



**Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council**

**for the year ended
31 December 2024**

Annual Report for 2024

Background

Christ Church Wokingham was founded as a 'church plant' from Barkham Parish Church in September 2004, and was originally called The Church at the White House School. While maintaining strong links with the Arborfield and Barkham family of churches, the Church at the White House became a Conventional District on 10 June 2007, and is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. In April 2013, following the closure of the White House School, the church was renamed Christ Church Wokingham.

The correspondence address of the church is:

Christ Church Wokingham
c/o The Church Office
The Rectory
Church Lane
Arborfield
Berkshire
RG2 9HZ

Purpose

The principal purpose of Christ Church Wokingham is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. To this end, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) seeks to co-operate with the minister and incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC, which was previously excepted from registration with the Charity Commission by Statutory Instrument 180 Charities (Exception from Registration) Regulations 1996, registered as a charity (registration number 1193475) on 10 February 2021.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or are co-opted onto the PCC.

<i>Incumbent</i>	Rev'd Andy Kearns	(Appointed 26 September 2024)
<i>Minister</i>	Rev'd Joel Knight*	Chairman

<i>Church</i>		
<i>Wardens</i>	Martin Northend*	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
	Paul Hucklesby*	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
	Jayne Yeo*	(Appointed APCM 26 April 2023)

<i>Elected</i>	Linda Clements	
<i>Members</i>	Ian Stewart*	Deanery Synod Lay member
	Simon Fawkes	Deanery Synod lay member
	Joyce Dunning	
	Graham Richardson*	Treasurer
	Philippa Allan	
	Paul Hucklesby	

Eva Simmons
Elliot Harding

Secretary Jayne Yeo

Members marked with an asterisk are on Standing Committee.

Julie Wilding is not an elected or co-opted member of the PCC but attends in her capacity of note-taker and secretary.

At 31 December 2024 there were 78 members on the Electoral Roll of the church. This is an increase from 73 members on the Roll at 31st December 2023.

Minister's Review

Activities

We gather each week for public worship, in a local school, for the proclamation of the Christian faith as the Church of England has received it and to serve and encourage one another through prayer, song and fellowship. A large and growing proportion of the church family are involved practically in making this happen. Members setup the space hired each week, welcome people in, serve refreshments, play in the music team or work with youth in one of the three groups for children and teens we run each Sunday. Our hope is that our gatherings might be a focal point to draw others into our corporate 'life together', most publicly visible on a Sunday but continuing in all manner of ways through the week. To enable our 'life together' we run various weekly groups. Two 'men's breakfasts' in a local coffee shop, a daytime meetup for women, two daytime Bible study groups and seven evening groups where members discuss life, the Christian Scriptures and pray together. Within the wider family of churches (St. Bartholomew's Arborfield, St. James' Barkham, Christ Church and Church at the Green) we also run a ministry to the elderly as well as youth work for 11-18s. The church has been pleased to continue links with 1. The Carter family, Andrew, Julie and children, who minister in Thailand. 2. Yeldall Manor, a local Christian drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre. 3. Arab World Ministries. 4. A family who work in theological education in east Asia. We support them through the organisation Crosslinks.

Performance

We continue to see the church grow, in diversity of background religious, ethnic and cultural, and in size. This year we've needed to make adjustments for this growth in size in various ways, especially in the way we setup our space on Sundays. Ongoing integration of those who've arrived in the past 3 years continues and is now seen in various leadership positions. A significant proportion of the church family meet in small groups across the week and the ministry to men has been supplemented by a new 'weekend away' for men which, due to demand, runs twice a year. The monthly prayer meeting has outgrown its space and now makes use of a different room at Norrey's church, who kindly lend us their facilities each month. The arrival of Iain Lingwood to the wider family of churches, who gives some of his time to youth work, has enabled the continuation of Friday Club and Rooted. Alongside Rooted, for 14-18s, there is a fortnightly bible study for boys and the occasional gathering of teenage girls. This past year saw the 20th anniversary of Christ Church and in celebration we had a lunch together as well as the baptisms of five teenagers/ adults on the same day.

Future

Some progress has been made on the regularisation of CCW's position within the Church of England and much has been agreed in principle. Delays have been caused by waiting on legal documents from the Diocese of Oxford. The Church remains hopeful of being a fully self-funded Church of England church. And whatever the future holds we plan to continue our close links with the other ABCH churches in our 'family' of churches.

Joel Knight

Minister

Financial review 2024

Overview

2024 has seen God provide for the church's needs as we seek to serve him in Wokingham. Throughout 2024 the spiritual and administrative running of the church has been led by our minister, Joel Knight. In September 2024 Iain Lingwood was appointed the Minister of Church on The Green, a sister church within the ABCH Trust. As part of his duties Iain took over the joint Youth Activities of the ABCH churches including Friday club and Rooted. CCW reimburses ABCH for one third of the one day per week that Iain devotes to this task, with Barkham and Arborfield Churches contributing a similar amount.

During 2024 expenditure was slightly higher than income but we end the year with comfortable reserves. It was noted that total income dropped off to a certain extent towards the end of the year but not sufficiently to cause concern when the extent of the reserves are considered.

Despite everything that has occurred in 2024, the Church is in good financial health although this cannot be assumed to remain the case without careful planning.

