.89</u>
c) Investment income					
Interest	11.75	-	21.60	33.35	271.58
	<u>11.75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21.60</u>	<u>33.35</u>	<u>271.58</u>
d) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	3,921.00	-	275.00	4,196.00	3,053.00
Disbursements	-	-	970.00	970.00	310.00
	<u>3,921.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,245.00</u>	<u>5,166.00</u>	<u>3,363.00</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total income	<u>43,757.63</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,983.69</u>	<u>47,741.32</u>	<u>41,267.83</u>
3 Expenditure					
a) Church activity expenses					
Missionary and charitable giving		-			
Overseas	-	-	157.50	157.50	342.05
Home	130.00	-	490.90	620.90	1,658.73
Diocesan parish contribution	30,000.00	-	-	30,000.00	29,000.00
Other ministry costs	2,340.19	-	0.00	2,340.19	1,625.30
Church running and maintenance	5,542.31	-	3,960.00	9,502.31	6,059.01
Major repairs - structural renewal	-	-	1,218.72	1,218.72	4,020.61
Churchyard upkeep	2,125.52	-	-	2,125.52	1,877.64
Printing and stationery etc.	56.41	-	-	56.41	806.84
Other payments	212.00	-	970.00	1,182.00	949.30
Depreciation on movable furniture	944.05	-	-	944.05	944.05
	<u>41,350.48</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,797.12</u>	<u>48,147.60</u>	<u>47,283.53</u>
b) Stewardship costs					
Costs of grant applications	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising costs	1,427.68	-	0.20	1,427.88	1,072.93
	<u>1,427.68</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.20</u>	<u>1,427.88</u>	<u>1,072.93</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total expenditure	<u>42,778.16</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,797.32</u>	<u>49,575.48</u>	<u>48,356.46</u>

5 Tangible fixed assets		
Cost		
At 1 January 2021	4,720.26	
Additions	-	
At 31 December 2021	<u>4,720.26</u>	
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2021	1,888.10	
Depreciation charged in the year	<u>944.05</u>	
At 31 December 2021	<u>2,832.15</u>	
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,888.11</u>	
At 31 December 2020	<u>2,832.16</u>	
6 Fixed Asset Investments		
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2021	11,484.93	
Additions	0.00	
Valuation changes	1,987.75	
Disposals	<u>0.00</u>	
At 31 December 2021	<u>13,472.68</u>	
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2021	<u>13,472.68</u>	
At 31 December 2020	<u>11,484.93</u>	
7 Debtors		
	Unrestricted	Restricted
Gift Aid recoverable	2,034.24	
Parish Council Grant		1,235.30
Xmas Printing Sponsorship	54.60	
Christmas Draw ticket sales & Sweets	15.00	
Transfer from General bank account	<u>477.00</u>	
	<u>2,103.84</u>	<u>1,712.30</u>
8 Creditors		
Parish Working Expenses	405.00	
Children's Society - Christingle collection		65.22
Eon Next Electricity	536.47	
Disbursements		130.00
200Club - P J Dunford	15.90	
200Club - H Morgan	23.85	
200Club - R Thomas	39.50	
Xmas Printing Costs	88.79	
Transfer to Restricted Bank Account	<u>477.00</u>	
	<u>1,586.51</u>	<u>195.22</u>

9. Funds

Fund	Brought forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers in	Transfers out	Carried forward
Unrestricted funds						
General	28,847.75	43,757.63	42,778.16			29,827.22
Designated funds						
Dr Webster Fund	11,484.93	1,987.75	0.00			13,472.68
Restricted funds						
200 Club	445.00	44.00				489.00
Bell & Tower	2,807.47	221.43		4,679.52		7,708.42
Church fabric	4,612.59	2.38	3,960.00	3,820.00		4,474.97
Disbursements	0.00	970.00	970.00			0.00
Flower	43.98	24.52				68.50
Hassocks & Cushions	46.32	0.03				46.35
NCT Maintenance	2,999.12	1.54				3,000.66
Organ	1,078.12	55.54				1,133.66
Refurbishment	30,400.27	15.65	1,218.72	8,543.21		37,740.41
Repair & Development	17,042.73				17,042.73	0.00
Churchyard Maintenance	0.00	2,000.00				2,000.00
Restricted fundraising	0.00	150.00	150.00			0.00
Special collections	0.00	498.60	498.60			0.00
	59,475.60	3,983.69	6,797.32	17,042.73	17,042.73	56,661.97

