

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

St John the Baptist Church, Boldre

St Nicholas Chapel, Pilley

Boldre Parochial Church Council
Register Charity number: 1200694

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

This document is prepared by the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Boldre.

Vicar and Advisers:

Vicar: Reverend Simon Newham
Team Vicar, Assistant Priest: Reverend Terence Handley Macmath
Registered Charity No.: 1200694
Bankers: Lloyds Bank Plc, 39 High St, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9ZF
The CBF Church of England Funds (CCLA Investment Management Limited), One Angel Lane, London EC4R 3AB
Independent Examiner: Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE, 29 Draft Road, Selsey, Chichester, W Sussex, PO20 0PW

The parish church of St John the Baptist Boldre is situated at the north end of Church Lane, Boldre SO41 5PG. It is part of the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England. The PCC was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 17th October 2022. Its registered name is 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Boldre', hereafter referred to as 'Boldre PCC'.

The following have served on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during the period from 1st January 2024 until the date this report was approved unless otherwise indicated. Additionally, all PCC members have served as a Trustee of the registered charity:

Chairperson: Reverend Terence Handley MacMath
Churchwardens: Christopher Knox
Treasurer: Richard Tolkien
Secretary: Frank Price
Members as of 1st April 2025: Christopher Butler
Graham Edmiston
Ruth Liley
Richard Pickance
Annie Hardy-Gillingham (resigned 30th March 2025)
Mary Jeans (resigned 30th March 2025)
Christopher Knox
Richard Tolkien

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and is registered with the Charity Commission.

The day-to-day management of the PCC is vested in the Team Vicar (the PCC Chairperson) with support from the Churchwardens. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At the current size of its Electoral Roll, St John's may have up to twelve elected members of the PCC, with four members being elected annually for a term of three years, and four retiring every year. There is no limit to the number of consecutive three-year terms a PCC member may serve. In addition, there up to three members of the Deanery Synod who are elected for a three-year term and, if not already elected members of the PCC, automatically become so ex-officio. Deanery Synod representatives may serve two consecutive terms of office before being required to stand down for one full term. All clergy licensed to the parish are ex-officio members of the PCC. Members can be co-opted to the PCC for purposes as set out in the Church Representation Rules (none at present). Co-option is for one year only but may be renewed as necessary annually. There are up to two Churchwardens, elected annually for a maximum of six consecutive terms. They must then stand down for two years before being eligible to stand again as Churchwardens.

The Standing Committee, agreed by the PCC, is the Vicar, two Churchwardens, The Secretary, the Treasurer, and Mt Graham Edmiston. It meets between PCC meetings. The Standing Committee considers some of the items that will be brought to the PCC in much more detail and deals with matters that arise between meetings. It makes urgent decisions as needed. It scrutinises the minutes of the PCC and helps to set the agenda. The Standing Committee reports back to each full meeting of the PCC.

VICAR'S REPORT

What a busy year it has been with the fetes and fayres, play readings and concerts, HMS Hood and William Gilpin commemorations and all the baptisms, funerals, weddings and other services!

All this doesn't happen by accident – there are so many of you that contribute to the life of St John's and St Nicholas' in so many different and wonderful ways, but there are a few I would like to particularly thank.

Your PCC are a joy to work with - and represent you well – thank you!

Your warden - Chris – is hardworking, wise, and generous in his care of us.

Timothy – thank you for the music! You are always a delight to work with.

Mel continues to use her considerable gifts in William Gilpin Primary School, building links with both children and parents and seeking to raise the profile of our faith in their daily life.

Thank you to the team that ran the Christianity Explored course – we look forward to seeing how that impacts more widely on the community beyond the church.

Thank you to the BCT – with whom I've worked more closely this year – and especially for the success of the Organ Appeal.

Our admin teams (Emily has fitted in so well) continue to work more closely together in support of one another and we also continue to do wedding and baptism preparation together – receiving very positive feedback from those who take part.

Thank you especially to Terence and her creative thinking that has helped and challenged us to explore reaching out beyond our church walls to the wider community; for the re-introduction of a healing ministry; and for her care of those who are most vulnerable.

As well as the joy of working together, this last year has also had its moments of sadness – particularly with regards to the death of Tony a faithful and wise friend to many of us. Sally also

stepped down from being Churchwarden and Parish Administrator after several years of faithful and generous service.

It's been another full and busy year – thank you to all of you who have helped make it so – I'm very much looking forward to the coming year....