Financial position

The PCC began 2024 with reserves of £47,021, all of which was unrestricted (2023: £45,752). In 2024, the PCC received unrestricted income of £114,746, a small decrease on the previous year (2023: £114,903), while its unrestricted expended resources increased 1% to £116,425 (2023: £113,327). The increase in expenditure on other activities was the result of a significantly increased portion of the ABCH Benefice's Parish share being paid by CCW (£13,624 vs 2023 £3,165). This in turn was caused by the agreed allotment of this expense resulting in a larger sum during the Rector's inter-regnum and the appointment of Iain Lingwood to CTG during September 2024. This expense is expected to return to the projected figure in 2025 now that all positions within the Trust have been stabilised. This increase in Parish Share was partially offset by there being no requirement to pay legal and profession fees in 2024 (2023: £6,775). The net result was that in 2024, the PCC recorded a deficit on its unrestricted funds of £1,679 (2023: £1,269 surplus).

Consequently, at the end of 2024, the PCC's unrestricted reserves have dropped to £45,342.

All restricted funds received in 2024 were spent with the exception of £20 gift to Joel and Frankie Knight which was transferred following the end of the financial year.

Income

Income received by CCW in 2024 has reduced to £114,746 (2023 £114,903) including bank interest. Over 95% of donations to CCW are eligible for gift aid which is reclaimed from HMRC.

Expenditure

Unrestricted General Fund

The PCC continues a tithing policy to give away 10% of its unrestricted voluntary income. In relation to 2024, we gave away £11,629 to a number of missionary and charitable organisations (2023: £11,431). This represents a £349 over donation with respect to 10% tithe, which PCC will be asked to approve in 2025. We have supported many of these mission partners for some years, both financially and in our prayer life.

The Mission Committee advises the PCC on the distribution of these funds.

The main cost of the church is that of supporting the minister, Joel Knight. Members of staff are employed by the Arborfield and Barkham Parish Churches' Trust. Joel was paid the standard Diocesan ministerial stipend. The PCC reimburses the Trust for all staff employment costs including rented accommodation for the Minister. Work-related expenses are directly reimbursed by the PCC. The total cost of Joel's employment was £69,889 (2023: £66,185).

Administration and support costs provided through the Arborfield and Barkham Churches Trust increased significantly to £22,682 (2023: £17,403). The underlying reasons for this increase are twofold:-

- 1) The parish share for 2024 increased from £3,165 in 2023 to £13,624 in 2024. When the decision was taken to start contributing to the Diocese in 2022 it was expected that the 2024 figure would be significantly above the 2023 figure as the payments were tapered to come into effect over a number of years. The projected increase was to £9,284 but the redistribution of parish share between the churches of the ABCH trust during the Rector's interregnum and the subsequent appointment of Iain Lingwood to the position of CTG resulted in the increase reported.
- 2) During 2023 there was a requirement by CCW to engage legal services to address a number of matters and governance issues. These fees amounted to £6,775 in 2023. This was not necessary in 2024 and offset the increase in Parish share payments.

The core running costs of the Church comprise rent paid to St Crispin's school for use of the 6th Form Centre for Sunday worship. In 2024 this increased to £7,586 (2023: £6,139). Expenditure on church activities other than school rent also increased to £3,041 (2023: £1,576) reflecting a full year of hiring Norrey's Church for monthly prayer meetings and an increase in church activities and events.

Church Reserves

At the end of 2024 Church Reserves stood at £45,342. This is a modest decrease from £47,021 at the end of 2023.

In December 2024 the PCC reviewed its policy relating to its Reserves target to ensure it was in line with the Charity Commission's guidance for good financial management and ABCH Trust's policies. In line with this policy the reserves target for 2024 has been set at £32,500.

The Church holds its bank accounts at the Wokingham branch of HSBC.

Independent Examiner

The Accounts are examined by Trevor James as independent examiner in compliance with good practice.

Charity Registration

In accordance with Church of England and Charity Commission requirements, CCW is directly registered with the Charity Commission. This is a legal requirement as our annual income now regularly exceeds the £100,000 annual threshold. The Church is registered as a Charity under the name of "Christ Church Wokingham" with a charity number 1170524. Members of the PCC are trustees but not the Priest in Charge (Andrew Kearns). The Minister is Joel Knight, who acts as the Chairman of the Charity and PCC.

This registration has no noticeable effect on the functioning of CCW which remains part of the Arborfield / Barkham group of Churches and the wider Church of England. The Church accounts and annual return will be submitted to the Charity Commission on approval at the APCM.

Looking forward

2024 has seen consolidation and growth for Christ Church Wokingham, for which we are grateful to God. In financial terms we have continued to meet the overwhelming majority of church costs with only a small deficit. Going forward in 2025 the PCC have agreed to hold a Gift Day with the objective of covering this deficit and additional costs expected in 2025.

There have been continued efforts towards the regularisation of CCW's position within the Church of England. These discussions are ongoing and further details are included in the Minister's report section of this document.

The ongoing health of the Church accounts will remain dependent upon growing the congregation, its donor base and prudent financial management.

We end 2024 reminded that without God we build in vain, but with God anything is possible.