The General Fund represents income to be used for the general purposes of the PCC

The Dr Webster Fund represents the residue of a legacy from the late Dr Webster, received in 1962. For many years it was thought that this was restricted to the maintenance of the church fabric, but research in 2019 has confirmed that it is for the general purposes of the church. The PCC has however earmarked it for maintenance of the fabric. It is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Units and therefore no dividend is received as the income of the fund is re-invested.

The 200 Club Fund represents subscriptions paid in advance, which are held in this fund until the month of the draw to which they refer, when they are transferred to the General (Unrestricted) Fund.

The Bell & Tower Fund represents surplus funds raised in 2000 for the refurbishment and augmentation of the bells and associated necessary work on the tower, and subsequent donations.

The Church Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance.

Disbursements represent fees for bell ringers, the vergers and the organist at weddings and funerals, where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

The Flower Fund represents donations to be spent on the purchase of flowers to decorate the church.

The Hassocks & Cushions Fund represents funds held for the purchase of materials for making these items.

In 2019 the PCC was the first winner of the National Churches Trust's Good Guardianship Awards which carried a prize of £5,000 donated by The Pilgrim Trust to be spent on maintenance of the church building.

The Organ Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for maintenance of the organ.

The Refurbishment Fund represents donations to finance the necessary refurbishment and adaptation of church premises to facilitate greater community use.

The Repair and Development Fund relates to the repairs to the tower and north aisle floor, and the re-ordering and refurbishment carried out at the same time as part of the project. The surplus was transferred on a pro rata basis to the restricted funds that contributed to the project.

The Church Yard Maintenance Fund was setup in 2021 to hold the contribution made by the Parish Council for Church Yard Maintenance.

Restricted Fundraising and Special Collections represent the proceeds of fundraising events and collections which are specifically for the benefit of some other organisation, and where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St James
the Great, Cradley is registered as a charity in England and Wales
number 1190026**

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CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Aim and purposes

Cradley Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Robert Ward, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade II* church of St. James the Great, Cradley, Herefordshire.

Objectives and Activities

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 Cradley. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship seek to bring people closer to God through Word and Sacrament, prayer and music.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable everyone to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their understanding and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach work

The Diocese of Hereford (of which we are part) has identified four strategic priorities in its shared vision of Proclaiming Christ and Growing Disciples:

1. spiritual and numerical growth
2. enriching the life of the community
3. re-imagining ministry (i.e. shared and collaborative ministry)
4. working towards financial sustainability

The PCC has taken all of these into account, and will continue to do so in the coming year;

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church building. In December we received the final certificate from our architect at the end of the defects retention period with respect to the major repairs carried out in 2019, which will ensure the building can continue to serve future generations, and provide enhanced facilities that will make it suitable for wider community use. The churchyard remains open for burials - residents and anyone who dies in the parish are entitled to be buried there, whether they attended church or not – and during the year we continued to develop parts of this as spring and summer wildflower areas. We have also worked in partnership with various organisations, for example, by holding a fundraising event jointly with the Village Hall Committee. Much of the giving by members of the congregation and other supporters is on a planned basis, and this held up well; although we were limited in the fundraising we were able to do because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to meet our increased offer to the diocese for the year. Further reference is made at appropriate stages in this report.