Revd Simon Newham

WORSHIP REPORT

St Nicholas's Chapel

Regular services at St Nicholas's chapel continue, providing BCP Holy Communion on Sundays at 8am and a midweek (Wednesday mornings) Common Worship Holy Communion for the whole benefice. Simon Newham celebrates on each 2nd Sunday, and a valued team of retired clergy (Felicity Boot, Richard Elliott, Gordon Wynne and Iain Morrison) celebrate on Wednesdays. Stephen Bennett also celebrates on Sundays, particularly in Terence's absence. The chapel is also now advertised as open to all for silent prayer when Emily is in the office. Excitingly, the chapel has been used for the interdenominational *Christianity Explored* course, and will be used on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, and on Easter Eve, for interdenominational meditation and intercession using the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity resources, and the Easter Ceremonies on Easter Eve.

St John's, Boldre

Worship continues in its accustomed pattern:

1st and 3rd Sundays: Choral Matins

4th Sundays: Choral Evensong

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays: Eucharist

The usual 'specials' have taken place last year – the Africa service, Hood service, the Crib Service, the service in which we celebrate our link with St Philip's, Sydney (at which we were blessed by a visit by Di Strathdee), 'Married at Boldre', the blessing of animals in October, Remembrance Sunday – and we were delighted that Fleur (and Jill Bulkley) were able and willing to join us on Christmas Eve and Palm Sunday. All Souls' (Remembrance) and Advent services took place at St Mary's this year.

The unrepeatable highlight of 2024 was the William Gilpin tri-centenary Matins on 2nd June, with one of his sermons read by Chris Knox (wearing 18th century preaching bands) and accompanied by the Milford West Gallery Quire and the church choir, conducted by Timothy Rice.

More chalice assistants have been recruited, and Sandy Walford has recruited and organized the provision of intercessors, readers, welcomers and now chalice assistants very efficiently.

Chris Knox preaches on 1st Sundays, and we have had a visit from Michael Hampel, the Sub Dean of Durham Cathedral this year to preach about Shakespeare after our reading of *Twelfth Night* in January, as well as the usual naval chaplain's sermon for the HMS Hood Memorial Service last year. We are grateful to the retired clergy who worship with us, and those who lead services from time to time. Simon Newham preaches and presides on the 2nd Sunday of each month, and leads Evensong on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Bells are rung before services on Sundays and weddings, and are hugely appreciated. Thanks to Carol Edge and her team for providing this very important part of the worship. Our newest recruit is a young home-educated lad who has been apprenticed to Carol.

Extremely important to our worship are the people who provide coffee etc. after the services. Our liturgy and preaching proclaim the love and acceptance of God to all, and the refreshments afterwards incarnate it.

Thanks, too, to the Director of Music, Timothy Rice, and the choir for their invaluable leading of worship. This year, the congregation has (re)learned the *Benedicite*, for which Timothy Rice has composed a new setting, and he has also composed a new hymn tune, while the choir has also sung his Responses and his other works in their repertoire. We're sad to have lost James from the choir,

but we've gained Liz, Marilyn and Axum, and are very glad to have singers from Hordle at Evensong. Terence is grateful to Timothy for his willingness to try to accommodate repertoire she brings from different traditions. People have appreciated hearing more plainchant, for example. We are committed, as a church, to creating a culture of welcome, and using our excellent musical tradition and resources to bring in different musicians, and create events which are both worshipful but will also appeal to our concert audiences.

Concert audiences are important to us: they bring fresh air, finance, and new connections, and form part of our centripetal mission. Timothy has been leading on this, supported by Terence, and very generously supported by the congregation as we have all had to raise money for urgent repairs to the organ this year – and that effort continues. Last year's concert series included a very good mix of sacred and secular music and school and community choirs. For example, we welcomed back the Milford West Gallery Quire to celebrate Epiphany with us, with a mixture of sacred and secular seasonal music.

There have been some surprises: Ascension Day has not been celebrated at St John's, anointing for healing not offered in the past ten years, and it came as news to some that the Church of England has allowed children (and adults) to receive Holy Communion before Confirmation now for three decades. Ascension Day was celebrated with an early morning said service last year, and will be celebrated this year in the evening with a scratch choir singing a rarely-performed mass by Fauré and Messager. After a series of sermons on the sacrament of healing (now available on the website and in hard copy in church) prayers for healing with laying on of hands and anointing were offered at the Eucharist on 23rd March 2025, and this sacrament should be offered reasonably regularly in future.