Graham Richardson & Zoe Hubbard
Joint Treasurers

Financial Statements for 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Notes:	3 and 4	5		
Incoming resources				
Voluntary income	111,928	-	111,928	113,391
Investment income	881	-	881	621
Other incoming resources	1,937	-	1,937	891
Staff gifts	-	560	560	-
Total incoming resources	114,746	560	115,306	114,903
Resources expended				
Church activities	(101,203)	-	(101,203)	(110,162)
Other activities	(15,222)	-	(15,222)	(3,165)
Staff gifts	-	(560)	(560)	-
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-	-	(307)
Total resources expended	(116,425)	(560)	(116,985)	(113,634)
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before transfers	(1,679)	(0)	(1,679)	1,269
Net movement in funds	(1,679)	-	(1,679)	1,269
Value of fund at 1 January	47,021	-	47,021	45,752
Value of fund at 31 December	45,342	-	45,342	47,021

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 9)	20,808	-	20,808	22,868
Cash at bank	34,157	20	34,177	45,621
Total current assets	54,965	20	54,985	68,489
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors (Note 10)	(9,491)	(20)	(9,511)	(15,282)
Accruals (Note 11)	(132)	-	(132)	(5,061)
Deferred income	-	-	-	(1,125)
Total creditors	(9,623)	(20)	(9,643)	(21,468)
Net assets / (liabilities)	45,342	0	45,342	47,021
Total funds brought forward	47,021	-	47,021	45,752
Net movement in funds	(1,679)	-	(1,679)	1,269
Total funds carried forward	45,342	-	45,342	47,021

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 30th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:


Joel Knight
Chair of PCC, Minister

Graham Richardson
Co-Treasurer

Zoe Hubbard
Co-Treasurer

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these accounts.

Note 1: Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used by the PCC for ordinary purposes. Restricted funds represent donations received for a specific purpose which may only be used for that purpose.

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis to give a fairer representation of the church's financial position on an on-going basis.

Note 2: Accounting policies**Incoming resources**

Recognition of incoming resources	All planned giving, donations and collections are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when they are received. One-off gifts are generally recognised when they are received, except for gifts of over £1,000 that are received in response to the annual giving appeal which are recognised over the following 12 months. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
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All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Tax reclaims on donations	Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is recognised.
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Resources expended

Recognition of expended resources and liabilities	Expenditure and liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation on the PCC. All other expenditure is recognised when it is incurred.
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All expenditure is accounted for gross.

Assets

Tangible fixed assets	Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.
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Reserves

The PCC aims to keep three months' worth of general running costs in reserves. The PCC is committed to maintaining our reserves at an appropriate level

Note 3: Unrestricted General Fund		2024		2023	
Incoming resources		£	£	£	£
Voluntary income					
Regular donations under gift aid		83,234		80,433	
Other regular donations		6,760		6,700	
Total regular donations		89,994		87,133	
Gift aid reclaimed		20,809		20,108	
Gift aid incorrectly reclaimed				-	
Regular income		110,803		107,241	
One-off donations under gift aid		900		4,920	
Other one-off donations		-		-	
Total one-off donations		900		4,920	
Gift aid reclaimed		225		1,230	
Gift aid incorrectly reclaimed		-		-	
One-off income		1,125		6,150	
Total			111,928		113,391
Investment income					
Interest		881		621	
Total			881		621
Income from church activities					
Parochial fees		-		242	
Wreath event		-		500	
Women's Events		549		-	
Men's Events		1,380		-	
Other events, bookstall etc		8		149	
Total			1,937		891
Other income			-		-
Total incoming resources			114,746		114,903

Note 4: Unrestricted General Fund resources expended on church activities	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Missionary and charitable gifts¹				
Andrew Carter	(2,820)		(1,905)	
Faith	-		(1,905)	
Arab World Ministry of Pioneers	(2,820)		(1,905)	
Powerline Trust	-		(375)	
Yeldall Manor	(2,820)		(1,905)	
Crosslinks	(2,820)		-	
Unallocated ²	-		(3,436)	
Other charitable gifts	(349)		-	
Total		(11,629)		(11,431)
Ministry costs				
Minister's costs				
Salary, National Insurance				
Contributions and pension	(39,901)		(37,060)	
Housing	(29,496)		(28,392)	
Expenses	(492)		(733)	
Total minister's costs	<u>(69,889)</u>		<u>(66,185)</u>	
Youth and Children's worker				
Salary, National Insurance				
Contributions and pension	-		(10,367)	
Expenses	-		-	
Staff Development	-		-	
Total minister's costs	<u>-</u>		<u>(10,367)</u>	
Share of David Horrocks' costs				
Contribution to Barkham PCC ³	-		-	
Staff Team Development	-		(533)	
Total		(69,889)		(77,085)
Church activities				
School rent	(7,586)		(6,139)	
Outreach activities	-		-	
Resources and equipment	(1,960)		(425)	
Service costs	(164)		(159)	
Friday Club / Lasers / Sunday Club	(140)		(92)	
Refreshments	(282)		(128)	
Prayer Meeting	(495)		(201)	
Wreath-making event	-		(530)	
Other	-		(41)	
Total		(10,627)		(7,715)

¹ Standing Committee agreed that monthly payments of £235 would be made to each of Crosslinks, Andrew Carter, AWM and Yeldall. This totalled £2,820 per mission partner in the year, which included a minor 'overspend' based on our mission giving policy. Standing Committee also agreed to contribute £349 for a member of the congregation to participate in a summer camp.