The PCC has due regard to appropriate legislation and governance best practice, and during the year confirmed its policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, and the General Data Protection Regulation.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that will be beneficial and spiritually nourishing for our community. In recent years Evening Prayer has been said in church on a weekday evening, providing a quiet, intimate and reflective environment for worship. This has moved 'on-line' during those periods recently when public worship has been suspended due to the COVID-19 virus. On Wednesday mornings Holy Communion is normally celebrated using Common Worship. A prayer and bible study group has met monthly on a Monday, during the daytime. On the first Sunday of each month the opportunity is usually provided for informal worship at the Family Service with music provided by Jimmy's Band of up to eight adults and children. The band also plays, in more normal times, for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve. On the second and fourth Sundays contemporary forms of liturgy are used at the Parish and Family Communion services. In 2017 a simple form of Morning Worship which could be lay led was introduced; this has continued to thrive, when worship in church has been possible, establishing a wide range of speakers from within and beyond the congregation. When there is a fifth Sunday in a month the three parishes in the benefice come together for a "gathered service", which may be formal or informal in nature; if non-Eucharistic, a said service of Holy Communion is celebrated, at a different time, in one of the churches in the Benefice.

Restrictions imposed in March because of the COVID-19 pandemic meant that changes to the pattern of worship were necessary. While the church was closed for public worship, services were live streamed from the Rectory. They continued to be live streamed once public worship was resumed, and it was encouraging to see the number of people from the Benefice and far beyond, who joined via the internet or telephone each Sunday, often numbering over seventy. A smaller number, typically around a dozen, joined Evening Prayer (using the Book of Common Prayer) on-line, on Wednesday evenings, again from the whole Benefice.

The Local Ministry Group through its regular meetings, and in other ways, continues to support the planning, implementation and review of church activities across the benefice, offering and providing help and encouragement to the PCCs of the three parishes with their identified priorities. The group helps to promote lay involvement generally in the life of the churches, a key part of diocesan priority 3, and some members of the group have taken a regular and active role in leading lay led worship, in ensuring the continuation of our worship on-line, and developing our outreach through electronic and social media.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of our journey through life. At baptism we thank God for the gift of life and celebrate the start of our journey as children of God. In marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief, giving thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and commending the person into God's keeping. In our church and churchyard during the year there were seven funeral and thanksgiving services. The Rector also officiated at five other services at the crematorium. For much of the year the holding of occasional offices was restricted. We did celebrate three weddings, though others have had to be deferred, along with baptisms.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 68 persons on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom six are not resident within the parish. From March onwards we were not able to hold public services in church because of the restrictions imposed by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and

so services for the whole Benefice were live streamed from the Rectory each Sunday. When at the end of August we were again able to hold services in church we continued to live stream them, and many of the congregation preferred to join us from the safety of their own home. The average number of people physically attending Sunday services in the church during the year, 23, is therefore not truly representative. It is difficult to know exactly how many people participated in our live streamed services on line or by telephone, but we do have a record of the number of connections that were made each time both by computer and by telephone, and so we can make a reasonable estimate of the total. We know that we were regularly joined by people living as far away as Anglesey, Scotland and Wiltshire. A socially-distanced Christingle service held in the churchyard on Christmas Eve attracted over one hundred people, and the Remembrance service was also well attended.

With diocesan priority 1 in mind, a parish survey was held in the early part of the year, with a questionnaire being delivered to every house in the parish. Unfortunately, the restrictions imposed on meetings meant that we were unable to follow this up, but it is hoped that in 2021 we will be able to explore ways of improving our communications with the wider community. The parish has its own Facebook page as well as a website, and a weekly communication similar to the paper copy traditionally available in church is distributed electronically.

Cradley church has a SATB choir of around ten people who normally sing at two services a month including a choral communion setting at the Parish Communion; it is affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music. It was not possible for the choir to meet or sing at services from March onwards, though individual choir members have latterly been able to assist the singing on-line. We also have a fine ring of bells, which were rehung and augmented from six to eight at the Millennium. We currently have a group of six active bell ringers of our own, and with the help of ringers from Mathon we usually manage to ring at least six bells for the main services each Sunday, but again we have been unable to do this since March.

Deanery Synod

The PCC has three seats on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Rector has been Rural Dean since September 2013, and Sheila Mullaney, a member of Cradley congregation and a former Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union, was Lay Co-Chair of the Deanery Synod until December 2020.