We still have no clear strategy for integrating children in worship, but there is a PCC discussion paper available for those who would be interested to read about different approaches. We are grateful to David Woodgates for starting and nurturing a choir at William Gilpin School, hoping that this will be an important bridge for children and their parents and siblings to Matins services especially, and look forward to receiving them when they have reached a suitable standard. For the time being, Terence has been asked not to involve children again in Eucharistic consecration. The PCC has suggested that St John's might be able to form a team to prepare Family Services, but it is not clear yet who might do this, and for whom, and when these services might take place.

We are pleased to welcome William Gilpin School to services at each end of term.

This year's crib service, with tall puppets made by Liz Roberts (from Swanage) was hugely appreciated by adults and children. Liz has also produced an annotated and illustrated version of Matins for children to follow.

St John's is still a favoured church for weddings, so we benefit from the presence of the young couples, most of whom are required to attend at least six services in order to fulfil the legal requirements for being married here by banns. They vary in their enjoyment, but some of them seem very attracted to our worship, and we are embarrassed by requests by many wedding couples who wish to have their children baptized here, despite the Church discipline that children should be baptized in their home church.

Some of our future hopes for worship are mentioned above, but we also look forward to celebrating St Philip's, Sydney's 2025 Richard Johnson's annual anniversary service on 4th May, using their service booklet. We will welcome this year's funeral families to the Parish Requiem (with Fauré's setting) on 1st November, and invite people to provide lilies *in memoriam* then, since we have wedding flowers for the two weddings in Holy Week this year.

Revd Terence Handley MacMath

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

It has been another very busy year at St John's. Our regular services have been well supported, thanks to our local and loyal church members. These services, and much else, would not happen without an army of volunteers, many working behind the scenes and often unsung. A heartfelt thanks to them all.

As in previous years, we held many baptisms, weddings and funerals, including a number of ashes interments. It is somewhat surprising to note the relatively large number of burials; there were far more of these than there were of ashes interments. Burial space in the churchyard is being rapidly used up; we are looking at ways to extend the land available. Statistics are at the bottom of this report.

As usual, we have held a number of special services in 2024; Australia Day, the Blessing of the Animals, the Hood Service and Remembrance Sunday were all very well-attended. A highlight was a Georgian Matins to celebrate the Tercentenary of the birth of William Gilpin. One of his excellent published sermons was read; the content resonated down the centuries. We also mounted an exhibition in the church to complement those at the Memorial Hall and the School.

The Crib Service, held on Christmas Eve, was packed, with all ages represented. We were treated to a fine drama celebrating Christmas, with many children taking part, all dressed in appropriate costumes. Animals, not least Fleur the Donkey, also took part and there were some wonderful visual spectacles to illustrate the Nativity Story.

After Christmas, we launched an appeal to finance essential repairs and refitting of the organ; this was done in tandem with the Boldre Church Trust. The estimate cost is £40,000, including VAT. The response has been magnificent, so huge thanks to all who have donated so generously.

Music, reported on elsewhere, has continued to play a central role at St John's, both during services and at special concerts and recitals. We are blessed with a superb organist and Director of Music and a very fine choir.

Not surprisingly, with an historic church, we have had to spend some money on capital projects. The lighting has been replaced and is now dimmable in all areas. Also, vital repairs to the fabric have been carried out, notably to the West Wall. We are grateful to the Boldre Church Trust for their financial support for these projects.

All in all, we have had another very good year, received many blessings and have much to thank God for.

STATISTICS

Average Attendance at Regular Services: 48

Baptisms: 11

Weddings: 7

Funerals – Burials: 12

Ashes Interments: 7

Thanksgiving Services: 2

While the Electoral Roll is usually revised annually, this year was the year in which we had to prepare a new Electoral Roll, so everyone had to come off and re-apply. St John's received a total of 88 applications for our new Electoral Roll, 50 of which are non-parish members, and 38 of which live within the parish.

Christopher Knox.
Churchwarden.

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING TEAM

Our principal fundraising event, the summer fete, was a little disappointing, raising about £7,334. This figure was enhanced by an Autumn Fair, which despite lots of competition for people's attention on the day, raised £1,630.