² It was agreed on 24 March 2023 that the £1670 unallocated at 31 December 2022 would be given to John and Mary Featherstone (Powerline Trust) as a retirement gift.

Administration

Share of Arborfield & Barkham church office cost	(7,404)	(5,450)	
Insurance	(386)	(396)	
Legal and professional fees	-	(6,775)	
Other administration costs	(1,208)	(1,179)	
Parochial fees	-	(70)	
Parish Share	(13,624)	(3,165)	
Prior Year Adjustment ⁴	-	(307)	
Bank charges	(60)	(61)	
Total	(22,682)	(17,403)	
Total resources expended	(114,827)	(113,634)	

Note 5: Unrestricted - Men's Events

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Income - contributions				
	1,380		-	
Total	1,380			-
Resources expended				
Expenditure on venue and catering				
	(1,071)		-	
Total	(1,071)			-
Net movement in funds	309			-
Value of fund at 1 January	-			-
Value of fund at 31 December	309			-

⁴ The prior year adjustment relates to writing off an historic gift aid debt asset, which was overstated in the 2020 accounts.

Note 6: Unrestricted: Women's Events	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Income - contributions				
	549		-	
Total		549		-
Resources expended				
Expenditure on venues, catering and speakers	(527)		-	
Total		(527)		-
Net movement in funds		22		-
Value of fund at 1 January		-		-
Value of fund at 31 December		22		-

Note 8: Restricted – Staff gifts	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations towards baby gift for Joel and Frankie	560		-	
Total		560		-
Resources expended				
Gift vouchers purchased	(560)		-	
Total		(560)		-
Net movement in funds		nil		-
Value of fund at 1 January		-		-
Value of fund at 31 December⁵		nil		-

Note 9: Debtors	2024	2023	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
HM Revenue & Customs (gift aid)	20,809	-	20,809	22,868
Total	20,809	-	20,809	22,868

HMRC debt is in respect of tax reclaimable on donations received under gift aid which had not been claimed and received as at 31st December.

⁵ The remaining amount was transferred to Joel and Frankie Knight following the end of the financial year.

Note 10: Creditors and Other Liabilities	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
St Crispin's School rent	(1,400)	-	(1,400)	(895)
Arborfield and Barkham Trust	(5,345)	-	(5,345)	(12,932)
Minister's expenses	(1,604)	-	(1,604)	(764)
Ellen Crewe	-	-	-	(530)
Jayne Yeo	(75)	-	(75)	(48)
Emma Harding	-	-	-	(19)
Norreys Church	(30)	-	(30)	(30)
Helen McSweeny	(41)	-	(41)	(23)
Sue Northend	-	-	-	(41)
Pines Bowerman Trust	(220)	-	(220)	-
DM Music Ltd-	(723)	-	(723)	-
Helen Stewart	(53)	-	(53)	-
Joel and Frankie Knight	-	(20)	(20)	-
Total	(9,491)	(20)	(9,511)	(15,282)

Note 11: Accruals	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Missionary and charitable gifts				
Andrew Carter	-	-	-	(405)
Arab World Ministries	-	-	-	(405)
Faith	(132)	-	(132)	(405)
Crosslinks	-	-	-	-
Yeldall Manor	-	-	-	(405)
Unallocated ⁶	-	-	-	(3,441)
Total	(132)	-	(132)	(5,061)

In 2023 the church changed its previous practice of supporting its mission partners via an annual lump sum payment following the end of the financial year and began supporting its mission partners with a regular monthly payment, to be followed by a balancing payment when the financial year has concluded. In 2024 therefore, each of our four mission partners has received £235 per month, with no balancing payment due.

Following the end of the financial year, it was determined that a further £132 was due to Faith as we had agreed to pay them £275 in 2024 as part of terminating our giving arrangements with them. This was paid on 15 March 2025.

⁶ The difference between £3441 unallocated in accruals and £3436 unallocated in general expenditure under Note 4 is due to carried forward rounding amounts from 2022.

Note 12: Summary of Fund Movements

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total
	General Fund	Total	Total	
	£	£	£	£
At 1 Jan 2024	47,021	47,021	nil	47,021
Income	114,746	114,746	560	115,306
Expenditure	(116,425)	(116,425)	(560)	(116,985)
Carried forward at 31 Dec 2024	45,342	45,342	nil	45,342

Note 13: Summary of Assets by Fund at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total
	General Fund	Total	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Debtors	20,808	20,808	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	34,157	34,157	20	20
Total current assets	54,965	54,965	20	20
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors	(9,491)	(9,491)	(20)	(20)
Accruals	(132)	(132)	-	-
Deferred income	-	-	-	-
Other Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total creditors	(9,623)	(9,623)	(20)	(20)
Net assets / (liabilities)	45,342	45,342	nil	nil

Note 14: Related Party Transactions

Christ Church Wokingham is a registered charity (under Charity Number 1193475) and as such the Trustees are the Elected Members of the PCC and the only related parties. In the year ended 31 December 2024 there were no transactions with related parties other than donations by Elected Members to Christ Church Wokingham and payments to the Arborfield and Barkham Parish Churches' Trust (ABPCT), who employ our Minister and Church Youth Worker and provide central administration functions on behalf of Christ Church Wokingham. From time to time related parties pay for goods and services on behalf of the PCC and are subsequently reimbursed. At 31 December 2024 reimbursement of £75 was due to Jayne Yeo, and reimbursement of £5,345 was due to ABPCT. In addition, a restricted gift of £560 was made to Joel and Frankie Knight in-year from congregational contributions, following the arrival of their baby.



**Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council**

**for the year ended
31 December 2024**

Annual Report for 2024

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Minister's Review

Activities

We gather each week for public worship, in a local school, for the proclamation of the Christian faith as the Church of England has received it and to serve and encourage one another through prayer, song and fellowship. A large and growing proportion of the church family are involved practically in making this happen. Members setup the space hired each week, welcome people in, serve refreshments, play in the music team or work with youth in one of the three groups for children and teens we run each Sunday. Our hope is that our gatherings might be a focal point to draw others into our corporate 'life together', most publicly visible on a Sunday but continuing in all manner of ways through the week. To enable our 'life together' we run various weekly groups. Two 'men's breakfasts' in a local coffee shop, a daytime meetup for women, two daytime Bible study groups and seven evening groups where members discuss life, the Christian Scriptures and pray together. Within the wider family of churches (St. Bartholomew's Arborfield, St. James' Barkham, Christ Church and Church at the Green) we also run a ministry to the elderly as well as youth work for 11-18s. The church has been pleased to continue links with 1. The Carter family, Andrew, Julie and children, who minister in Thailand. 2. Yeldall Manor, a local Christian drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre. 3. Arab World Ministries. 4. A family who work in theological education in east Asia. We support them through the organisation Crosslinks.

Performance

We continue to see the church grow, in diversity of background religious, ethnic and cultural, and in size. This year we've needed to make adjustments for this growth in size in various ways, especially in the way we setup our space on Sundays. Ongoing integration of those who've arrived in the past 3 years continues and is now seen in various leadership positions. A significant proportion of the church family meet in small groups across the week and the ministry to men has been supplemented by a new 'weekend away' for men which, due to demand, runs twice a year. The monthly prayer meeting has outgrown its space and now makes use of a different room at Norrey's church, who kindly lend us their facilities each month. The arrival of Iain Lingwood to the wider family of churches, who gives some of his time to youth work, has enabled the continuation of Friday Club and Rooted. Alongside Rooted, for 14-18s, there is a fortnightly bible study for boys and the occasional gathering of teenage girls. This past year saw the 20th anniversary of Christ Church and in celebration we had a lunch together as well as the baptisms of five teenagers/ adults on the same day.

Future

Some progress has been made on the regularisation of CCW's position within the Church of England and much has been agreed in principle. Delays have been caused by waiting on legal documents from the Diocese of Oxford. The Church remains hopeful of being a fully self-funded Church of England church. And whatever the future holds we plan to continue our close links with the other ABCH churches in our 'family' of churches.

Joel Knight

Minister

Financial review 2024

Overview

2024 has seen God provide for the church's needs as we seek to serve him in Wokingham. Throughout 2024 the spiritual and administrative running of the church has been led by our minister, Joel Knight. In September 2024 Iain Lingwood was appointed the Minister of Church on The Green, a sister church within the ABCH Trust. As part of his duties Iain took over the joint Youth Activities of the ABCH churches including Friday club and Rooted. CCW reimburses ABCH for one third of the one day per week that Iain devotes to this task, with Barkham and Arborfield Churches contributing a similar amount.

During 2024 expenditure was slightly higher than income but we end the year with comfortable reserves. It was noted that total income dropped off to a certain extent towards the end of the year but not sufficiently to cause concern when the extent of the reserves are considered.

Despite everything that has occurred in 2024, the Church is in good financial health although this cannot be assumed to remain the case without careful planning.

Financial position

The PCC began 2024 with reserves of £47,021, all of which was unrestricted (2023: £45,752). In 2024, the PCC received unrestricted income of £114,746, a small decrease on the previous year (2023: £114,903), while its unrestricted expended resources increased 1% to £116,425 (2023: £113,327). The increase in expenditure on other activities was the result of a significantly increased portion of the ABCH Benefice's Parish share being paid by CCW (£13,624 vs 2023 £3,165). This in turn was caused by the agreed allotment of this expense resulting in a larger sum during the Rector's inter-regnum and the appointment of Iain Lingwood to CTG during September 2024. This expense is expected to return to the projected figure in 2025 now that all positions within the Trust have been stabilised. This increase in Parish Share was partially offset by there being no requirement to pay legal and profession fees in 2024 (2023: £6,775). The net result was that in 2024, the PCC recorded a deficit on its unrestricted funds of £1,679 (2023: £1,269 surplus).

Consequently, at the end of 2024, the PCC's unrestricted reserves have dropped to £45,342.

All restricted funds received in 2024 were spent with the exception of £20 gift to Joel and Frankie Knight which was transferred following the end of the financial year.