Pastoral Care and Enriching the Life of the Community

Diocesan priority 2 recognises the important role of the church, and its members, in enriching the life of the community.

The Chair of Governors of Cradley Primary School, a Church of England VA School, who is also responsible for Safeguarding issues, is a member of the PCC. The Rector sits on the Governing Body ex-officio. There is a small active branch of the Mothers' Union in the benefice, which currently has ten members, and since February has been unable to meet in person, but has occasionally met online, an experience valued by many.

The clergy and/or members of the Three Villages Visiting Group offer to visit members of the community who would appreciate a visit or are unable to get to church, and to take Communion, if appropriate, either at home or in hospital. Many individuals have taken part during the recent pandemic in a volunteer support scheme set up by former Cradley GPs Bruce and Sarah Herriot, in collaboration with the Rector.

The Rector is Chairman of the committee that produces a monthly community Newsletter for Cradley, Mathon

and Storridge. This keeps our parishioners informed of important matters affecting our church as well as reporting on the numerous other organisations in the villages. The PCC is grateful to the committee, and all of its volunteer helpers. Although it was not possible to distribute hard copies for most of the year, publication continued via the internet. A limited number of paper copies were made available, some from the churches, for those without internet access.

The PCC is responsible for maintaining the churchyard in good condition; during the year there were four burials, and three burials of ashes following cremation. For the first time in more than 45 years no grant was received from the Parish Council to partly offset the cost of employing contractors to cut the grass in the churchyard to the north side of the church. The PCC extends its thanks to the dedicated volunteers who continue to keep the lawn to the south side of the church in such neat order, and to all of the other volunteers who take responsibility for specific areas of maintenance. We have continued to develop parts of the sloping area on the north side of the church as spring and summer wildflower areas, to increase biodiversity whilst offering a much needed refuge for our native wildlife. A flower bed close to the main entrance to the church is maintained by children from Cradley Primary School, and attracts favourable comments.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Some mission giving is organised on a benefice-wide basis, including by frugal lunches in Lent, the number of which was limited by the COVID-19 lockdown, though other methods of fundraising are being developed.

The church is in the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and has arrangements with the AONB Partnership, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust, for them to provide information and displays in our church as part of our commitment to involvement and partnerships within the community. This also encourages local tourism and, alongside leaflets and literature recently sponsored by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and produced as part of the recent development project, brings visitors into the building, including local people who may not otherwise enter it. Brown tourism signs directing people from the main roads to the church and village hall have recently been provided as part of the same project.

Mission Action Planning (MAPping) is a useful tool in establishing where we are going and how we are going to get there. Rather than the focus being solely on the document itself, it is intended that MAPping should be a way of working which continually develops as the church grows both spiritually and numerically in accordance with diocesan priority 1. An annual Benefice Planning Day has been held, and the agendas set by these for the benefice as a whole have been pursued at the meetings of the Local Ministry Group. Planning is regularly reviewed by the three PCCs, and assistance offered by the Local Ministry Group.

Donations at the Lent lunches and talks raised £405.00, which was divided equally between two charities, one operating overseas and one at home. The donation to the Salvation Army (£202.55) was specifically for its work with people in need by its Malvern corps; Embrace the Middle East is a Christian development charity tackling poverty, injustice and reconciliation between communities, in the Middle East. Special collections held for other charities amounted to £877.10

Ecumenical Relationships

Members of all three parish churches in the benefice and Cradley chapel (which belongs to The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion) form Christians Together, which holds monthly meetings.

Church Fabric

During 2019 major repairs were carried out to the tower roof and masonry, the floor in the north aisle was replaced and a new kitchen installed. In December we made the final payment to the main contractor at the end of the defects retention period.

A new distribution board was installed to conform with the requirements of an electrical inspection carried out in December 2019, and a number of broken roof tiles were replaced. This work was paid for from the prize money we received in 2019 as the first winner of the Good Guardianship Awards, run by the National Churches Trust in partnership with The Pilgrim Trust. Other maintenance was carried out by volunteers with expenditure being limited to essential materials.