Raising funds for the church is still a necessary occupation. Many people from the wider community were involved in both events, especially the summer fete. Sadly in 2024, the fete clashed with Walhampton School speech day, which reduced numbers slightly. This year we plan to improve our

poster and banner advertising and to produce raffle tickets earlier. We are always very grateful to William Gilpin school for their help and loan of equipment.

We are also pleased that Boldre Produce Fair has had a stall at the fete for two years running, which has helped them with publicity for their fair, usually the week after the fete.

The 2025 summer fete will be on 5th July – clear your diaries!

The gap left by the disbanding of St Nicholas Singers has been filled by Director of Music, Timothy Rice, who has given several popular concerts and organ recitals during the year and which have helped raise funds as well as draw non-churchgoers into St John's.

In other fundraising musical events, Walhampton School brought their chapel choir for a concert in the summer; Eleanor Robinson brought her Queen Bees women's close-harmony for a in December, and they also sang at a fundraising concert with our local Cantaras Ladies' Choir in July.

The Milford West Gallery Quire accompanied our William Gilpin service on 2 June and performed seasonal music at the Epiphany pilgrimage as well as their wind quintet providing two evenings of carols at the Filly Inn, with our own choir accompanied by Cynthia Wilson.

Carole Morris organised a successful harvest supper in September, which raised £380.50 and a benefice quiz was held in November (which raised £392) with tables of eight from St John's and St Mary's with David Woodgates as quizmaster.

Play readings introduced by Terence, have been a popular event since January 2024. Around a dozen people have attended each play reading at the Filly Inn and Walhampton school library and A Midsummer's Night's Dream in the vicarage garden. Plays have included: Twelfth Night, A Winter's Tale, The Zeal of thy House, Lady Windermere's Fan, Arcadia, Dangerous Corner and Murder in the Cathedral.

Ruth Liley, Graham Edmiston, Terence Handley MacMath

COMMS TEAM REPORT

Good channels of communication are essential for good relationships and mission. Keeping these flowing are everyone's responsibility, and we're grateful to the PCC secretaries for their work, and to Emily-May in the office. The wardens and Welcomers are very important channels, as are the formal media we have, and all the people who volunteer to distribute *The Bridge* and Christmas and Easter maildrops.

Thank you to everyone who helps with all these.

Progress over the past year:

- 1) There was an excellent Communications Survey conducted by Geoffrey Breeze.
- 2) We now offer St Mary's friends the opportunity to receive the weekly pew sheet;
- 3) Emily-May now sends these out by email on Fridays;
- 4) THM compiles the pew sheets, which are now benefice-wide and also include selected information from Brockenhurst and the diocese. These are proof-read by the team involved for the Sunday in question;
- 5) Emily-May is producing the notices for all the notice-boards and keeping the village and chapel boards up to date.
- 6) Posters for the two churches are sent in the white boxes (along with the Sunday sheets) for Welcomers to put up.
- 7) Nick and Pat have refreshed the interior and porch noticeboards at St Mary's, and Nick has organized repairs and maintenance for the exterior notice boards.

- 8) The offer of text messaging for parishioners in an emergency was popular, but this has still not yet been set up.
- 9) A broadband/phone/wifi connection for St Mary's Church has been more difficult to install than anyone could have imagined. It is also a work in progress.
- 10) Don has recently made quite a few improvements to a website already praised by the diocesan comms advisors;
- 11) Jill has created and maintained an excellent Facebook page which is linked in with many local community pages. Terence has revived the St John's Facebook page with these new connections.
- 12) Emily-May has volunteered to set up an Instagram account for the benefice;
- 13) Pat has taken responsibility for PR to local papers on behalf of the benefice;
- 14) Simon found and collected a set of display boards for St John's;
- 15) We are trying to co-ordinate our efforts better. The specific and current Comms Team (David, Emily, Don, Pat, THM, Jill) met in October, and will meet again to review progress in the summer.

A) Concerts, events, fundraising events, etc.

vicar and PCCs →

Back to the responsible event organizer who may then design (or ask for help designing) publicity and submit it to any of these: →

The Bridge (David Woodgates)
 Facebook (Emily-May, THM and Jill Edge)
 Pew sheet (THM and Emily-May)
 Weekly email subscribers
 Website (Don O'Connor)
 Local papers
 Noticeboards

And Graham Edmiston for help with roadside publicity if wished.

