

ST. PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1191562

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2020-10-01

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

Contact

Address St. Pauls Furzedown
Chillerton Road
London
SW17 9BE

Phone 07913346202

Email poole939@btinternet.com

Website <https://stpaulsfurzedown.co.uk>

Activities

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

Activities: Public Worship. Pastoral support. Christian Education. Poor relief.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, Religious Activities, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Wandsworth

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£136,932	£114,480	-	-
2023-12-31	£98,105	£77,983	-	-
2022-12-31	£103,201	£110,967	-	-
2021-12-31	£104,851	£85,282	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Biobelemoye Susan Alagoa	Chair	2021-10-29
Anita Codrington		2020-10-04
BENJAMIN ARYEETAY		2025-05-11
Clarice Joyce Neil		2022-05-08
Elspeth Greensmith		2020-10-04
GRAHAM CONNELL		2020-09-13
Georgina Buckler		2023-05-21
Joan Alice Poole		2020-10-04
Lorna Nunn		2022-05-08
Malcolm Baker		2020-10-04

ST. PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1191562

Accounts

saintpaulfurzedown

knowing and sharing God's love

Annual Report and Accounts for year ended

31 December 2024

Charity Number 1191562



Statement of Purpose

Knowing God's love: St. Paul's exists to provide spiritual sustenance through the Lord Jesus and in the power of the Holy Spirit to all who come.

Sharing God's love: We exist to provide pastoral care and support to church members and parishioners at every stage of life in the name of Christ, and to help alleviate poverty both spiritually and physically.

Website: stpaulsfurzedown.co.uk

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Legal and administrative details

Charitable status

The Parish Church Council of ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN was previously a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. In 2020 as required by charity legislation, the Parish Church Council completed registration with the Charity Commission and gained its charity registration number: 1191562.

Location of the Church

St Paul's Church address is: Welham Road, London SW17 9BT. The church is situated at the corner of Welham Road and Chillerton Road in a quiet residential area, with little passing traffic.

Website

Our website is stpaulsfurzedown.co.uk

Incumbent

Reverend [Biobelemoye] Belemo Alagoa is Associate Vicar

Bankers

NatWest – Tooting Branch – 30 Tooting High Street, SW17 0RG

Independent Examiner:

Mrs Paula Thomas, Chartered Accountant, London SW16

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL’S, FURZEDOWN

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC of St Paul’s Furzedown has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is also responsible for maintaining and developing the building for the parish.

Trustees (being the members of the PCC)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representational Rules. Those elected bring the skills required for the PCC and ensure the diversity reflects that of the parish.

PCC meetings

The PCC met six times during 2024 on 25 January, 21 March, 6 June, 18 July, 19 September and 21 November. During 2024, the members of the PCC were:

Ex officio	
Reverend Belemo Alagoa	Associate Vicar
Mr Graham Connell	Reader; Church Warden [2023-Present]
Mr Malcolm Baker	Deanery Synod [2023-2026]
Elected Members	
Ms Georgie Buckler [2023-2026]	
Ms Anita Codrington [2021-2027]	
Ms Claire Neil [2022-2025]	
Ms Lorna Nunn [2022-2025]	
Ms Joan Poole, PCC Secretary 2021-[2021-2027]	
Mrs Elspeth Greensmith[2024-2027]	

All those listed are trustees at 31 December 2024 and at the date of this report.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. It also prioritises and prepares the agenda for PCC meetings. The committee comprises the Incumbent, Churchwarden, Secretary, and two other members of the PCC appointed by the PCC.

Church Attendance

There were 46 members on the church Electoral Roll at the end of December 2024, some of whom attended regularly. We had one new member. Average attendance in October 2024 was 23. There was one baptism, one funeral and no marriages during the year. The congregation becomes increasingly old and infirm and the absence of many families and children continues to be of concern.

Risk Management

The PCC has appointed a Safeguarding officer (supported by the vicar) to ensure full attention is paid to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults whilst in the building and attending events and services.

All volunteers assisting at the Youth Café (see review of the year) are DBS checked.

PCC Review of the Year 2024

Worship

Our regular pattern of worship continued throughout 2024. Each first Sunday is designated Sunday4family with a more informal feel. The fourth Sunday gives the opportunity for individual prayers. On the fifth Sunday, where it occurs, we hold a healing service. Sunday services with a particular theme were held in February 2024 to affirm lay ministries for which we had a guest preacher, and in September to mark disability awareness.

There are also joint services at times during the year, with our sister churches, St Albans, St James and Mitcham Lane Baptist Church.

Music

Throughout 2024 the choir continued to enhance morning worship. There was a choral evening service during Holy Week and at the start of Advent, both of which were very well received. We say a big thank you to our Director of Music Lorna Nunn for all her hard work in organising these services and directing the choir during the year. July 2024 saw the retirement of organist Martin Callingham after sixteen years; a presentation to Martin and special lunch were organised in appreciation of his loyal service. Thanks are also due to Peter Ramell who plays the organ at our morning service twice a month.

Bible Study group and Prayer Group

A bible study group was held throughout the year in 2024. During Lent the group met weekly on a Wednesday mornings, with light lunch provided, with a focus on black theology. Later in the year the group studied the book of Acts, and in Advent a course on the achievements of Christian believers in areas such as racial justice, peace and reconciliation. Thank you to our vicar Belemo and reader Graham for their leadership of these groups.

The prayer group has continued to meet monthly on Thursday lunchtimes; thanks are due to Anita for her leadership of the group.

Helen Long

Helen Long is a long-standing member of St Paul's and served in various capacities, notably as Church Warden, for a number of years. Sadly, Helen has had serious health problems throughout 2024 and is unable to attend church. The PCC wishes to record its sincere thanks to Helen for all she has contributed to the life of St Paul's. We continue to hold Helen and her family in our thoughts and prayers.

Rent review for Seely Hall

In accordance with the provisions of the lease on Seely Hall held by Eveline Day Nurseries and St Paul's, a rent review was scheduled to commence in 2023. The review was successfully concluded in September 2024.

Safeguarding

No safeguarding issues were raised or occurred during 2024.

Archdeacon's visit

In November 2024 we were pleased to welcome Archdeacon John Kiddle who joined members of the PCC for a lunch and a discussion as part of a series of visits he was making to churches in the Diocese.

Youth Café

The Youth Café which began at St Paul's in September 2021 remains a flourishing concern, providing a service to the many 6th formers from nearby Graveney School who gather in the vicinity at lunchtime and between lessons. Open from 12.30 to 2.30pm, it continues to attract a significant number of students who are invited to use the church to rest, work or play (chess, or a variety of other games), whilst being treated to free drinks and biscuits (and homemade soup during the cold season). Those young people with the appropriate gifting often enhance the feel-good mood with some background music on the church grand piano.

A prayer request and feedback box has been made available for the students' use, whilst lively discussions with staff on politics and other matters can often be heard.

With the April departure to pastures new of Paul Rook, the Outreach worker from the Furzedown Youth Project, the Café has since been led and staffed by volunteers from the local Furzedown churches.

Children's Day

A Children's Fun Day was held once more at the end of August, to mark the end of the summer holiday with an opportunity for local children and parents to take part in activities and enjoy refreshments in the church grounds. There was a bouncy castle much to the delight of the children.

Church Barbecue

In mid-July church members gathered in the garden of the Chillerton Road vicarage (by very kind invitation of Belemo) to enjoy a barbecue and time to socialise.

Looking forward

The church embraces a number of challenges going forward, not least the encouragement of new growth, and finding ways to nurture the children and young people in our congregation. Fundraising for improvements to the church and hall buildings will also be on the agenda. June 2026 will mark 100 years of Christian worship at St Paul's Furzedown. A special service is planned for **28 June 2026** with the Bishop of Kingston presiding.

Joan Poole – Secretary of St Paul's PCC

Church Warden's Fabric Report 2024

The remedial electrical work recommended in the survey undertaken during 2023 was completed in the first half of 2024. Whilst there are currently no significant leaks requiring attention, the church roof continues to be closely monitored. Regular pest control has proved satisfactory, and the organ was once again serviced in December. Clearance of weeds on the pathway, and the planting of spring flowers in the newly-cleared beds on the north side of the church has greatly improved the overall aspect of that area of the building.

Seely Hall

An inspection of the roof was carried out in January 2024 following the shifting of tiles in a high storm and consequent incursion of small amounts of dust and debris. The agreed solution to this problem was to apply sealant to the rafter joints at the top of the building and this job was carried out in May, along with tile repairs and outstanding work on window exteriors. Heavy late summer rainfall necessitated the fixing of a leak in the entrance porch to the nursery, along with partial replacement of the asphalt on the approach pathway to the entrance.

Graham Connell – Church Warden

Deanery Synod Report 2024

This year the Deanery started with Elections to the Diocesan Synod. Which consists of 2 lay members and 3 clergy.

We discussed the Eco status of the Deanery - what individual churches were doing to go green. We split into groups and discussed successes each church had in this area. It was suggested that each church had an Eco Champion. Someone who could spear head and guide the church through greener activities and procedures. We also talked about some of the main challenges churches found in becoming more Eco.

We had a visit from the Kingston Racial Justice Group. They discussed how churches dealt with racism, how certain language and phrases could be seem to downplay racism and therefore diminish the impact of it. We were offered a check list of ways in which parishes might explore the issue of racial justice. We discussed the Anti racism charter, unconscious bias and training, representation with the leadership and responsibility.

In the Autumn meeting the Assistant Director for lay ministry came to discuss the wide range of possibilities for Lay ministry.