Financial Review

The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1 on page 10. Total receipts and payments on unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in detail in the Statement of Financial Activities. For the year ended 31 December 2020, total income was £41,268 (£268,790 – 2019) and total expenditure was £48,356 (£281,037 – 2019).

Net receipts from fundraising events for general purposes amounted to £2,687, down by £2,394 on 2019. The largest contributor was the 100 Club at £850 net, and the Summer and Christmas Draws together raised £815. A Burns Night Supper run jointly with Cradley Village Hall Committee raised £286 for the PCC after expenses. Other events included a Treasure Trail which raised £280 and two Quiz Nights, kindly organised for the PCC by The Oak, Staplow, which contributed £281. Donations for refreshments after a short series of Sunday afternoon talks raised £173. Although these events were intended primarily to raise money, many of them also provide an opportunity for involvement in the local community. The COVID-19 restrictions meant that we were not able to hold our popular Sunday afternoon cream teas through the summer, and coffee after services could only be served for the first few weeks of the year. Other fundraising events, including a Summer Fair planned to be held jointly with the Village Hall, were either postponed or cancelled.

We contributed £29,000 to the Diocesan Common Fund, which pays for ministry and mission in our diocese, an increase of £1,000 on the previous year. We have pledged to contribute £30,000 in 2021.

The PCC again carried out only the minimum amount of routine repairs and maintenance to the church building, £1,618 of which was paid for from the National Churches Trust Good Guardianship Award that we won in 2019. There was further expenditure on activities to promote the heritage and wider use of the building, which were a condition of the grant funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The net result for the year was a surplus of expenditure over income of £1,762 on unrestricted funds before allowing for depreciation on the chairs and tables purchased in 2019. Including bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December 2020 on unrestricted funds totalled £28,848 of which £24,232 was in cash, current accounts and on deposit. For many years voluntary giving was insufficient to meet our contribution to the diocese. Since our successful stewardship campaign in 2017 this has been covered by planned giving, open plate collections at services, donations and the associated Gift Aid, but we continue to rely upon fees for weddings and funerals and fundraising events to cover the other costs of ministry and the running expenses of our large building and churchyard. For the first time in at least 45 years we received no financial support from the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the churchyard. The PCC tries to build on the help and guidance given by the diocese on encouraging giving within the wider context of Christian stewardship. 2021 will be another year of uncertainty, and fundraising events will inevitably be curtailed. Members of the Church family will again be

asked to review the giving of their time and talents as well as their financial support. Diocesan priority 4 recognises the urgent need to become financially sustainable to resource mission.

Our thanks go to Howard Painter who has again very generously given his services as Independent Examiner of the 2020 finances *pro bono*.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments, equivalent to about £11,000.00. It is held to smooth out cash flow and to meet emergencies that may arise from time to time. The cash and bank balances of £24,232 held on unrestricted funds at the year-end exceeded this target. The PCC also holds other funds that cannot be included as "free" reserves as they are held for restricted purposes. These represent the proceeds of donations and fund raising projects, including grants, for specific purposes.

Investments

It is our general policy to invest our funds' balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. The Dr Webster Fund however is invested in accumulation units in the CBF Investment Fund for the Church of England. Income is reinvested within the fund itself, and not distributed in cash to unit holders.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular, we want to mention our Churchwarden Ian Bailey who worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running. In particular, we wish to thank Kevin Brewer for arranging and hosting the twice weekly live streaming of services. Unfortunately, Anne Freeman, our other Churchwarden, was unable to play an active role from March onwards due to health problems and shielding, and she stood down at our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which was postponed until October. Our sincere thanks go to her for everything that she has done in five years in office, and to Di Roberts for stepping in as our new Churchwarden.

Administrative information

The church of St. James the Great is situated in Rectory Lane, Cradley. It is part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Cradley, Malvern, WR13 5LQ.