Copy dates for newspapers, pew sheets and weekly email: 9am Wednesdays

Copy dates for The Bridge

14th January for February, **Candlemas, Lent**
 14th February for March, **Lent, Mothering Sunday, Easter**
 14th March for April, **Easter**
 14th April for May, **Ascension, Hood service, St Mary's Fête, Married in Boldre**
 14th May for June, **Married in Boldre, St John's Fête, St Mary's Blessing of Animals**
 14th June for July and August, **St John's Fête and events in early September, Harvest**
 14th August for September, **Harvest, St John's Blessing of Animals, Autumn Fair**
 14th September for October, **Autumn Fair, Harvest, Parish requiem, Remembrance**
 14th October for November, **Remembrance, Advent**
 14th November for December and January, **Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent courses**

Dedicated mission and outreach fliers and maildrops copy dates for 2024:

2nd January **Seven schools' emails (Terence)**
 Beginning of summer term **Seven schools' emails (Terence)**
 May and June **General church publicity fliers for fêtes (Leo & Ruth)**
 1st September **Seven schools emails (Terence)**
 Early September **General church publicity fliers for Autumn term/services (Terence)**
 Late November **Advent * Christmas * Epiphany fliers (Terence)**
 Parish Christmas maildrop for Pilley (Terence, for Carole Morris)
 Christmas fliers for St Mary's (Pat)

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the members of	Boldre Parochial Church Council		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2024	Charity No.	1200694
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The Parochial Church Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention. 		
Independent examiner's statement	<p>I have completed my examination. In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; <p>have not been met. I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts reached.</p>		
I have completed my examination highlighted.	I confirm that no matters have come to my attention that needs to be		
Signed: Brenda Peers-Ross		Date:	20 th May 2025
Name: Brenda Peers-Ross	Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE		

Accounting Policies

a) Financial Statements

The Financial Statements have been prepared under:

- a. The Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, together with applicable accounting standards

and the Statement of Recommended Practice, accounting and reporting by Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102 Section 1A), and

- b. The historical cost convention except for investment assets which are shown at market value. They include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.
- c.

b) Funds

Unrestricted Funds represent those that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and which are available for the general purposes of the PCC. Restricted Funds represent those that are subject to restrictions regarding their use and which may only be applied for specific purposes.

c) Income

Planned Giving/Gift Aid whether under the PGS or by standing order, other than collections at services, is accounted for in the Gift Aid account on behalf of the PCC from which it is transferred to the current account each quarter when it is recorded in that account. Income tax recoverable is also accounted for in the Gift Aid account on behalf of the PCC and transferred to the current account each quarter. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC receives the money into its account. The Bridge magazine is accounted for because of the surplus received less a deduction of 27.5% paid to South Baddesley PCC in regard of their circulation. Income from fetes, etc. is accounted for after deduction of the outgoings. Dividends and interest are accounted for when received. The split of income between the Restricted and Unrestricted Funds is recorded per the wishes of the donors and the requirements of the trusts administered by the Winchester Diocese.

d) Designated Collections

During the year designated collections on behalf of HMS Hood and The Royal British Legion were possible. No funds were retained by the PCC. The receipts and payments of all designated collections are not reported in the PCC accounts in line with Church Accounting Regulations.

e) Expenditure

Grants and donations are recognised when paid. The parish share of the Diocesan Quota is accounted for when paid. In 2024 £45,000 in Diocesan Quota was paid, in line with the amount advised to the Diocese of Winchester.

f) Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts by section 10(2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church fittings are also excluded from the accounts. All expenditure incurred during the year on these fixed assets is charged to expenditure. Investments are stated at market value as at 31 December 2024.

g) Trustees' expenses and related party transactions

None of the Trustees were paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the PCC. During the year, there have been no related third-party transactions that require disclosure (2023: £0)

h) Staff Costs

Payroll and music expenses paid £ 9,394

The average number of staff throughout the year was 2 (Benefice Secretary and Director of Music). A contribution was made to the costs of the Children & Family worker employed by St Saviour's, Brockenhurst

i) Costs of Independent Examination and other Financial Services

The independent examination of the 2024 accounts has been provided for at a fee of £750 (2023 £1,000).

j) Charity Commission's Public Benefit Guidance

The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance and have taken it into account when making decisions to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Review Year Ended 31 December 2024

Total income was £138,229 (2023 £133,712) of which £80,794 (2023 £86,210) was from PGS donations, collections, one off and other regular donations and green envelopes, including from Gift Aid recoverable tax. Benefice Fee income was £16,975 (2023 net £10,281). The Annual Summer Fete raised £10,875 (2023 £8,999). Dividend income and interest earned amounted to £6,659 (2023 £6,924). An exceptional grant of £18,764 (2023 £10,000) was received from the Boldre Church Trust, to help meet the costs of repair work to the west wall and roof of St John's.