Praise and pray were made for the parishes in the Deanery.

Our winter Meeting had us look at how our churches support elderly and housebound parishioners. We had a visit from Sophie Sutherland from Anna Chaplaincy. They are a nationwide charity which offers training and networking in older people's ministry. We discussed our shared experiences. We were told how most Anna chaplains are volunteers and with over 400 Anna chaplains across the country they are able to help vulnerable adults in the community.

Churches sponsoring Anna chaplains are invited to contribute a small amount towards their funding. Each church described their activities with older people. Sue Clarke thanked the churches for their interesting sharing of ideas and raised the possibility of running a Deanery based course, looking at developing the ministry of older people. Sue also mentioned the Diocesan group SAGE (Southwark and AGEing) which can offer information and resources.

Ethan Glackin-McColgan was affirmed as the Deanery Lay ministry Champion.

Our last meeting was regarding Safeguarding, the importance of strong Safeguarding practices. Each group discussed an element of Safeguarding and how each church puts them into practice. We discussed how important it was that everyone knew who was the safeguarding rep and how to contact them.

Malcolm Baker
Deanery Synod Representative

Financial Review for 2024

The activities of the parish insofar as they impinge upon the Statement of Financial Activities have been as follows:

1. St Paul's total income in 2024 amounted to £136,932 (an increase from £99,831 in 2023) of which £5,120 is restricted. Total expenditure amounted to £114,480, up from £79,709 in 2023. This represents a net movement in funds of £22,452. At the end of 2024 we had total net assets of £137,022 (£113,444 in 2023)
2. Our principal source of income in 2024 remains the rent paid by the Eveline Day Nursery, long term tenants of the Seely Hall. In accordance with the lease drawn up in 2018 between St Paul's and the nursery, a rent review was commenced in 2023 with professional assistance recommended by the Diocese and has concluded. As a result, the rent was increased from £55,000 per annum to £77,500 per annum from June 2023 and to £80,000 per annum starting from June 2025. A backdated lump sum amounting to £26,500 has been paid by the nursery, who have honoured the agreed schedules throughout. Additional income is generated by letting St Paul's to another church congregation, and the Seely Hall for children's parties. It is regarded as important that the hall should remain available for community use.
3. The Parish's contribution to the central fund of the Diocese of Southwark (the Parish Support Fund) has remained a significant item of expenditure at £30,000 for 2024 and has been paid in full. In anticipation of major repairs to our buildings, we were granted special dispensation by the Archdeacon to reduce our contribution from 2023 and the amount will remain £30,000 in 2025
4. St Paul's has maintained its regular contributions to the Furzedown Churches and the Furzedown Youth Centre of £100 each per month. In addition, we have donated £1,000 to each of the following – Mercy Ships, Southwark Welcare and FYC Furzedown Youth Centre as our chosen charities for tithed giving in 2024. We contributed £250 to the Bishop's Lent Appeal.
5. The cost of maintaining and repairing our ageing buildings has increased, and we anticipate and are professionally advised that the Seely Hall roof will need to be replaced within the next five years or so. Additionally, the church roof is leaking. The PCC therefore agreed during the year to designate £2,000 monthly from August 2024 and additionally the Nursery backdated rent of £ 26,500 for future roof repairs. A separate high interest bank account has been set up for this designated fund with a balance of £36,461 at 31 December 2024. In addition donations have been made for the same purpose and a restricted fund established. Conversations with the Diocese regarding the possibility of a loan to part-finance the work on Seely Hall have begun and other fundraising will continue in 2025. The cost of utilities has also increased. A separate fund has been established with generous donations to revive the Sunday School.

6. Monthly giving by bankers' orders increased slightly over the year although the open collection decreased, as reflected by reduced Gift Aid. The PCC continues to encourage the congregation to give to the Church in a regular and committed way using one of the stewardship schemes. The generosity of the congregation of St Paul's continues to be a source of both encouragement and humility, considering that they are so few.
7. It is unfortunate that no permanent replacement has been found for St Paul's nominal treasurer who "retired" after the APCM in 2024 after many years of assisting with financial matters. Thus difficulties have been experienced in presenting these accounts despite the generous contributions of Rev Geoff Vevers' expertise.

Reserves Policy

The term 'reserves' in this document is used to describe the part of a PCC's income fund that is freely available for its general purposes. 'Reserves' are therefore the resources the PCC has available to spend for the church's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. In 2022, based on Diocesan guidance and particular features of St Paul's, it was proposed that initial reserves comprise two months running expenses and two months hall income to cover unforeseen emergencies. Our overall financial situation in 2024 is healthier, but it would seem prudent to retain the same arrangements as last year, in anticipation of the predicted expenditure on repairs.

Reporting Accountants

Ms Paula Thomas has indicated her willingness to serve as Independent Examiner next year, for which we are very grateful, and a resolution re-appointing her will be proposed at the APCM.

Elsbeth Greensmith
PCC member

Statement of PCC members' responsibilities

The law requires PCC members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Parochial Church Council of St Paul's Furzedown during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, we are required to:

- 1 Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- 2 Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent;
- 3 State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 4 Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Parochial Church Council of St Paul's Furzedown will continue in operation.

The PCC members are responsible for keeping accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the organization, and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities, should they exist.

These accounts were approved by the PCC at its meeting on 27 March 2025.
For and on behalf of the PCC:



Belemo Alagoa
Associate Vicar



Elsbeth Greensmith
PCC member
Date: 27 March 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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



Paula Thomas BSc FCA CTA
25 Westcote Road, London SW16 6BN
Date: 6 April 2025

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE					
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	21,413	5,120	26,533	23,389
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	102,033	-	102,033	70,098
Investment Income	2(c)	1,720	-	1,720	1,326
Church activities	2(d)	6,646	-	6,646	5,018
Total incoming resources		131,812	5,120	136,932	99,831
Resources expended					
Church activities	3(a)	75,568	-	75,568	64,257
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	38,912	-	38,912	15,452
Total resources expended		114,480	-	114,480	79,709
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		17,332	5,120	22,452	20,122
Revaluation (losses)/gains on investments		1,126	-	1,126	4,185
Net movement in funds		<u>18,458</u>	<u>5,120</u>	<u>23,578</u>	<u>24,307</u>
Balances b/fwd 1 January		112,324	1,120	113,444	89,137
Balances c/fwd 31 December		130,782	6,240	137,022	113,444

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank :			
NatWest Current Account		46,647	58,911
NatWest Liquidity 95 day Account		36,461	-
Central Board of Finance Deposit Account	4	51,871	49,361
Debtors and Prepayments	5	6,598	7,201
Total Current Assets		141,577	115,473
Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	6	4,555	2,029
Net Current Assets		137,022	113,444
Total Net Assets		137,022	113,444
Total Parish Funds			
Unrestricted	7	130,782	112,324
Restricted		6,240	1,120
		137,022	113,444

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27 March 2025

Signed:



Belemo Alagoa
Chair



Elspeth Greensmith
PCC member

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2024

1 . ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of the PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS 102 (2017) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2017 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, (SORP (FRS 102)). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have considered income and expenditure for 2025 and set a budget for the year which reflects a net surplus of approximately £20K. The PCC is confident that this indicates that the charity is a going concern.

1.3 Fixed assets

Purchases are written off in the year of purchase.

1.4 The Church building

The activities of the PCC take place at which is owned by the Church of England (Southwark Diocese). The PCC is responsible for the repair of the Church building and for safeguarding the Church building and assets. All repairs and development expenditure is charged to the income and expenditure account.

1.5 Funds

General Funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted Funds are those funds which must be spent on specific purposes.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

1.6 Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax recoverable under Gift Aid is recognized when the incoming resource to which it relates is received.

Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable, and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Rental income from the letting of the church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.7 Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan contribution or parish share is accounted for when due.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	2023 £
<u>2. Incoming resources</u>				
(a) Voluntary income				
Monthly giving by bankers orders	8,860	-	8,860	8,590
Open collection	7,851	5,120	12,971	10,342
Gift aid	4,702	-	4,702	4,377
Grants	-	-	-	80
	<u>21,413</u>	<u>5,120</u>	<u>26,533</u>	<u>23,389</u>
(b) Activities for generating funds				
Seely hall rentals	101,633	-	101,633	69,721
Calendars	223	-	223	254
Centenary celebration	42	-	42	-
Fun day	30	-	30	-
Lent collection	105	-	105	123
	<u>102,033</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,033</u>	<u>70,098</u>
(c) Investment Income				
Dividends on CCLA funds	1,384	-	1,384	1,326
Bank Interest	336	-	336	-
	<u>1,720</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,720</u>	<u>1,326</u>
(d) Church activities				
Wedding/funerals/baptism fees	806	-	806	1,558
Contribution for use of church	5,840	-	5,840	3,460
	<u>6,646</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,646</u>	<u>5,018</u>
Total income	<u>131,812</u>	<u>5,120</u>	<u>136,932</u>	<u>99,831</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	2023 £
3. Expenditure				
(a) Church activities				
Mission giving and donations				
Furzedown Churches	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Furzedown Youth Centre	3,300	-	3,300	1,100
Mercy Ships	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Welcare	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Spires Centre	-	-	-	1,000
Sierra Leone Church	-	-	-	175
Lent Appeal	250	-	250	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	6,750	-	6,750	5,475
Diocesan parish contribution	30,000	-	30,000	34,000
Maintenance and repairs	19,626	-	19,626	9,843
Lighting and heating	3,718	-	3,718	4,094
Water	237	-	237	208
Insurance	4,676	-	4,676	4,459
Choir and organ expenses	760	-	760	386
Printing and stationery	943	-	943	337
Grounds /memorial garden	1,139	-	1,139	730
General expenses	1,653	-	1,653	1,060
Professional fees	675	-	675	675
Administration/ caretaker costs	1,370	-	1,370	320
Cleaning	2,298	-	2,298	381
Rubbish collection	1,363	-	1,363	1,378
Funeral collection	-	-	-	551
Tooting area dean fund	360	-	360	360
Parish pilgrimage	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	75,568	-	75,568	64,257
(b) Costs of generating funds				
Seely hall expenses	38,912	-	38,912	15,452
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	38,912	-	38,912	15,452
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total expenditure	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	114,480	-	114,480	79,709
	<hr/>		<hr/>	

4. Investments

Investments are stated in the Balance Sheet at Market Value.