The parish forms part of the United Benefice of Cradley, Mathon and Storridge.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Robert Ward	(Chairman)
Churchwardens:	Anne Freeman	(To APCM 26 October 2020)
	Ian Bailey	
	Di Roberts	(From APCM 26 October 2020)
Diocesan Synod Member:	Ian Bailey	
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Tony Copp	(To 30 November 2020)
	Sheila Mullaney	(To 30 November 2020)
	John Sands	(To 30 November 2020)
	Mike Hames	(From 1 December 2020)
	Chris Roberts	(From 1 December 2020)

Elected members:

Sue Bailey	
Eryl Copp	
Margaret Edgar	
Mike Hames	(To 30 November 2020)
David Helm	(Co-opted 16 November 2020)
Julia Maclagan	
Sheila Mullaney	(Co-opted 16 November 2020)
Christopher Roberts	(To 30 November 2020)
Sue Ronan	

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 16 June 2020, number 1190026. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. James' the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

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. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The full PCC met three times in person and once online during the year, with an average level of attendance of 75%. Business was also transacted by email. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees and working parties, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include churchyard, outreach and events, repairs and development, and worship are all responsible to the PCC; their reports are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

The following officers served during the year:

Lay vice-chair:	Anne Freeman	(To APCM 26 October 2020)
	Mike Hames	(From APCM 26 October 2020)
Treasurer	John Sands	(To APCM 26 October 2020)
	Chris Roberts	(From APCM 26 October 2020)
Secretary	John Sands	(To APCM 26 October 2020)

Approved by the PCC on 12 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC chairman)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees/members of the Parochial Church Council of St James the Great Cradley

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe

that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records, or
- statutory fees were not accounted for correctly.

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

H N Painter BSc FCA
The Firs
Church Road
Crowle
Worcester
WR7 4AX

12 April 2021

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JAMES THE GREAT, CRADLEY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
Income and endowments						
Voluntary income	2(a)	30,041.74	-	2,595.62	32,637.36	254,431.38
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	3,830.16	-	1,165.73	4,995.89	8,663.45
Income from investments	2(c)	92.29	-	179.29	271.58	522.59
Church activities	2(d)	2,948.00	-	415.00	3,363.00	5,173.00
Total incoming resources		<u>36,912.19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,355.64</u>	<u>41,267.83</u>	<u>268,790.42</u>
Expenditure						
Church activities	3(a)	38,547.17	-	8,736.36	47,283.53	279,002.60
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	1,071.53	-	1.40	1,072.93	2,034.89
Total resources expended		<u>39,618.70</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,737.76</u>	<u>48,356.46</u>	<u>281,037.49</u>
Net incoming resources before transfers		(2,706.51)	-	(4,382.12)	(7,088.63)	(12,247.07)
Transfer between funds	4	-	-	-	-	-
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(2,706.51)	-	(4,382.12)	(7,088.63)	(12,247.07)
Revaluation gains on investments	6	-	1,063.13	-	1,063.13	1,908.25
Net movement in funds		(2,706.51)	1,063.13	(4,382.12)	(6,025.50)	(10,338.82)
Balances brought forward 1 January 2020		31,554.26	10,421.80	63,857.72	105,833.78	116,172.60
Balances carried forward 31 December 2020	9	<u>28,847.75</u>	<u>11,484.93</u>	<u>59,475.60</u>	<u>99,808.28</u>	<u>105,833.78</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
Fixed assets						
Tangible	5	2,832.16	-	-	2,832.16	3,776.21
Investments	6	-	11,484.93	-	11,484.93	10,421.80
		<u>2,832.16</u>	<u>11,484.93</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,317.09</u>	<u>14,198.01</u>
Current assets						
Debtors and prepayments	7	2,750.89	-	1,986.25	4,737.14	7,834.47
Short-term deposits		20,608.20	-	41,470.28	62,078.48	63,808.85
Cash at bank and in hand		3,497.70	-	16,347.06	19,844.76	28,918.50
		<u>26,856.79</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,803.59</u>	<u>86,660.38</u>	<u>100,561.82</u>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	8	841.20	-	327.99	1,169.19	8,926.05
Net current assets		<u>26,015.59</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,475.60</u>	<u>85,491.19</u>	<u>91,635.77</u>
Total net assets		<u>28,847.75</u>	<u>11,484.93</u>	<u>59,475.60</u>	<u>99,808.28</u>	<u>105,833.78</u>
Represented by Parish Funds						
Unrestricted					28,847.75	31,554.26
Designated					11,484.93	10,421.80
Restricted					59,475.60	63,857.72
Endowment					-	-
					<u>99,808.28</u>	<u>105,833.78</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