We would like to encourage parishioners to support St John's wherever possible through the Parish Giving Scheme, leaflets for which are at the entry to the Church and details online on the website. The associated Gift Aid recoverable tax increases the value of donations received by 25%; the administration is provided centrally at no cost to St John's.

Total expenditure was £162,849 compared with £164,663 in 2023.

Therefore, a loss during 2024 of £ 24,620 was incurred, taking account of total expenditure and total income.

There was an unrealised gain on unrestricted investments of £5,055.

Investment Reserves

The value of our net assets reduced to £245,777, of which £15,840, was restricted reserves held in fixed income investments.

Restricted reserves are retained towards the upkeep of the fabric of the church and the graveyard, in accordance with the PCC definition of Fabric and the terms of the under-lying legacy, given that legacies constitute the primary source of these reserves.

Financial and Reserves Policy

It has been agreed that the PCC should follow a policy of seeking at least to break even year by year, to seek to meet as fully as is prudent its requested Diocesan Contribution and to build up reserves to provide longer term financial stability, thus enabling St John's, Boldre to continue active worship long-term. Its annual budget before any exceptional items is set on this basis.

In addition, it is the policy of the PCC to seek to hold readily realisable reserves the equivalent of six months budgeted normal expenditure, including gross salaries and honoraria, and the Diocesan levy as approved by the PCC, which for 2025 is £45,000. This will be reviewed during the year in the light of actual financial performance. It is our policy to hold £1,000 to cover grants received annually the continuation of which cannot be guaranteed, plus £6,000 in a mission reserve to enable us to meet our mission commitments irrespective of amounts identified in any year's budget. It is also our policy to hold an amount for likely non-fabric repair and maintenance expenses including the churchyard.

In 2021 we received the independently prepared Quinquennial Inspection report detailing the condition of the church, which is Grade 2 listed. All the recommended works set out in the report have now been completed.

A new quinquennial inspection is due to take place during 2025.

We are committed to fund a Children and Families' Worker and associated expenses in the amount of up to £9,000 per year for three years from 2023 This is part of a joint project with the Churches at Brockenhurst and South Baddesley. The cost of this post is now taken as a normal item in the budget.

We will be seeking grants including from the Boldre Church Trust to cover exceptional costs incurred in relation to any work required under the 2025 Quinquennial Review.

Free reserves (including restricted items amounting to £15,377)) based on these policies and provisions, the break-even budget adopted for 2025 (with income and expenditure of £117,000) and

the outcome of the forthcoming review are likely to be substantially less than our net assets as at 31 December 2024. This reserve is reviewed annually as part of the budgetary process. The PCC also considers it prudent to seek over time to build up longer term reserves with the aim of securing worship at St John's for the foreseeable future. To this end, in 2019 a Stewardship Campaign was launched to increase planned giving, including legacies. Good progress was made initially, increasing the number of donors under the PGS, though this has now flattened. Parishioners have been affected by the Covid pandemic and more recently the cost- of- living crisis and continuing poor economic conditions. Additional available resources should they be generated will be used to increase long term reserves and provide funds for additional mission work. Our investment policy is to invest short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Securities Fund- Income Shares, and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund-Income Shares, which attracts a better long- term return.

SAFEGUARDING

ST JOHN'S, BOLDRE

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

In the year, 8 DBS have come up for renewal. Seven have renewed successfully and there is one in hand.

2 new members of the PCC completed their Basic Awareness training

Safeguarding training is in hand for Church Welcomers.

Safeguarding is a Standing Item on every PCC agenda.

No safeguarding issues have been raised this year.

A Dashboard introduced by the diocese in 2022 is working well and is a useful tool in maintaining an up to date overview of safeguarding performance throughout the year against the Diocesan Safeguarding template.

Those who are kind enough to volunteer for roles within the church are asked to complete some simple safeguarding training. They are also requested to apply for a DBS certificate, which can be done online. The first stage is for the Benefice Administrator to provide the volunteer with the basic information to enable the volunteer to start the application process. The second stage is for the identity documents used by the volunteer to be verified by the PSO, usually by a quick meeting in the Benefice Office.