The Central Board of Finance of Church of England shares, and the 4% Consolidated Stocks are valued at bid market price on the nearest valuation dated 31st December 2024.

<u>5. Debtors</u>	2024	2023
	£	£
Seely Hall - Light/Heat etc	6,598	2,832
Gift aid	-	4,369
	6,598	7,201
<u>6. Creditors</u>	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	3,405	2,029
Gift Aid to be refunded	1,150	
	4,555	2,029
<u>7. Total Parish Funds</u>	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted funds:		
General Fund	94,321	112,324
Designated Fund – Seely Hall roof repairs	36,461	-
Total unrestricted funds	130,782	112,324
Restricted funds:		
Church Roof repairs	2,240	1,120
Sunday School	4,000	-
Total restricted funds	6,240	1,120

ST. PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1191562

Accounts

saintpaulfurzedown

knowing and sharing God's love

**Annual Report and Accounts for year ended
31 December 2023
Charity Number 1191562**



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The Parish Church Council of ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN was previously a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. In 2020 as required by charity legislation, the Parish Church Council completed registration with the Charity Commission and gained its charity registration number: 1191562.

Location of the Church

St Paul's Church address is: Welham Road, London SW17 9BT. The church is situated at the corner of Welham Road and Chillerton Road in a quiet residential area, with little passing traffic.

Incumbent

Reverend [Biobelemoye] Belemo Alagoa is Associate Vicar

Bankers

NatWest – Streatham Branch, 54 Streatham High Road, London SW16 1BZ

Independent Examiner:

Mrs Paula Thomas, Chartered Accountant, London SW16

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC of St Paul's Furzedown has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is also responsible for maintaining and developing the building for the parish.

Trustees (being the members of the PCC)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representational Rules. Those elected bring the skills required for the PCC and ensure the diversity reflects that of the parish.

PCC meetings

The PCC met six times during 2023 on 26 January, 23 March, 25 May, 20 July, 28 September and 23 November. During 2023, the members of the PCC were:

Ex officio	
Reverend Belemo Alagoa	Associate Vicar
Mr Graham Connell	Reader; Church Warden [2023-Present]
Mrs Helen Long	Church Warden [2021-Present]
Mr Malcolm Baker	Deanery Synod [2023-2026]
Mrs Elspeth Greensmith	Asst Church Warden, Treasurer and Stewardship Officer
Elected Members	
Ms Georgie Buckler [2023-2026]	
Ms Anita Codrington [2021-2024]	
Mrs Carol Nicholls [2017-2024]	STANDING DOWN MAY 2024
Ms Claire Neil [2022-2025]	
Ms Lorna Nunn [2022-2025]	
Ms Joan Poole, PCC Secretary 2021-[2021-2024]	

All those listed are trustees at 31 December 2023 and at the date of this report.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. It also prioritises and prepares the agenda for PCC meetings. The committee comprises the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Secretary, Treasurer, and one other member of the PCC appointed by the PCC.

Church attendance

There were 50 members on the Church Electoral Roll at the end of December 2023, some of whom attend regularly. Average Sunday attendance in October 2023 was 25. Five funerals were conducted in the church during 2023. There were no marriages. St Paul's has still not recovered from the effect of the pandemic on a predominantly elderly and infirm congregation. The absence of many families and children is a matter of active concern, as is the fact that we have had no new members in 2023.

Public benefit statement

The PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Working cooperatively with the clergy and other members of the congregation, it strives to enable all people to live out their faith as part of our parish community. This means facilitating opportunities for worship, prayer, and study, as well as encouraging service to and care for members of the wider community of which we are a part.

Risk Management

The PCC has appointed a Safeguarding officer (supported by the vicar) to ensure full attention is paid to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults whilst in the building and attending events and services.

All volunteers assisting at the Youth Café (see review of the year) are DBS checked.

PCC Review of the Year 2023

Worship

Our regular pattern of worship continued throughout 2023. Each first Sunday is designated Sunday4family with a more informal feel. On the fifth Sunday, where it occurs, we hold a healing service. There are also joint services at times during the year, with our sister churches, St Albans, St James and Mitcham Lane Baptist Church. The joint service held at St Paul's in August 2023 was particularly appreciated.

This year we were able to return to giving communion in both forms whilst gathering around the altar as a church family.

Bible Study group and Prayer Group

A bible study group was held throughout the year in 2023. During Lent the group met weekly on a Wednesday evening. Thank you to our vicar Belemo and reader Graham for their leadership of these groups, and special thanks to Graham for the provision of refreshments.

The prayer group has continued to meet monthly on Thursday lunchtimes; thanks are due to Anita for her leadership of the group.

Communications

The weekly notice sheet was reintroduced at the start of 2023. We are grateful to Ben Aryeetey for all the work he puts in to ensure the sheet is available. It is a valuable resource. This year work was also carried out to launch a new website for St Paul's. The website address is:

stpaulsfurzedown.co.uk

Music

Throughout 2023 the choir continued to enhance morning worship. There was a choral evening service during Holy Week and at the start of Advent, both of which were very well received. The choir also introduced the singing of a psalm on a designated Sunday each month. Thanks are due to organists Martin Callingham and Peter Ramell, and also to Lorna Nunn our Director of Music.

Youth Café

A Youth Café was started at St Paul's in September 2021 to provide a service to the many 6th formers from nearby Graveney School who gather in the vicinity at lunchtime and between lessons. Open from midday to 2.30pm, it has attracted a significant number of students (routinely around 150, on occasion over 200) who are invited to use the church to rest, work or play (chess or card games) as they see fit, whilst being treated to free drinks and biscuits (and homemade soup during the cold season).

The café has continued to flourish throughout 2023. The Outreach worker from the Furzedown Youth Project, Paul Rook, helps to facilitate this venture, ably supported by a team of volunteers from St Paul's and other Furzedown churches.

Children's Day

A very successful Children's Day was held once more at the beginning of September, to mark the end of the summer holiday with an opportunity for local children and parents to take part in activities and enjoy refreshments in the church grounds. There was a bouncy castle much to the delight of the children. Building on the success of the day we now plan to hold two Children's Days in 2024, one in May and one in September.

Church Barbecue

In mid-July church members gathered in the garden of the Chillerton Road vicarage (by very kind invitation of Belemo) to enjoy a barbecue and time to socialise.

Looking forward

The church still faces many challenges, particularly in how to encourage new growth, to find ways to nurture the children and young people in our congregation, as well as to fundraise for improvements to the church and hall buildings.

June 2026 will mark 100 years of Christian worship at St Paul's Furzedown. A special service is planned for that month as well as other activities to mark this very special occasion.

Joan Poole – Secretary of St Paul's PCC

Church Wardens' Fabric Report

This year has been dominated by the work needed on the Church Hall (Seely Hall). Following a severe storm in June, a leak developed in the porch roof. The temporary repairs carried out by the nursery were done incorrectly and remedial repairs were subsequently carried out by the church's roofer, Barry Kerbey. Repairs and repainting of certain Seely Hall windows were still outstanding as at year end. An ongoing concern with Seely Hall has been the dislodging of tiles in high winds which, given the age of the roof, is a situation that can only deteriorate. On occasion, dust and light debris has fallen into the hall. Our church architect, Tim Gough, has nevertheless declared the roof structure safe and a solution has been agreed for stopping further penetration of dust, following consultation with a structural engineer. This work is scheduled for early May 2024.

However, it is now recognized that the Seely Hall roof (which is the original one) will need to be replaced in as short a time span as is practicable, given the financial implications for the church.

This year a quinquennial inspection of the church's electrics was carried out by church specialists, CES Electrics. This revealed that comprehensive rewiring was required, and a substantial upgrading of the lighting was recommended. Much of this work has been completed at the time of writing this report, of especial note being repairs to the lighting in the church porch, the previous absence of which had presented a potential hazard to those entering the church after dark.

Helen Long and Graham Connell – Church Wardens

Deanery Synod Report

We started out by discussing the 'Southwark Vision 2023 – 2035' & Diocesan Investment Programme. Some of the points discussed were around lack of evidence to show learning from previous vision statements and experiences. The new Vision was felt to be too general and focused on values, rather than actual measurable points. The language used was questioned as it seemed to imply a “them and us” with little focus on prayer. A number of Discussion points were given for us to look at in depth.

Sue Clarke gave an update on the Syrian family which the deanery supports, and said that they continue to bridge the gap between housing benefit and rent.

We were given a talk about the work the Deanery has done to raise the 'Eco-church' issues.

A report was given to ask the deanery to nominate a deanery lay champion to raise awareness of Lay ministries across the deanery.

In January, we were given feedback on the Diocesan strategy which helped to shape the final document, and our work was appreciated by Bishop Martin.