Income

Income received by CCW in 2024 has reduced to £114,746 (2023 £114,903) including bank interest. Over 95% of donations to CCW are eligible for gift aid which is reclaimed from HMRC.

Expenditure

Unrestricted General Fund

The PCC continues a tithing policy to give away 10% of its unrestricted voluntary income. In relation to 2024, we gave away £11,629 to a number of missionary and charitable organisations (2023: £11,431). This represents a £349 over donation with respect to 10% tithe, which PCC will be asked to approve in 2025. We have supported many of these mission partners for some years, both financially and in our prayer life.

The Mission Committee advises the PCC on the distribution of these funds.

The main cost of the church is that of supporting the minister, Joel Knight. Members of staff are employed by the Arborfield and Barkham Parish Churches' Trust. Joel was paid the standard Diocesan ministerial stipend. The PCC reimburses the Trust for all staff employment costs including rented accommodation for the Minister. Work-related expenses are directly reimbursed by the PCC. The total cost of Joel's employment was £69,889 (2023: £66,185).

Administration and support costs provided through the Arborfield and Barkham Churches Trust increased significantly to £22,682 (2023: £17,403). The underlying reasons for this increase are twofold:-

- 1) The parish share for 2024 increased from £3,165 in 2023 to £13,624 in 2024. When the decision was taken to start contributing to the Diocese in 2022 it was expected that the 2024 figure would be significantly above the 2023 figure as the payments were tapered to come into effect over a number of years. The projected increase was to £9,284 but the redistribution of parish share between the churches of the ABCH trust during the Rector's interregnum and the subsequent appointment of Iain Lingwood to the position of CTG resulted in the increase reported.
- 2) During 2023 there was a requirement by CCW to engage legal services to address a number of matters and governance issues. These fees amounted to £6,775 in 2023. This was not necessary in 2024 and offset the increase in Parish share payments.

The core running costs of the Church comprise rent paid to St Crispin's school for use of the 6th Form Centre for Sunday worship. In 2024 this increased to £7,586 (2023: £6,139). Expenditure on church activities other than school rent also increased to £3,041 (2023: £1,576) reflecting a full year of hiring Norrey's Church for monthly prayer meetings and an increase in church activities and events.

Church Reserves

At the end of 2024 Church Reserves stood at £45,342. This is a modest decrease from £47,021 at the end of 2023.

In December 2024 the PCC reviewed its policy relating to its Reserves target to ensure it was in line with the Charity Commission's guidance for good financial management and ABCH Trust's policies. In line with this policy the reserves target for 2024 has been set at £32,500.

The Church holds its bank accounts at the Wokingham branch of HSBC.

Independent Examiner

The Accounts are examined by Trevor James as independent examiner in compliance with good practice.

Charity Registration

In accordance with Church of England and Charity Commission requirements, CCW is directly registered with the Charity Commission. This is a legal requirement as our annual income now regularly exceeds the £100,000 annual threshold. The Church is registered as a Charity under the name of "Christ Church Wokingham" with a charity number 1170524. Members of the PCC are trustees but not the Priest in Charge (Andrew Kearns). The Minister is Joel Knight, who acts as the Chairman of the Charity and PCC.

This registration has no noticeable effect on the functioning of CCW which remains part of the Arborfield / Barkham group of Churches and the wider Church of England. The Church accounts and annual return will be submitted to the Charity Commission on approval at the APCM.

Looking forward

2024 has seen consolidation and growth for Christ Church Wokingham, for which we are grateful to God. In financial terms we have continued to meet the overwhelming majority of church costs with only a small deficit. Going forward in 2025 the PCC have agreed to hold a Gift Day with the objective of covering this deficit and additional costs expected in 2025.

There have been continued efforts towards the regularisation of CCW's position within the Church of England. These discussions are ongoing and further details are included in the Minister's report section of this document.

The ongoing health of the Church accounts will remain dependent upon growing the congregation, its donor base and prudent financial management.

We end 2024 reminded that without God we build in vain, but with God anything is possible.

Graham Richardson & Zoe Hubbard
Joint Treasurers

Financial Statements for 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Notes:	3 and 4	5		
Incoming resources				
Voluntary income	111,928	-	111,928	113,391
Investment income	881	-	881	621
Other incoming resources	1,937	-	1,937	891
Staff gifts	-	560	560	-
Total incoming resources	114,746	560	115,306	114,903
Resources expended				
Church activities	(101,203)	-	(101,203)	(110,162)
Other activities	(15,222)	-	(15,222)	(3,165)
Staff gifts	-	(560)	(560)	-
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-	-	(307)
Total resources expended	(116,425)	(560)	(116,985)	(113,634)
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before transfers	(1,679)	(0)	(1,679)	1,269
Net movement in funds	(1,679)	-	(1,679)	1,269
Value of fund at 1 January	47,021	-	47,021	45,752
Value of fund at 31 December	45,342	-	45,342	47,021

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2024

	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 9)	20,808	-	20,808	22,868
Cash at bank	34,157	20	34,177	45,621
Total current assets	54,965	20	54,985	68,489
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors (Note 10)	(9,491)	(20)	(9,511)	(15,282)
Accruals (Note 11)	(132)	-	(132)	(5,061)
Deferred income	-	-	-	(1,125)
Total creditors	(9,623)	(20)	(9,643)	(21,468)
Net assets / (liabilities)	45,342	0	45,342	47,021
 Total funds brought forward	 47,021	 -	 47,021	 45,752
Net movement in funds	(1,679)	-	(1,679)	1,269
Total funds carried forward	45,342	-	45,342	47,021

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 30th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Joel Knight
Chair of PCC, MinisterGraham Richardson
Co-TreasurerZoe Hubbard
Co-Treasurer

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these accounts.