Your PSO is constantly reminded of the importance of safeguarding. It is stressed to him that everyone should know what to do if they have a safeguarding concern of any kind. That concern should be shared in the first instance with the PSO on safeguarding@boldrechurch.com who will escalate it to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA). If the concern is an emergency or there is a risk of immediate harm, the police must be alerted as well as Social Services. A report will then need to be written and emailed to the DSA who will manage the response.

Nicholas Walford

This report was approved by the Boldre Parochial Church Council and Terence Handley-MacMath and signed on their behalf.

Terence Handley MacMath

W. M. M. M.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BOLDRE

(Registered Charity Number: 1200694)

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Restated Unrestricted 2023 £	Restated Restricted 2023 £	Restated Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1a	99,558	-	99,558	96,210	-	96,210
Church activities	1b	16,975	-	16,975	10,821	-	10,821
Events	1c	15,037	-	15,037	19,757	-	19,757
Investments	1d	6,659	-	6,659	6,924	-	6,924
Total Income		138,229	-	138,229	133,712	-	133,712
Expenditure on:							
Grants and missionary	2a	2,500	-	2,500	2,695	-	2,695
Activities - Church Ministry	2b	69,568	-	69,568	76,875	-	76,875
Church maintenance	2c	51,306	-	51,306	51,858	-	51,858
Organist's salary, music exp.	2d	5,798	-	5,798	5,297	-	5,297
Church maintenance, admin.	2e	33,576	-	33,576	27,938	-	27,938
Loss on investments sold		-	101	101	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		162,748	101	162,849	164,663	-	164,663
Net income/(expenditure)		(24,519)	(101)	(24,620)	(30,951)	-	(30,951)
Transfer between funds		21,317	(21,317)	-	(20)	20	-
Net Movement in funds		(3,202)	(21,418)	(24,620)	(30,971)	20	(30,951)
Unrealised gains/(losses)		4,592	463	5,055	16,978	1,926	18,904
Total funds brought forward		228,547	36,795	265,342	242,540	34,849	277,389
Total funds carried forward		229,937	15,840	245,777	228,547	36,795	265,342

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.
Activities shown above.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BOLDRE


(Registered Charity Number: 1200694)

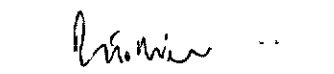
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Restated Unrestricted 2023 £	Restated Restricted 2023 £	Restated Total 2023 £
Investments	3	205,200	15,840	221,040	200,608	36,795	237,403
Current Assets							
Debtors	4	4,375	-	4,375	4,903	-	4,903
Funds held by CVS		-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		25,882	-	25,882	28,513	-	28,513
		30,257	-	30,257	33,416	-	33,416
Creditors	5						
Amounts falling due within one year		(5,520)	-	(5,520)	(5,477)	-	(5,477)
		(5,520)	-	(5,520)	(5,477)	-	(5,477)
Net Current Assets		24,737	-	24,737	27,939	-	27,939
Net assets/(liabilities)		229,937	15,840	245,777	228,547	36,795	265,342
Charity Funds		Unrestricted i	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Unrestricted funds	6	229,937	-	229,937	228,547	-	228,547
Restricted	7	-	15,840	15,840	-	36,795	36,795
		229,937	15,840	245,777	228,547	36,795	265,342

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 27th April 2025
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees.


Revd Terence Handle-MacMath Chair/Trustee


Richard Tolkien Treasurer/Trustee

The notes on Pages 15 to Page 17 form part of these financial statements.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BOLDRE

(Registered Charity Number: 1200694)