Approved by the PCC on 12 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Robert Ward (PCC Chairman)

Notes

1 Accounting policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Fund accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place. The PCC currently has no Endowment Funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments that is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds that are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are readily quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently the only items costing

more than £1,000 are the chairs and tables purchased as part of the reordering of the north aisle (including the Lady Chapel) in 2019.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2 Income and endowments	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
a) Voluntary income					
Planned giving	19,733.32	-	-	19,733.32	19,389.00
Collections at services	1,701.15	-	1,433.17	3,134.32	7,427.44
Donations	1,873.55	-	-	1,873.55	365.00
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	750.00	-	1,162.45	1,912.45	215,363.82
Gift Aid recovered	5,525.67	-	-	5,525.67	5,928.92
Other voluntary receipts	458.05	-	-	458.05	5,957.20
	<u>30,041.74</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,595.62</u>	<u>32,637.36</u>	<u>254,431.38</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising	3,830.16	-	1,165.73	4,995.89	8,663.45
	<u>3,830.16</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,165.73</u>	<u>4,995.89</u>	<u>8,663.45</u>
c) Investment income					
Interest	92.29	-	179.29	271.58	522.59
	<u>92.29</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>179.29</u>	<u>271.58</u>	<u>522.59</u>
d) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	2,948.00	-	105.00	3,053.00	3,543.00
Disbursements	-	-	310.00	310.00	1,630.00
	<u>2,948.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>415.00</u>	<u>3,363.00</u>	<u>5,173.00</u>
Total income	<u>36,912.19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,355.64</u>	<u>41,267.83</u>	<u>268,790.42</u>

3 Expenditure

a) Church activity expenses					
Missionary and charitable giving					
Overseas	-	-	342.05	342.05	660.00
Home	217.00	-	1,441.73	1,658.73	3,823.09
Diocesan parish contribution	29,000.00	-	-	29,000.00	28,000.00
Other ministry costs	1,260.81	-	364.49	1,625.30	1,982.41
Church running and maintenance	4,440.53	-	1,618.48	6,059.01	13,566.56
Major repairs - structural renewal	-	-	4,020.61	4,020.61	225,206.00
Churchyard upkeep	1,877.64	-	-	1,877.64	3,331.14
Printing and stationery etc	806.84	-	-	806.84	1,357.11
Other payments	0.30	-	949.00	949.30	132.24
Depreciation on movable furniture	944.05	-	-	944.05	944.05
	<u>38,547.17</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,736.36</u>	<u>47,283.53</u>	<u>279,002.60</u>
b) Stewardship costs					
Costs of grant applications	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising costs	1,071.53	-	1.40	1,072.93	2,034.89
	<u>1,071.53</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1.40</u>	<u>1,072.93</u>	<u>2,034.89</u>
Total expenditure	<u>39,618.70</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,737.76</u>	<u>48,356.46</u>	<u>281,037.49</u>

4 Transfers between funds

There were no transfers between funds during the year

5 Tangible fixed assets

Cost

At 1 January 2020	4,720.26
Additions	-
At 31 December 2020	<u>4,720.26</u>

Depreciation

At 1 January 2020	944.05
Depreciation charged in the year	<u>944.05</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,888.10</u>

Carrying amount

At 31 December 2020	<u>2,832.16</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>3,776.21</u>