It was reported that the Diocesan Synod had voted to disinvest from fossil fuels, a time limit for this to be confirmed. Other investments are being investigated. Southwark Diocese has committed to becoming an Eco-Diocese and asked all churches to pursue the Eco church awards.

Members exchanged what successes and challenges they have had in becoming more environmentally aware. This included things like changes lighting to LED's, Solar Panels being installed and changes made to heating. Some of the challenges were the time it took to secure faculty approval etc as well as cost, and getting everyone on board. It was said that significant financial resources would be needed in order to meet the 2030 target.

The Bishop arranged an Eco pilgrimage. Six walks were planned - Reigate to Tandridge, Kingston to Merton, Charlton to Deptford, Lambeth to Tooting, Battersea to Southwark Cathedral, as well as a schools and young people walk.

Malcolm Baker – Deanery Synod representative

Financial Review for 2023

The activities of the parish insofar as they impinge upon the Statement of Financial Activities have been as follows:

1. St Paul's total income in 2023 amounted to £99,831 (a decrease from £103,201 in 2022) of which £1,726 was restricted. Total expenditure amounted to £79,709 (down from £110,967 in 2022). This represents a net movement in funds of £24,307. At the end of 2023 we had total net assets of £113,444 (£89,137 in 2022).
2. Our principal source of income in 2023 remains the rent paid by the Eveline Day Nursery for the Seely Hall. They have again honoured the rent schedule agreed in 2018. The five yearly negotiations regarding a rent increase commenced in 2023, with professional assistance recommended by the Diocese. Arrangements regarding repairs to the Seely Hall roof have delayed the completion of these negotiations. It is anticipated that the increase in rent will be backdated to 2023. Additional income is generated by letting St Paul's to another church and a choir, and the Seely Hall for children's parties and a yoga class.
3. The Parish's contribution to the central fund of the Diocese of Southwark (the Parish Support Fund) remained a significant item of expenditure at £34,000 for 2023 and has been paid in full. In anticipation of major repairs to our buildings, we have been granted special dispensation by the Archdeacon to reduce our contribution in 2024.
4. St Paul's has maintained its regular contributions to the Furzedown Churches and the Furzedown Youth Centre of £100 each per month. In addition, we have donated £1,000 to each of the following – The Spires Centre in Streatham, Mercy Ships, Southwark Welcare and FYC Furzedown Youth Centre as our chosen charities for tithed giving in 2023. We also collected £175 for St Mark's church, Robenkeh – Lungi in Sierre Leone whose church building was burnt down due to electrical fault.
5. The cost of maintaining and repairing our ageing buildings has increased, and we anticipate major expenditure imminently. We now have a separate fund for roof repairs. We have been given estimates regarding the life expectancy of the current Seely Hall roof and are exploring strategies to pay for its eventual replacement. Similarly, the cost of utilities has increased. We completed payments on our Diocesan Loan for replacement heating in 2023.
6. Monthly giving by bankers' orders increased slightly over the year although the open collection decreased, as reflected by reduced Gift Aid. The PCC continues to encourage the congregation to give to the Church in a regular and committed way using one of the stewardship schemes. The generosity of the congregation of St Paul's continues to be a source of both encouragement and humility, considering that they are so few.
7. After many years of assisting with financial matters, St Paul's nominal Treasurer will retire after the APCM. Whilst contingency arrangements are being made for continuation of business, we pray that someone with relevant expertise will soon emerge to take on this vital role.

Reserves Policy

The term 'reserves' in this document is used to describe the part of a PCC's income fund that is freely available for its general purposes. 'Reserves' are therefore the resources the PCC has available to spend for the church's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. In 2022, based on Diocesan guidance and particular features of St Paul's, it was proposed that initial reserves

comprise two months running expenses and two months hall income to cover unforeseen emergencies. Our overall financial situation in 2023 is healthier, but it would seem prudent to retain the same arrangements as last year, in anticipation of the predicted expenditure on repairs.

Reporting Accountants

Ms Paula Thomas has indicated her willingness to serve as Independent Examiner next year, for which we are very grateful, and a resolution re-appointing her will be proposed at the APCM.

Elsbeth Greensmith Church Treasurer

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN
Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of PCC members' responsibilities

The law requires PCC members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Parochial Church Council of St Paul's Furzedown during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, we are required to:

- 1 Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- 2 Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent;
- 3 State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 4 Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Parochial Church Council of St Paul's Furzedown will continue in operation.

The PCC members are responsible for keeping accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the organization, and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities, should they exist.

These accounts were approved by the PCC at its meeting on 21 March 2024.
For and on behalf of the PCC:



Belemo Alagoa
Associate Vicar



Elspeth Greensmith
Treasurer
Date: 21 March 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on Pages 11 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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



Paula Thomas BSc FCA CTA
25 Westcote Road, London SW16 6BN
Date: 12 April 2024

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE					
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	21,663	1,726	23,389	27,450
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	70,098	-	70,098	71,634
Investment Income	2(c)	1,326	-	1,326	1,281
Church activities	2(d)	5,018	-	5,018	2,836
Total incoming resources		98,105	1,726	99,831	103,201
Resources expended					
Church activities	3(a)	62,531	1,726	64,257	78,949
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	15,452	-	15,452	32,018
Total resources expended		77,983	1,726	79,709	110,967
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		20,122	-	20,122	(7,766)
Revaluation (losses)/gains on investments		4,185	-	4,185	(5,739)
Net movement in funds		<u>24,307</u>	-	<u>24,307</u>	<u>(13,505)</u>
Balances b/fwd 1 January		89,137	-	89,137	102,642
Balances c/fwd 31 December		113,444	-	113,444	89,137

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank : NatWest Current Account		58,911	37,594
Central Board of Finance Deposit Accounts	4	49,361	43,850
Debtors and Prepayments	5	7,201	12,205
Total Current Assets		115,473	93,649
Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	6	2,029	1,712
Net Current Assets		113,444	91,937
Loan		-	2,800
Total Net Assets		113,444	89,137
Total Parish Funds			
Unrestricted		113,444	89,137

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21 March 2024

Signed:



Belemo Alagoa
Chair



Elspeth Greensmith
Treasurer

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

1 . ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of the PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS 102 (2017) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2017 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, (SORP (FRS 102)). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have considered income and expenditure for 2024 and set a budget for the year which reflects a net surplus of approximately £10K. The PCC is confident that this indicates that the charity is a going concern.

1.3 Fixed assets

Purchases are written off in the year of purchase.

1.4 The Church building

The activities of the PCC take place at which is owned by the Church of England (Southwark Diocese). The PCC is responsible for the repair of the Church building and for safeguarding the Church building and assets. All repairs and development expenditure is charged to the income and expenditure account.

1.5 Funds

General Funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted Funds are those funds which must be spent on specific purposes.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

1.6 Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax recoverable under Gift Aid is recognized when the incoming resource to which it relates is received.

Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable, and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Rental income from the letting of the church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.7 Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan contribution or parish share is accounted for when due.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
<u>2. Incoming resources</u>				
(a) Voluntary income				
Monthly giving by bankers orders	8,590	-	8,590	8,690
Open collection	8,616	1,726	10,342	7,914
Gift aid	4,377	-	4,377	9,446
Grants	80	-	80	1,400
	<u>21,663</u>	<u>1,726</u>	<u>23,389</u>	<u>27,450</u>
(b) Activities for generating funds				
Seely hall rentals	69,721	-	69,721	71,087
Calendars	254	-	254	292
Bible notes	-	-	-	5
Notice board	-	-	-	157
Fun day	-	-	-	22
Lent collection	123	-	123	71
	<u>70,098</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,098</u>	<u>71,634</u>
(c) Investment Income				
Dividends on CCLA funds	1,326	-	1,326	1,281
	<u>1,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,326</u>	<u>1,281</u>
(d) Church activities				
Wedding/funerals/baptism fees	1,558	-	1,558	886
Contribution for use of church	3,460	-	3,460	1,950
	<u>5,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,018</u>	<u>2,836</u>
Total income	<u>98,105</u>	<u>1,726</u>	<u>99,831</u>	<u>103,201</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
3. Expenditure				
(a) Church activities				
Mission giving and donations				
Furzedown Churches	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Furzedown Youth Centre	1,100	-	1,100	1,200
Mercy Ships	1,000	-	1,000	2,333
Welcare	1,000	-	1,000	-
Wateraid	-	-	-	2,333
Spires Centre	1,000	-	1,000	2,333
Sierra Leone Church	-	175	175	-
St. Mungos	-	-	-	160
Amnesty International	-	-	-	160
	5,300	175	5,475	9,719
Diocesan parish contribution	34,000	-	34,000	34,000
Maintenance and repairs	8,843	1,000	9,843	12,597
Lighting and heating	4,094	-	4,094	5,234
Water	208	-	208	127
Insurance	4,459	-	4,459	4,031
Choir and organ expenses	386	-	386	740
Printing and stationery	337	-	337	629
Grounds /memorial garden	730	-	730	3,403
General expenses	1,060	-	1,060	1,128
Weddings/funeral/baptism fees	-	-	-	-
Professional fees	675	-	675	1,278
Administration/ caretaker costs	320	-	320	1,421
Cleaning	381	-	381	1,080
Rubbish collection	1,378	-	1,378	1,197
Funeral collection	-	551	551	-
Tooting area dean fund	360	-	360	360
Parish pilgrimage	-	-	-	2,005
	62,531	1,726	64,257	78,949
(b) Costs of generating funds				
Seely hall expenses	15,452	-	15,452	32,018
	15,452	-	15,452	32,018
Total expenditure	77,983	1,726	79,709	110,967

4. Investments

Investments are stated in the Balance Sheet at Market Value.