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1a Charitable Activities						
Voluntary income						
Donations Parish Giving	46,781	-	46,781	43,057	-	43,057
Donations PGS Gift Aid	4,620	-	4,620	8,589	-	8,589
Donations Planned Giving	-	-	-	5,524	-	5,524
Green Envelope Giving	5,859	-	5,859	6,352	-	6,352
Collections	6,020	-	6,020	8,225	-	8,225
Donations on-line	5,734	-	5,734	4,853	-	4,853
One off Donations	8,063	-	8,063	5,712	-	5,712
Good Box Giving	2,082	-	2,082	1,664	-	1,664
Council Energy Grant	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Boldre Church Trust	18,764	-	18,764	10,000	-	10,000
Rwanda Donations	1,635	-	1,635	1,234	-	1,234
	99,558	-	99,558	96,210	-	96,210
1b Church Activities						
Benefice Income (inc. St Mary's)	16,975	-	16,975	10,821	-	10,821
Bridge Magazines , other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	16,975	-	16,975	10,821	-	10,821
1c Other Income						
Summer Fete	10,875	-	10,875	8,999	-	8,999
Other fund raising	1,473	-	1,473	2,200	-	2,200
Andrew and Diana Neaum leaving present	-	-	-	5,127	-	5,127
Christmas cards, calendars & jam	80	-	80	1,112	-	1,112
Quiz	-	-	-	220	-	220
Sales	2,609	-	2,609	2,099	-	2,099
	15,037	-	15,037	19,757	-	19,757
1d Investments						
Dividends and interest	6,659	-	6,659	6,924	-	6,924
2a Grants and Missionary						
Rwanda grants and expenses	2,500	-	2,500	2,695	-	2,695
			186,663			
2b Activities relating to work of Church Ministry						
Diocesan contribution , Mission fund	45,000	-	45,000	45,000	-	45,000
Benefice secretary	3,596	-	3,596	5,551	-	5,551
Church running expenses including electricity	13,786	-	13,786	15,117	-	15,117
Leaving gift for the Neaums	164	-	164	5,131	-	5,131
Children & family worker	7,350	-	7,350	6,076	-	6,076
	69,568	-	69,568	76,875	-	76,875
2c Church maintenance and projects						
St John's Church inc. new boiler	48,436	-	48,436	41,183	-	41,183
St Nicholas's chapel	1,500	-	1,500	3,601	-	3,601
St John's churchyard	1,370	-	1,370	7,074	-	7,074
	51,306	-	51,306	51,858	-	51,858
2d Organist's salary and expense						
	5,798	-	5,798	5,297	-	5,297
2e Church management and administration						
Benefice office costs	17,086	-	17,086	16,240	-	16,240
Professional fees	12,570	-	12,570	7,783	-	7,783
Bank charges	513	-	513	610	-	610
Insurance	3,407	-	3,407	3,305	-	3,305
	33,576	-	33,576	27,938	-	27,938

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BOLDRE

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
3 Investments						
10,623 shares CBF fixed interest securities fund	-	15,840	15,840	-	15,377	15,377
14,797 shares Warburton Davis CBF Fixed interest securities' fund	-	-	-	-	21,418	21,418
7,155.43 shares CBF investment fund	205,200	-	205,200	200,608	-	200,608
	205,200	15,840	221,040	200,608	36,795	237,403

Unrealised gain/(losses) in year

Unrestricted	4,592	16,978
Restricted	463	1,926
	5,055	18,904

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £
4 Debtors						
Trade and other debtors	4,375	-	4,375	4,747	-	4,747
Pre-paid	-	-	-	156	-	156
	4,375	-	4,375	4,903	-	4,903

	£	£	£	£	£	£
5 Creditors						
Amounts falling due within one year	(5,520)	-	(5,520)	(5,347)	-	(5,347)
Others	-	-	-	(130)	-	(130)
HMRC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(5,520)	-	(5,520)	(5,477)	-	(5,477)

	Opening Balance £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer Between Funds £	Balance 2024 £
6 Fixed Assets					
Unrestricted free reserves	-	-	-	-	-
Designated - towards repairs for St John's	-	-	-	21,317	21,317
Designated - General Reserve	228,547	142,821	(162,748)	-	208,620
	228,547	142,821	(162,748)	21,317	229,937

	Opening Balance £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer Between Funds £	Balance 2023 £
Unrestricted Reserves					
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted free reserves	-	-	-	-	-
Designated - General Reserve	242,540	150,670	(164,663)	-	228,547
	242,540	150,670	(164,663)	-	228,547

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

7 Restricted Funds	Opening Balance	Movement In	2024 Movement Out	Transfer Between Funds	Balance 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
	36,795	463	(101)	(21,317)	15,840
	36,795	463	(101)	(21,317)	15,840

Restricted Funds	Opening Balance	Movement In	2023 Movement Out	Transfer Between Funds	Balance 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
	34,849	1,946	-	-	36,795
	34,849	1,946	-	-	36,795

Related Parties

There are no related parties transactions during the year or in 2023.

Ultimate Controlling Party

The charitable company is under the ultimate control of its trustees, whose names are shown at the front of the financial statements.