6 Fixed Asset Investments

Cost or valuation

At 1 January 2020	10,421.80
Additions	-
Valuation changes	1,063.13
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2020	<u>11,484.93</u>

Carrying amount

At 31 December 2020	<u>11,484.93</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>10,421.80</u>

7 Debtors

	Unrestricted	Restricted
Gift Aid recoverable	2,008.88	
DCMS Listed Places of Worship grant	-	963.25
Christmas Draw ticket sales	70.00	-
Christmas Draw sponsorship	31.20	-
Sponsorship of streaming licences	175.20	-
Fees	404.00	245.00
Transfer from Restricted bank account	61.61	
Transfer from General bank account		778.00
	<u>2,750.89</u>	<u>1,986.25</u>

8 Creditors

Purchase Christmas draw prize voucher	30.00	-
Children's Society - Christingle collection	-	86.38
Charles Farris Ltd - altar supplies	33.20	-
Disbursements	-	180.00
Transfer to General bank account		61.61
Transfer to Restricted bank account	778.00	
	<u>841.20</u>	<u>327.99</u>

9. Funds

Fund	Brought forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers in	Transfers out	Carried forward
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>						
General	31,554.26	36,912.19	39,618.70	-	-	28,847.75
<i>Designated funds</i>						
Dr Webster Fund	10,421.80	1,063.13	-	-	-	11,484.93
<i>Restricted funds</i>						
100 Club	427.00	18.00	-	-	-	445.00
Bell & Tower	2,765.82	41.65	-	-	-	2,807.47
Church fabric	3,896.14	717.85	1.40	-	-	4,612.59
Disbursements	-	310.00	310.00	-	-	-
Flower	0.20	43.78	-	-	-	43.98
Hassocks & Cushions	46.12	0.20	-	-	-	46.32
NCT Maintenance	4,601.67	15.93	1,618.48	-	-	2,999.12
Organ	998.66	79.46	-	-	-	1,078.12
Refurbishment	31,221.22	128.05	949.00	-	-	30,400.27
Repair & Development	19,900.89	1,162.45	4,020.61	-	-	17,042.73
Restricted fundraising	-	405.10	405.10	-	-	-
Special collections	-	1,433.17	1,433.17	-	-	-
	63,857.72	4,355.64	8,737.76	-	-	59,475.60
	105,833.78	42,330.96	48,356.46	-	-	99,808.28

The General Fund represents income to be used for the general purposes of the PCC

The Dr Webster Fund represents the residue of a legacy from the late Dr Webster, received in 1962. For many years it was thought that this was restricted to the maintenance of the church fabric, but research in 2019 has confirmed that it is for the general purposes of the church. The PCC has however earmarked it for maintenance of the fabric. It is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Units and therefore no dividend is received as the income of the fund is re-invested.

The 100 Club Fund represents subscriptions paid in advance, which are held in this fund until the month of the draw to which they refer, when they are transferred to the General (Unrestricted) Fund.

The Bell & Tower Fund represents surplus funds raised in 2000 for the refurbishment and augmentation of the bells and associated necessary work on the tower, and subsequent donations.

The Church Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance.

Disbursements represent fees for bell ringers, the verger and the organist at weddings and funerals, where the PCC is merely acting as agent.

The Flower Fund represents donations to be spent on the purchase of flowers to decorate the church.

The Hassocks & Cushions Fund represents funds held for the purchase of materials for making these items.

In 2019 the PCC was the first winner of the National Churches Trust's Good Guardianship Awards which carried a prize of £5,000 donated by The Pilgrim Trust to be spent on maintenance of the church building.

The Organ Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for maintenance of the organ.

The Refurbishment Fund represents donations to finance the necessary refurbishment and adaptation of church premises to facilitate greater community use.

The Repair and Development Fund relates to the repairs to the tower and north aisle floor, and the re-ordering and refurbishment carried out at the same time as part of the project.

Restricted Fundraising and Special Collections represent the proceeds of fundraising events and collections which are specifically for the benefit of some other organisation, and where the PCC is merely acting as agent.