The Central Board of Finance of Church of England shares, and the 4% Consolidated Stocks are valued at bid market price on the nearest valuation dated 31st December 2023.

<u>5. Debtors</u>	2023	2022
	£	£
Seely Hall - Light/Heat etc	2,832	7,180
Gift aid	4,369	5,025
	7,201	12,205

<u>6. Creditors</u>	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	2,029	1,712
	2,029	1,712

ST. PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1191562

Accounts

saintpaulfurzedown

knowing and sharing God's love

**Annual Report and Accounts for year ended
31 December 2022**

Charity Number 1191562



Statement of Purpose

Knowing God's love: St. Paul's exists to provide spiritual sustenance through the Lord Jesus and in the power of the Holy Spirit to all who come.

Sharing God's love: We exist to provide pastoral care and support to church members and parishioners at every stage of life in the name of Christ, and to help alleviate poverty both spiritually and physically.

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Legal and administrative details

Charitable status

The Parish Church Council of ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN was previously a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. In 2020 as required by charity legislation, the Parish Church Council completed registration with the Charity Commission and gained its charity registration number: 1191562.

Location of the Church

St Paul's Church address is: Welham Road, London SW17 9BT. The church is situated at the corner of Welham Road and Chillerton Road in a quiet residential area, with little passing traffic.

Incumbent

Reverend Belemo Alagoa is Associate Vicar

Bankers

NatWest – Streatham Branch, 54 Streatham High Road, London SW16 1BZ

Independent Examiner:

Mrs Paula Thomas, Chartered Accountant, London SW16

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC of St Paul's Furzedown has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is also responsible for maintaining and developing the building for the parish.

Trustees (being the members of the PCC)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representational Rules. Those elected bring the skills required for the PCC and ensure the diversity reflects that of the parish.

PCC meetings

The PCC met six times during 2022 on 13 January, 24 March, 26 May, 1 July, 15 September and 10 November (plus an away day in July). During 2022, the members of the PCC were:

Ex officio	
Reverend Belemo Alagoa	Associate Vicar
Mr Graham Connell	Reader Deanery Synod [2017-2023] Standing down from Deanery Synod May 2023
Mrs Helen Long	Church Warden [2021-Present]
Mr Ben Aryeetey	Deanery Synod [2017-2023] Standing down from Deanery Synod & PCC May 2023
Mrs Elspeth Greensmith	Asst Church Warden, Treasurer and Stewardship Officer
Elected Members	
Mr Malcolm Baker [2016-2023]	STANDING DOWN MAY 2023
Ms Anita Codrington [2021-2024]	
Mrs Carol Nicholls [2017-2024]*	
Ms Claire Neil [2022-2025]	
Ms Lorna Nunn [2022-2025]	
Ms Joan Poole, PCC Secretary 2021-[2021-2024]	

All those listed are trustees at 31 December 2022 and at the date of this report.

*The PCC agreed that the year 2020-21, when the PCC was not operational, should not be counted when calculating total length of terms. Thus by the next APCM in 2024 the total term served by Carol Nicholls will be **six years**.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. It also prioritises and prepares the agenda for PCC meetings. The committee comprises the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Secretary, Treasurer, and one other member of the PCC appointed by the PCC.

Buildings & Fabric Committee

The PCC has resolved to set up such a Committee to handle church and hall maintenance repairs issues and to relieve the Vicar from these duties.

Church attendance

There were 57 members on the Church Electoral Roll at the end of December 2022, some of whom attend regularly. Average Sunday attendance in October 2022 was 28. Other services, including 2 baptisms and 1 funeral, were conducted in the church during 2022. St Paul's has not recovered from the effect of the pandemic on a predominantly elderly and infirm congregation. The absence of many families and children is a matter of active concern, as is the fact that we have had no new members in 2022.

Public benefit statement

The PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Working cooperatively with the clergy and other members of the congregation, it strives to enable all people to live out their faith as part of our parish community. This means facilitating opportunities for worship, prayer, and study, as well as encouraging service to and care for members of the wider community of which we are a part.

Risk Management

The PCC has appointed a Safeguarding officer (supported by the vicar) to ensure full attention is paid to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults whilst in the building and attending events and services.

All volunteers assisting at the Youth Café (see review of the year) are DBS checked.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL' S REPORT 2022

Financial Review of the Year

The activities of the parish insofar as they impinge upon the Statement of Financial Activities have been as follows:

1. St Paul's total income in 2022 amounted to £103,201 (a decrease from £106,403 in 2021), none of which was restricted. Total expenditure amounted to £110,967 up

from (£85,642 in 2021). We have a budget deficit and hope to reverse this in the coming year. We are installing a contactless giving facility in the church.

2. Our principal source of income in 2022 remained the rent paid by the Eveline Day Nursery for the Seely Hall. They have honoured the rent schedule negotiated in 2018 and a new contract is due to be agreed in 2023. Additional income is generated by letting St Paul's to another church and a choir, and the Seely Hall for children's parties.
3. The parish's contribution to the central fund of the Diocese of Southwark (the Parish Support Fund) remains a significant item of expenditure at £34,000 for 2022 (£33,000 in 2021) and has been paid in full.
4. St Paul's has maintained its regular contribution to the Furzedown churches and the Furzedown Youth Centre. We also donated £2,333 to each of the following charities – The Spires Centre in Streatham, Mercy Ships and WaterAid as our chosen charities for tithed giving in 2022.
5. The cost of maintaining and repairing the building has doubled since 2021. Similarly, the cost of utilities has also doubled and is likely to increase in the foreseeable future. We were given a contribution of £1400 by the Diocese partially to offset the increase in gas and electric costs.
6. Monthly giving by bankers' orders decreased by almost £5,000 from 2021 to 2022, although the open collection remained approximately the same. Gift Aid was claimed as appropriate. The PCC continues to encourage the congregation to give to the Church in a regular and committed way using one of the stewardship schemes. The generosity of the people of St. Paul's continues to be a source of both encouragement and humility, given the fact that they are so few.

Reserves Policy

The term 'reserves' in this document is used to describe that part of a PCC's income fund that is freely available for its general purposes. 'Reserves' are therefore the resources the PCC has available to spend for the church's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. The level of St Paul's reserves was not identified in last year's report. Thus, based on diocesan guidance and particular features of St Paul's, it is proposed that initial reserves comprise two months running expenses and two months hall income to cover unforeseen emergencies.

Reporting Accountants

Ms Paula Thomas has indicated her willingness to serve as the Independent Examiner next year and a resolution re-appointing her will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

Review of the Year 2022

Ministry

This year, 2022, saw the first full year of ministry of Rev Belemo Alagoa as Associate Vicar to the Furzedown Team Ministry with special responsibility for the parish of St Paul's. We were thankful for this, and relieved to be able to return to a regular pattern of worship and service to the community after a lengthy period dominated by coronavirus and the particular challenges on which we reported in our two previous annual reports.

New initiatives in 2022

We now hold a Healing Service on the fifth Sunday of a month. The PCC away day gave us a chance to re-think priorities for St Paul's. As a result, a bible study group was started in autumn 2022. This meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month, in the morning, and on the third Wednesday is followed by Eucharist and a light lunch. Recognising the importance of prayer to the life of the church, a prayer group was also started, meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month. We have plans to hold a coffee morning immediately before the prayer group.

Music

St Paul's has a strong tradition of choral music. The small choir has supported services throughout 2022. An augmented choir gave a focus for two special services in 2022 – one in Holy Week and the other in Advent. Thanks are due to organists Martin Callingham and Peter Ramell, and also to Lorna Nunn our Director of Music.

Community outreach

Youth Café

A Youth Café was started at St Paul's in September 2021 to provide a service to the many 6th formers from nearby Graveney School who gather in the vicinity at lunchtime and between lessons. The Outreach worker from the Furzedown Youth Project, Paul Rook, helps to facilitate this venture, supported by a team of volunteers from St Paul's and other Furzedown churches. Open from midday to 2.30pm, it has attracted a significant number of students (routinely around 150, on occasion over 200) who are invited to use the church to rest, work or play (chess or card games) as they see fit, whilst being treated to free drinks and biscuits (and homemade soup during the cold season). Some musicians among them provide entertainment on the church piano. The Café is clearly valued by the young people as a haven in which to 'chill' and has provoked questions about the charitable nature of our motives in offering this service.

Jubilee Party

For the first time, the church formed part of the street party held in Salterford Road to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Children's Day

After a gap we re-started the Children's Day at the beginning of September, to mark the end of the summer holiday with an opportunity for local children and parents to take part in activities and enjoy refreshments in the church grounds.

Looking forward

In common with most other churches, the past few years have not been easy for St Paul's. Numbers attending church have been affected and we consider prayerfully how to encourage new growth. Priorities for the coming year are: to find ways to nurture the children and young people in our congregation; to fundraise for much needed improvements to the church and hall buildings and to launch a new church website.

St Paul's Centenary Festival - June 2026

June 2026 will mark 100 years of Christian worship at St Paul's Furzedown. The PCC has resolved to organise a centenary festival during the whole of 2026 to mark this wonderful occasion, hence a committee is being set up to plan it.

The challenges are many, but we are a people of faith and with God's help we will face them.

Churchwarden's Fabric Report 2022

We have had to undertake quite a lot of repair work to our buildings since last year's report.

Last spring and summer James Cooke reinforced the boundary wall around Seely Hall and the wall up to the main entrance. The wall to the kitchen entrance was demolished and replaced with a wooden fence.