Note 1: Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used by the PCC for ordinary purposes. Restricted funds represent donations received for a specific purpose which may only be used for that purpose.

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis to give a fairer representation of the church's financial position on an on-going basis.

Note 2: Accounting policies**Incoming resources**

Recognition of incoming resources	All planned giving, donations and collections are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when they are received. One-off gifts are generally recognised when they are received, except for gifts of over £1,000 that are received in response to the annual giving appeal which are recognised over the following 12 months. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
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All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Tax reclaims on donations	Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is recognised.
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Resources expended

Recognition of expended resources and liabilities	Expenditure and liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation on the PCC. All other expenditure is recognised when it is incurred.
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All expenditure is accounted for gross.

Assets

Tangible fixed assets	Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.
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Reserves

The PCC aims to keep three months' worth of general running costs in reserves. The PCC is committed to maintaining our reserves at an appropriate level

Note 3: Unrestricted General Fund		2024		2023	
Incoming resources		£	£	£	£
Voluntary income					
Regular donations under gift aid		83,234		80,433	
Other regular donations		6,760		6,700	
Total regular donations		89,994		87,133	
Gift aid reclaimed		20,809		20,108	
Gift aid incorrectly reclaimed				-	
Regular income		110,803		107,241	
One-off donations under gift aid		900		4,920	
Other one-off donations		-		-	
Total one-off donations		900		4,920	
Gift aid reclaimed		225		1,230	
Gift aid incorrectly reclaimed		-		-	
One-off income		1,125		6,150	
Total			111,928		113,391
Investment income					
Interest		881		621	
Total			881		621
Income from church activities					
Parochial fees		-		242	
Wreath event		-		500	
Women's Events		549		-	
Men's Events		1,380		-	
Other events, bookstall etc		8		149	
Total			1,937		891
Other income			-		-
Total incoming resources			114,746		114,903

Note 4: Unrestricted General Fund resources expended on church activities	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Missionary and charitable gifts¹				
Andrew Carter	(2,820)		(1,905)	
Faith	-		(1,905)	
Arab World Ministry of Pioneers	(2,820)		(1,905)	
Powerline Trust	-		(375)	
Yeldall Manor	(2,820)		(1,905)	
Crosslinks	(2,820)		-	
Unallocated ²	-		(3,436)	
Other charitable gifts	(349)		-	
Total		(11,629)		(11,431)
Ministry costs				
Minister's costs				
Salary, National Insurance				
Contributions and pension	(39,901)		(37,060)	
Housing	(29,496)		(28,392)	
Expenses	(492)		(733)	
Total minister's costs	<u>(69,889)</u>		<u>(66,185)</u>	
Youth and Children's worker				
Salary, National Insurance				
Contributions and pension	-		(10,367)	
Expenses	-		-	
Staff Development	-		-	
Total minister's costs	<u>-</u>		<u>(10,367)</u>	
Share of David Horrocks' costs				
Contribution to Barkham PCC ³	-		-	
Staff Team Development	-		(533)	
Total		(69,889)		(77,085)
Church activities				
School rent	(7,586)		(6,139)	
Outreach activities	-		-	
Resources and equipment	(1,960)		(425)	
Service costs	(164)		(159)	
Friday Club / Lasers / Sunday Club	(140)		(92)	
Refreshments	(282)		(128)	
Prayer Meeting	(495)		(201)	
Wreath-making event	-		(530)	
Other	-		(41)	
Total		(10,627)		(7,715)

¹ Standing Committee agreed that monthly payments of £235 would be made to each of Crosslinks, Andrew Carter, AWM and Yeldall. This totalled £2,820 per mission partner in the year, which included a minor 'overspend' based on our mission giving policy. Standing Committee also agreed to contribute £349 for a member of the congregation to participate in a summer camp.

² It was agreed on 24 March 2023 that the £1670 unallocated at 31 December 2022 would be given to John and Mary Featherstone (Powerline Trust) as a retirement gift.

Administration

Share of Arborfield & Barkham church office cost	(7,404)	(5,450)	
Insurance	(386)	(396)	
Legal and professional fees	-	(6,775)	
Other administration costs	(1,208)	(1,179)	
Parochial fees	-	(70)	
Parish Share	(13,624)	(3,165)	
Prior Year Adjustment ⁴	-	(307)	
Bank charges	(60)	(61)	
Total	(22,682)	(17,403)	
Total resources expended	(114,827)	(113,634)	

Note 5: Unrestricted - Men's Events

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Income - contributions				
	1,380		-	
Total	1,380			
Resources expended				
Expenditure on venue and catering				
	(1,071)		-	
Total	(1,071)			
Net movement in funds	309			
Value of fund at 1 January	-			
Value of fund at 31 December	309			

⁴ The prior year adjustment relates to writing off an historic gift aid debt asset, which was overstated in the 2020 accounts.