Barry Kerby carried out maintenance work on the Seely Hall roof in October which, we hope, will delay our having to replace the whole roof. The roof will have to be replaced in the next ten + years so, every year, we must ensure we put money away towards this. We have had to carry out work on the church roof this year as it had leaked. Unfortunately, scaffolding had to be used which made it more expensive. James Cooke was called in to repair the roof. He also repaired and restored four roof gullies and cleared the downpipes and gutters.

We are awaiting his visit to repair the vestry roof where the tiles had been laid incorrectly.

The church lighting has been improved and many light bulbs replaced, making the church brighter and much more welcoming. We have also had an electrical inspection carried out.

Our sound system has also been updated and the hearing loop checked. We are awaiting quotations for radio mikes.

At this moment, we are having a new notice board made for the front of the church to replace the wooden one which is beyond repair.

Helen Long

Tooting Deanery Synod Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

Synod met four times during the year under review, namely 8 February, 18 May, 15 September, and 22 November 2022.

The first meeting was held on 8 February, and it considered mainly environmental issues. This was led by Nicola Thomas, the new Head of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation, Southwark Mission Team. She emphasised the fifth “mark of mission” that deals with safeguarding of the integrity of creation, and sustainability and renewal of the life of the earth. She pointed Synod members to the website

<https://southwark.anglican.org/mission-ministry/faith-in-action/justice-peace-and-integrity-of-creation/environment/> for more resources. Further, she referred Synod to another web-site, <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Eco-Church-Survey-v2-January-2018.pdf> for material on worship and teaching, management of church buildings, management of church land, community and local engagement, and lifestyle questions.

The second meeting was held on 18 May, and the Rev. John Kiddle, Archdeacon of Wandsworth shared his thoughts with the synod on “Wellbeing” from reading a book *“The Hidden Life of Trees”* by Peter Wohlleben and suggested that his presentation might view the perspectives raised as a parable for the life of the church. In addition, Synod was made aware of a course which was to be held on 23 July 2022 on Mental Health First Aid.

The third meeting was held on 15 September and was mainly about eco-church and churches were paired to work together to share information on what each church is doing in terms of eco-church. The completion of an eco-church questionnaire was also discussed, as well as holding Climate Sunday services to make parishes achieve eco-church status which Tooting deanery has signed up for.

The last meeting was on 22 November and synod considered deanery compassion projects, namely:

Syrian family accommodation. The original two year housing facility of a Syrian family under the Government scheme has ended and was extended for 7 months. Now new arrangements are needed.

Balham Crosslight debt centre. This is a debt management advice centre and currently there are 20 volunteer advisers from local churches and the area assisting people with personal debt problems.

Christmas gift bags for HMP Wandsworth - This is a support from local churches to the Anglican Chaplains at HMP Wandsworth to give a small Christmas bag to all the Christian prisoners.

Social outreach log for each church. This was about compiling “ a deanery log” of social outreach projects offered by our deanery churches.

Ben Aryeetey

THE PARISH OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of PCC members' responsibilities

The law requires PCC members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Parochial Church Council of St Paul's Furzedown during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, we are required to:

- 1 Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- 2 Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent;
- 3 State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 4 Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Parochial Church Council of St Paul's Furzedown will continue in operation.

The PCC members are responsible for keeping accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the organization, and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities, should they exist.

These accounts were approved by the PCC at its meeting on 23 March 2023.

For and on behalf of the PCC:



Belemo Alagoa

Associate Vicar



Elsbeth Greensmith

Treasurer

Date: 23 March 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on Pages 12 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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



Paula Thomas BSc FCA CTA

25 Westcote Road, London SW16 6BN

Date: 11 April 2023

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE					
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	27,450	-	27,450	39,128
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	71,634	-	71,634	63,914
Investment Income	2(c)	1,281	-	1,281	1,206
Church activities	2(d)	2,836	-	2,836	2,155
Total incoming resources		103,201	-	103,201	106,403
Resources expended					
Church activities	3(a)	78,949	-	78,949	75,828
Costs of generating funds	3(b)	32,018	-	32,018	9,814
Total resources expended		110,967	-	110,967	85,642
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(7,766)	-	(7,766)	20,761
Revaluation (losses)/gains on investments		(5,739)	-	(5,739)	5,965
Net movement in funds		<u>(13,505)</u>	-	<u>(13,505)</u>	<u>26,726</u>
Balances b/fwd 1 January		102,642	-	102,642	75,916
Balances c/fwd 31 December		89,137	-	89,137	102,642

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank : NatWest Current Account		37,594	57,800
Central Board of Finance Deposit Accounts	4	43,850	48,308
Debtors and Prepayments	5	12,205	4,534
Total Current Assets		93,649	110,642
Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	6	1,712	400
Net Current Assets		91,937	110,242
Loan		2,800	7,600
Total Net Assets		89,137	102,642
Total Parish Funds			
Unrestricted		89,137	102,642

ST PAUL'S CHURCH FURZEDOWN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of the PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS 102 (2017) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2017 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, (SORP (FRS 102)). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have considered income and expenditure for 2023 and set a budget for the year which reflects a net deficit of £8k This will be absorbed by the general fund, leaving approximately £81k at the end of 2023 in the general fund as a reserve. The PCC are confident that this indicates that the charity is a going concern.

1.3 Fixed assets

Purchases are written off in the year of purchase.

1.4 The Church building

The activities of the PCC take place at which is owned by the Church of England (Southwark Diocese). The PCC is responsible for the repair of the Church building and for safeguarding the Church building and assets. All repairs and development expenditure is charged to the income and expenditure account.

1.5 Funds

General Funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted Funds are those funds which must be spent on specific purposes.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

1.6 Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax recoverable under Gift Aid is recognized when the incoming resource to which it relates is received.

Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable, and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Rental income from the letting of the church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.7 Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan contribution or parish share is accounted for when due.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
<u>2. Incoming resources</u>				
(a) Voluntary income				
Monthly giving by bankers orders	8,690	-	8,690	13,200
Open collection	7,914	-	7,914	7,682
Gift aid	9,446	-	9,446	9,226
Grants	1,400	-	1,400	7,877
Donations	-	-	-	365
Sundry income	-	-	-	778
	<u>27,450</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,450</u>	<u>39,128</u>
(b) Activities for generating funds				
Seely hall rentals	71,087	-	71,087	63,235
Calendars	292	-	292	328
Furzedown Youth Centre	-	-	-	30
Memorial	-	-	-	316
Bible notes	5	-	5	5
Notice board	157	-	157	-
Fun day	22	-	22	-
Lent collection	71	-	71	-
	<u>71,634</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,634</u>	<u>63,914</u>
(c) Investment Income				
Dividends on CCLA funds	1,281	-	1,281	1,206
	<u>1,281</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,281</u>	<u>1,206</u>
(d) Church activities				
Wedding/funerals/baptism fees	886	-	886	1,195
Contribution for use of church	1,950	-	1,950	960
	<u>2,836</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,836</u>	<u>2,155</u>
Total income	<u>103,201</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103,201</u>	<u>106,403</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
3. Expenditure				
(a) Church activities				
Mission giving and donations				
Furzedown Churches	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Furzedown Youth Centre	1,200	-	1,200	14,530
Mercy Ships	2,333	-	2,333	2,333
Save the Children	-	-	-	2,333
Wateraid	2,333	-	2,333	2,333
Spires Centre	2,333	-	2,333	-
St. Mungos	160	-	160	-
Amnesty International	160	-	160	-
	9,719	-	9,719	22,729
Diocesan parish contribution	34,000	-	34,000	33,000
Maintenance and repairs	12,597	-	12,597	6,554
Lighting and heating	5,234	-	5,234	2,216
Water	127	-	127	72
Insurance	4,031	-	4,031	3,858
Choir and organ expenses	740	-	740	878
Printing and stationery	629	-	629	434
Grounds /memorial garden	3,403	-	3,403	1,200
General expenses	1,128	-	1,128	959
Weddings/funeral/baptism fees	-	-	-	45
Professional fees	1,278	-	1,278	510
Administration/ caretaker costs	1,421	-	1,421	1,762
Cleaning	1,080	-	1,080	(25)
Rubbish collection	1,197	-	1,197	974
Leaving gift	-	-	-	300
Tooting area dean fund	360	-	360	360
Parish pilgrimage	2,005	-	2,055	-
	78,949	-	78,949	75,828
(b) Costs of generating funds				
Seely hall expenses	32,018	-	32,018	9,814
	32,018	-	32,018	9,814
Total expenditure	110,967	-	110,967	85,642

4. Investments

Investments are stated in the Balance Sheet at Market Value.

The Central Board of Finance of Church of England shares, and the 4% Consolidated Stocks are valued at mid market price on the nearest valuation dated 31st December 2022.

<u>5. Debtors</u>	2022	2021
	£	£
Seely Hall - Light/Heat etc	7,180	4,534
Gift aid	5,025	0
	12,205	4,534

<u>6. Creditors</u>	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	1,712	400
	1,712	400

ST. PAUL'S, FURZEDOWN

England & Wales - Charity number 1191562

Accounts

saintpaulfurzedown

knowing and sharing God's love

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 8th May 2022 at 12pm

Charity Number 1191562



Statement of Purpose

Knowing God's love: St. Paul's exists to provide spiritual sustenance through the Lord Jesus and in the power of the Holy Spirit to all who come.

Sharing God's love: We exist to provide pastoral care and support to church members and parishioners at every stage of life in the name of Christ, and to help alleviate poverty both spiritually and physically.

Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Paul's Sunday 8th May 2022, 12.00pm

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer
2. Apologies, Minutes of 2021 APCM & Matters Arising
3. Election of Church Wardens
4. Electoral Roll Report
5. PCC Secretary's Report
6. Finance Report
 - Adoption of Annual Accounts to 31st December 2021
 - Appointment of Independent Examiner
7. Buildings and Fabric Report (Church Wardens)
8. Deanery Synod Report
9. PCC Elections
10. Election of Sidespersons
11. Any Questions?
12. Results of Elections
13. Closing Prayer

Minutes of St. Paul's APCM 28th March 2021

The APCM was held on the 28th March 2021, Palm Sunday, after the morning Service.

1. Geoff gave us all a sheet of paper with the electoral roll and the names of members of the PCC. He pointed out that the electoral roll was now 85 as 7 members had died in the last 11 months.

2. Election of Churchwardens

Anita Codrington was retiring after 7 years. Geoff thanked her for her service and said he was very grateful to her as she had been very helpful to him in the time he had been vicar. Esther Aryeetey was standing again as churchwarden and Helen Long as churchwarden. Elspeth Greensmith as deputy warden
All 3 were appointed and signed the paper.

3. Election of PCC

Anita Codrington
Joan Poole
Malcolm Baker
June Yexley
Carol Nicholls

These were appointed to the PCC. Geoff asked if there were any other members of the congregation who would be prepared to serve on the PCC. No one came forward. Geoff said people could join at a later date as there were vacancies.

4. Deanery Synod Reps

Graham Connell [Reader]
Ben Aryeetey

5. SPA

Alice Philadelphia

6. Annual Report

All present received a copy of the annual report.

The accounts were compiled by Eileen Flanagan and examined by an independent examiner, Sue Buddery.

The accounts were accepted by the church members present.

Geoff asked if there were any questions.

Ben Aryeetey asked why the accounts had been compiled by an independent accountant when he had offered to do them. Geoff pointed out that for several years our accounts had been compiled by Angela North but she had become terminally ill and unable to carry on. The Standing Committee had to replace her quickly and had appointed Eileen Flanagan. She had proved to be excellent as Sue Buddery had commended the accounts and the change of style.

Geoff and Elspeth will continue to do the financial administration in the coming year.

Ben asked why the pilgrimage money for Oberammagau had been recorded in the accounts when they were not really related to us. Geoff replied that it was very usual to do this. Also shown in the accounts was the £12,500 received from the diocese for the youth work of the Furzedown Youth Centre. This was paid out immediately to FYC.

The APCM ended at this point.

Annual Report 2021

Parochial Church Council Members

Ex officio:

Rev Belemo Alagoa, Associate Vicar

Mr Graham Connell, Reader & Deanery Synod

Mrs Esther Aryeetey, Church Warden [2018-2022 standing down]

Mrs Helen Long, Church Warden [2021-Present]

Mr Ben Aryeetey, Deanery Synod [2017-2023]*

Mrs Elspeth Greensmith, Assistant Church Warden, Treasurer and Stewardship Officer

Elected Members:

Mr Malcolm Baker [2016-2023]*

Ms Anita Codrington [2021-2024]

Mrs Carol Nicholls [2017-2023]*

Ms Claire Neil [2022-2025]

Ms Lorna Nunn [2022-2025]

Ms Joan Poole, PCC Secretary 2021-[2021-2024]

Mrs June Yexley [2017-2022 standing down]

*The PCC agreed that the year 2020-21, when the PCC was not operational, should not be counted when calculating total length of these terms. Thus by the next APCM in 2023 total terms served by these members will be as follows:

Ben Aryeetey 5 years

Malcolm Baker 6 years

Carol Nicholls 5 years

Statement of Trustees' (PCC Members) responsibilities

St. Paul's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the Church Hall complex located in Chillerton Road. The Church is a registered charity (number 1191562). All PCC members are now Trustees.

PCC Structure

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of ex-officio members (Team Vicar and Reader), the churchwardens, the 2 members of the Deanery Synod, and 9 members of the church, who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Church Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and a balance of skills & experience is sought where possible. Membership of the PCC is for three years renewable for three years.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL' S REPORT 2021

When we reported on 2020 we acknowledged that it had been a year like no other, dominated by the emergence and spread of the corona virus. All churches had been forced to close their doors for long periods. From July 2020 St Pauls was open for worship, closing only as demanded by national lockdowns. As we entered 2021 it was clear that corona virus infection rates were still very high and a decision was taken at St Pauls to pause public worship. The church remained closed from 10 January 2021, re-opening on 7 March 2021. The Sunday morning service at 10am has taken place when permitted, but the monthly 8am Holy Communion and Last Sunday evening services have not resumed.

PCC meetings

The PCC met five times during 2021 on 18 March, 11 May, 1 July, 23 September and 18 November.

Church Attendance

The Electoral roll was completely revised in 2019 and updated in March 2020 and December 2021. During the pandemic, nine members of the congregation died, leaving eighty currently on the roll. About 30% of the congregation are not resident in the parish.

Attendance at Sunday services dropped initially on the reopening of the church after covid interruptions and the average Sunday morning attendance in 2020 was 30 adults and 1 child. In 2021 respective figures were 35 adults. Communication with members of the congregation was achieved by email, telephone and post during periods when the church was closed. In 2021 there were no baptisms, no weddings and 5 funerals. The size of the congregation increased slightly at festivals and joint services with members of the other Furzedown churches were better attended. It has to be acknowledged that the pandemic and an ageing congregation has significantly reduced church attendance.

Ministry at St Pauls

Rev Geoff Vevers, who was House-for-Duty priest in the Furzedown Team, served as interim minister at St. Paul's until Easter 2021. We would like to formally record here our thanks to Geoff for all he contributed to St Paul's during this very challenging period.

From April 2021 until the end of August 2021 Rev Rob Powell (Rector) had overall charge of St Paul's. Sunday services were taken by a number of visiting priests.

We are particularly grateful to Rev Johan Allen, Rev Sue Clarke, Rev Dorothy Penniecooke and Rev Imogen Vibert, who covered the bulk of services. The process of finding a new team vicar which had begun in December 2020, was also slightly delayed due to the pandemic. The post was advertised in February 2021, with interviews in April. This happily resulted in the appointment of Rev Belemo Alagoa. Rev Alagoa previously served as Assistant Priest in Merton Priory Team Ministry.

On 5 September 2021 we were delighted to witness Belemo's licensing, by Rev John Whittaker Acting Archdeacon of Wandsworth, as Associate Vicar to the Furzedown Team Ministry with special responsibility for the parish of St Paul's.

Music

In common with all other churches we were unable to sing hymns during worship for a long period since singing was known to be an easy way to transmit the corona virus from an infected person. We are grateful to organists Martin Callingham and Peter Ramell for their valuable contribution to our worship, and also to soloist Lorna Nunn. Hymn singing by a small choir began again in June 2021. Although small in number, the choir now regularly sings anthems during communion.

Stewardship

In 2021, St Paul's increased its giving to the Diocese under the Parish Support Fund and maintained its pledge despite the difficult times. St Paul's contributes regularly to the Furzedown Youth Centre and the Furzedown Churches. We also supported Save the Children, Mercy Ships and Water Aid as our chosen charities for tithed giving in 2021. St Paul's is very grateful to the members of the congregation who give generously and regularly, enabling us to claim gift aid. We are also indebted to Rev Sue Clarke for successfully negotiating an increase in the rent received from the Eveline Day Nursery for its use of Seely Hall, invaluable to us at a time when revenues from other letting sources dried up.

Events

Memorial Service for Rev Julie Connell

Rev Julie Connell was due to be inducted as Team Vicar at St Paul's in June 2020 and her sudden death was a profound shock for us all. Restrictions in place at that time meant that church members could not attend her funeral. A memorial service for Julie was held on 23 October 2021. It was conducted by Rev Johan Allen, well acquainted with Julie as a result of having trained for the ministry at the same time, and a choir from the Furzedown group of churches sang. It was a beautiful occasion, well attended by church members, as well as members of Julie's family, friends and former colleagues from Ernest Bevin College.

Community outreach

Foodbank

St Paul's was for many years providing public good through its foodbank and advice centre held weekly. Foodbank operations were curtailed during the pandemic. As mentioned in the last report the PCC considered the future use of the church as a foodbank. A decision was eventually taken that the foodbank should move location to Mitcham Lane Baptist Church. It was able to re-open in September 2021.

Youth Café

A Youth Café started at St Paul's in September 2021 and provides a service to the many 6th formers from Graveney School who gather outside between lessons. The Outreach worker

from the Furzedown Youth Project, Paul Rook, helps to facilitate this venture, supported by a team of volunteers from St Paul's and other Furzedown churches. It is proving very successful, welcoming large numbers of students (as many as 160 some days).

After this challenging period we look to the future. It is hoped to restart a weekly bible study group coupled with a Eucharist (to be held monthly).

Rev Belemo Alagoa Chair of the PCC

Joan Poole, Secretary of the PCC

CHURCH WARDENS FABRIC REPORT

The boundary wall has been of most concern to us this year particularly the walls around and leading up to Seely Hall as we have had concerns raised by the nursery who hire the hall during the week. We obtained a quote from James Cooke to replace the wall around the church and Seely Hall but the cost was prohibitive so we had to look for another solution.

Our architect Tim Gough recommended a structural engineer to us, Stuart Tappin, who gave us advice on the most important work to carry out.