Note 6: Unrestricted: Women's Events	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Income - contributions				
	549		-	
Total		549		-
Resources expended				
Expenditure on venues, catering and speakers	(527)		-	
Total		(527)		-
Net movement in funds		22		-
Value of fund at 1 January		-		-
Value of fund at 31 December		22		-

Note 8: Restricted – Staff gifts	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations towards baby gift for Joel and Frankie	560		-	
Total		560		-
Resources expended				
Gift vouchers purchased	(560)		-	
Total		(560)		-
Net movement in funds		nil		-
Value of fund at 1 January		-		-
Value of fund at 31 December⁵		nil		-

Note 9: Debtors	2024	2023	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
HM Revenue & Customs (gift aid)	20,809	-	20,809	22,868
Total	20,809	-	20,809	22,868

HMRC debt is in respect of tax reclaimable on donations received under gift aid which had not been claimed and received as at 31st December.

⁵ The remaining amount was transferred to Joel and Frankie Knight following the end of the financial year.

Note 10: Creditors and Other Liabilities	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
St Crispin's School rent	(1,400)	-	(1,400)	(895)
Arborfield and Barkham Trust	(5,345)	-	(5,345)	(12,932)
Minister's expenses	(1,604)	-	(1,604)	(764)
Ellen Crewe	-	-	-	(530)
Jayne Yeo	(75)	-	(75)	(48)
Emma Harding	-	-	-	(19)
Norreys Church	(30)	-	(30)	(30)
Helen McSweeny	(41)	-	(41)	(23)
Sue Northend	-	-	-	(41)
Pines Bowerman Trust	(220)	-	(220)	-
DM Music Ltd-	(723)	-	(723)	-
Helen Stewart	(53)	-	(53)	-
Joel and Frankie Knight	-	(20)	(20)	-
Total	(9,491)	(20)	(9,511)	(15,282)

Note 11: Accruals	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Missionary and charitable gifts				
Andrew Carter	-	-	-	(405)
Arab World Ministries	-	-	-	(405)
Faith	(132)	-	(132)	(405)
Crosslinks	-	-	-	-
Yeldall Manor	-	-	-	(405)
Unallocated ⁶	-	-	-	(3,441)
Total	(132)	-	(132)	(5,061)

In 2023 the church changed its previous practice of supporting its mission partners via an annual lump sum payment following the end of the financial year and began supporting its mission partners with a regular monthly payment, to be followed by a balancing payment when the financial year has concluded. In 2024 therefore, each of our four mission partners has received £235 per month, with no balancing payment due.

Following the end of the financial year, it was determined that a further £132 was due to Faith as we had agreed to pay them £275 in 2024 as part of terminating our giving arrangements with them. This was paid on 15 March 2025.

⁶ The difference between £3441 unallocated in accruals and £3436 unallocated in general expenditure under Note 4 is due to carried forward rounding amounts from 2022.

Note 12: Summary of Fund Movements

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total
	General Fund	Total	Total	
	£	£	£	£
At 1 Jan 2024	47,021	47,021	nil	47,021
Income	114,746	114,746	560	115,306
Expenditure	(116,425)	(116,425)	(560)	(116,985)
Carried forward at 31 Dec 2024	45,342	45,342	nil	45,342

Note 13: Summary of Assets by Fund at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total
	General Fund	Total	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Debtors	20,808	20,808	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	34,157	34,157	20	20
Total current assets	54,965	54,965	20	20
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors	(9,491)	(9,491)	(20)	(20)
Accruals	(132)	(132)	-	-
Deferred income	-	-	-	-
Other Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total creditors	(9,623)	(9,623)	(20)	(20)
Net assets / (liabilities)	45,342	45,342	nil	nil

Note 14: Related Party Transactions

Christ Church Wokingham is a registered charity (under Charity Number 1193475) and as such the Trustees are the Elected Members of the PCC and the only related parties. In the year ended 31 December 2024 there were no transactions with related parties other than donations by Elected Members to Christ Church Wokingham and payments to the Arborfield and Barkham Parish Churches' Trust (ABPCT), who employ our Minister and Church Youth Worker and provide central administration functions on behalf of Christ Church Wokingham. From time to time related parties pay for goods and services on behalf of the PCC and are subsequently reimbursed. At 31 December 2024 reimbursement of £75 was due to Jayne Yeo, and reimbursement of £5,345 was due to ABPCT. In addition, a restricted gift of £560 was made to Joel and Frankie Knight in-year from congregational contributions, following the arrival of their baby.

Trevor James FCA DChA FCIE

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26 April 2025

The Members of the PCC
Christ Church Wokingham
Arborfield and Barkham Church Office
The Rectory
Church Lane
Arborfield
Berkshire
RG2 9HZ

Dear PCC Members

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

I have completed my independent examination of your financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

I am pleased to report I have found no matters which give me any reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 has not been met and therefore I am able to provide my signed independent examination report.

After your report and financial statements have been signed please send a signed copy to me for my records.

Yet again I would like to commend the high quality of the records maintained by Zoe Hubbard and Graham Richardson. You are fortunate to have their services.

Yours sincerely

Trevor James

Trevor James