We have, therefore reinforced the boundary wall around the church and we are in the process of sorting out the wall by Seely Hall kitchen. The wall, which was leaning badly because of the tree roots, has been demolished and is being replaced by a fence.

The wall beside the main entrance to the hall is being reinforced with metal bars. The keystone to the right archway entrance to the hall was slipping and had to be secured to prevent the collapse of the arch.

After last month's (February 2022) bad storm, the nursery noted problems with the hall roof and we are in the process of deciding how to solve the problem in the short term. Tim Gough, our architect, has told us that the roof which is 111 years old, will need completely replacing in the next few years so we will need to put money aside every year in order to pay for it. The present cost would be around £150,000 but this will obviously increase.

Helen Long and Esther Aryeetey

Tooting Deanery Synod Report

There were three meetings and a 5-week training course during the year.

The first meeting was on **7th June 2021**, with Bishop Richard in attendance. He commissioned the 2020—2023 session and blessed all in the deanery. He reflected on deanery mission post the covid-19 pandemic. Particularly, he pointed out the freedom that deaneries have over parishes in the sense that parish activities are generally controlled from the centre, but deaneries can freely collaborate to do things to enrich the life of all parishes by working together. That is, what we can do better to grow the church. Examples:

- inter faith activities
- addressing environmental issues
- working with Councils
- working with MPs
- working with local schools
- reaping economies of scale in acquiring things such as energy together.
- safeguarding training

The second meeting was held on **9th September 2021**, and that dealt with Synod rules and elections, since 2021 was General Synod election year. It also dealt with a preview of Deanery training in “Living in love and faith”, an agenda which is about what it means to be human and how to live in love and faith. This was followed by a 5 week course from 21 September to 19 October 2021. In brief, details of the course are as follows:

Section 1 How we learn **together** as followers of Jesus Christ?

Section 2-How does our **identity** in Christ relate to sex and gender?

Section 3-What kind of **relationships** does God call us to?

Section 4 Where do our bodies and **sex** fit in to all this?

Section 5 How do diversity and difference affect our **life together** as a church?

Further information on the “**Living in love and faith**” programme can be found on Church of England website www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith.

The third meeting took place on **29 November 2021** and dealt with an update on synod elections and a review on the “Living in Love and Faith” course. The meeting also considered Eco issues including becoming an Eco-deanery and encouraging churches to sign up to the Eco Church programme. So far, St Paul’s has signed up but has not done very much apart from allowing wildlife growth between the Church and the Hall. We need to organise a Climate Sunday and invite someone to give a talk here on the subject, to give us a further boost to move on and also consider switching to renewable energy.

In addition the meeting considered compassion projects, particularly HMP Wandsworth. The Anglican Chaplain there, Wendy Stevens, shared with us the challenges the prison faces, including mental health issues, bereaved prisoners and working alongside chaplains of other faiths.

Ben Aryeetey

ST PAULS CHURCH FURZEDOWN

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out in the following pages is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the Regulations.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given in chapter 8 of the Regulations. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with the regulations, and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Regulations have not been met.
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

2021 Accounts

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE			
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Ordinary Receipts	2	32,057	50,387
Income from Seely Hall	4	63,235	63,261
Gift Aid		9,226	7,005
Fund Raising / Social Events	5	333	2,031
		104,851	122,684
RESOURCES USED			
Church Expenses	6	19,439	26,798
Seely Hall Expenses	4	9,814	11,131
The Ministry	7	0	113
Charity Giving	3	22,729	21,885
Fund Raising / Social Events	5	300	655
Parish Share Fund		33,000	32,000
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		85,282	92,581
Net incoming / outgoing resources on normal church activities		19,569	30,103
Church Fabric		0	(2,641)
		19,569	27,462
ADDITIONAL INCOMING RESOURCES			
Tooting Area Dean Fund		0	3,108
Foodbank		0	10
Parish Pilgrimage		0	2,005
Furzedown Youth Centre Memorial		30	0
		316	0
		346	5,123
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES USED			
Tooting Area Dean Fund		360	2,132
Foodbank		0	432
Parish Pilgrimage		0	805
		360	3,369
Gain on Investment		7,171	3,850
Net surplus / (deficit)		26,726	33,067

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2021

		2021	2020
		£	£
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank : NatWest Current Account		57,800	50,782
Central Board of Finance Deposit Accounts	1.2	48,308	41,137
Debtors and Prepayments	8	4,534	4,505
Total Current Assets		110,642	96,424
Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	9	400	8,107
Net Current Assets		110,242	88,317
Loan		7,600	12,400
Total Net Assets		102,642	75,917
Total Parish Funds			
Unrestricted		102,642	75,917

ST PAUL'S FURZEDOWN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of Accounting

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income and Expenditure have been accounted for on an accrual basis.

Income Tax recovered on covenants are accounted for in the year received.

1.2 Investments

Investments are stated in the Balance Sheet at Market Value.

The Central Board of Finance of Church of England shares, and the 4% Consolidated Stocks are valued at mid market price on the nearest valuation dated 31st December 2021.

2. Ordinary Receipts

	2021	2020
	£	£
Monthly giving by Bankers Orders	13,200	16,095
Collections at Services	7,682	8,246
Wedding/Funeral/Baptism Fees	1,195	1,122
Donations	365	11,092
Sundry Income (including EDF Refund)	778	532
Grants	7,877	13,300
Contribution for use of Church	960	0
	32,057	50,387

3 Charity giving

	2021	2020
	£	£

3.1 Receipts

Lent Appeal* for Furzedown Youth	0	448
	0	448

3.2 Expenditure

Furzedown Churches	1,200	1,200
Save the Children	2,333	1,307
Mercy Ships	2,333	1,307
Wateraid	2,333	1,307
Furzedown Youth	14,530	16,762
	22,729	21,885

*In accordance with the Charity Commission and Church accounting rules, these items are excluded from the main body of the accounts.

<u>4. Seely Hall</u>	2021	2020
	£	£
INCOME		
Eveline Day Nursery - Basic Rent	52,500	48,969
Gas, Elec, Water	10,285	8,952
Other Lettings	450	5,340
	63,235	63,261
EXPENDITURE		
Heating & Lighting	8,733	8,917
Water Rates	1,141	2,035
Other - Professional Fees	(60)	180
Total Expenditure	9,814	11,131
Surplus for the year	53,421	52,130

5. Fund Raising Activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
INCOME		
Jill Simmons - Calendars	328	173
Jill Simmons - Tomatoes & Chutney	0	109
Coffee Mornings	0	113
Lent collection	0	448
Leaving gift	0	655
Bible Notes	5	60
Harvest gifts	0	342
Christmas Fayre	0	132
	333	2,031

	2021	2020
	£	£
EXPENSES		
Leaving gift	300	655
	300	655

<u>6. Church Expenses</u>	2021	2020
	£	£
Maintenance & Repairs	6,554	4,653
Lighting & Heating	2,216	3,911
Water	72	158
Insurance	3,859	6,945
Choir & Organ Expenses	879	883
Printing & Stationery	434	1,131
Grounds/Memorial Garden	1,200	1,200
General Expenses	959	903
Weddings/Funeral/Baptism Fees	45	727
Professional Fees	510	500
Administrator/Caretaker Costs	1,762	3,727
Cleaning/Cleaner	(25)	375
Rubbish Collection	974	1,685
	19,439	26,798

Church Fabric (includes Boiler/Wall & Asbestos Removal)	0	2,641
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<u>7. The Ministry</u>	2021	2020
	£	£
Training & Education	0	113
Reader	0	0
Alter Costs	0	0
	0	113

<u>8. Debtors</u>	2021	2020
	£	£
Seely Hall - Light/Heat etc	4,534	4,505

<u>9. Creditors</u>	2021	2020
	£	£
HeatingGlobal	0	7,150
Other Creditors	400	957
	400	8,107

CONFIDENTIAL

Report to Trustees of St Pauls Church

St Pauls Furzedown Accounts for 2021

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to examine your annual accounts.

Based on my inspection I can confirm the accounts are sound and accurate. As with last year the new style recording spread sheets, folders of supporting documentation are clear and accurate. The supporting Transaction sheet is also clear and assists in the final checking of the Statement of Financial Activities.

Expenditure

Very clear and accurate detailed accounts

- Direct debit payments have been verified against the bank statement, expenditure spread sheet and the payment plans.
- Cheque books have been verified against statements, and invoices.
- Invoices have been checked against expenditure spreadsheet and statements

General Income

Again very clear and transparent

- Income records checked against bank statements and income spreadsheets
- Paying in books checked against statement and income spreadsheet.
- Income spreadsheet checked against Transaction spreadsheet

Cash income

Again I am impressed by the very clear and accurate accounting, the statements, paying in books and small red exercise income record book confirm the entries in the income ledger and offer a clear picture of cash income. However there were a few occasions when the income from the collection was used to pay a cleaner and no receipt was obtained. In the past a receipt has been attached to the collection breakdown.

Envelope Book

The gift aid continues to record income in a spreadsheet using actual income rather than aggregated income. This is a major improvement from previous years and has resulted in zero discrepancies.

Concerns

There were three blank cheques signed ready for use and although there was only one signature on each they were signed by two of the signatories. Given the very limited use cheques have I would strongly urge that this practice should stop as the it is 3 months since the last cheque was signed and two different sample signatures makes it very open to misuse.

Transaction spreadsheet

The introduction last year of this document has provided absolute clarity with cross-referencing the year end totals onto the Final accounts submission.



Sue Buddery
Independent Examiner of Accounts

22nd March 2022