



St Laurence's Church

The Parochial Church Council,
St Laurence, Foleshill

Annual Report and Financial Statement

1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

Charity No 1202588

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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	PCC St Laurence Foleshill
Registered charity number	1202588
Charity's principal address	142 Old Church Road Coventry CV6 7ED

The charity trustees who have served at any time from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Rev Gareth Iain Irvine	Vicar/Chair of PCC
Rev Jennifer Anne Irvine	Associate minister
Rev Abby Rhodes (until 22 May 2023)	Associate minister
Rev Kate Louise Elizabeth Pellereau (from 1 February 2024)	Associate minister
Rev Rebecca Henney (from 2 July 2023)	Curate
Rev John Samuel (until 3 July 2023)	Curate
Christine McKirdy	Churchwarden /Safeguarding Office
Ben James Verdon	Churchwarden

Elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

Piers Anthony Denholm-Young (from 30 April 2023)	
Millicent Anne Dews	
Laura Rachel Edmunds	PCC Secretary
James Edward Henney	Lay Chair of PCC
Dawn Louise Flavell	Deanery Synod rep
Linda Lengden (until 30 April 2023)	
Michelle Goodson-McDonald	
Rea Verdon	Deanery synod rep
Ayla Verdon (under 18) (from 30 April 2023)	

Co-opted member:

Margaret Patricia Locke-Wheaton (from 7 May 2023)	Treasurer
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The trustees of the Parochial Church Council of St Laurence Foleshill present their annual report.

Objectives and Activities

St Laurence Foleshill is a Church of England Parish Church in the Diocese of Coventry offering charitable services to the locality. We hold weekly Sunday services as well as family; children's and youth work; food poverty relief; pastoral support; and other Christian events, courses and ministries.

The Parochial Church Council of St Laurence Foleshill (PCC) has the responsibility for promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

We are a community called to:

- worship God
- grow as disciples of Jesus
- transform the communities of North Coventry in love

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church building and the church hall together with the surrounding grounds. The PCC is also responsible for maintaining a freehold property (house) in Gayer Street, Coventry that it owns, which is let out to tenants to provide additional income.

Achievements and Performance

This is the first Annual Report and Accounts since we registered with the Charity Commission on 31st March 2023. Prior to this we were an excepted charity, but our turnover has now exceeded £100,000.

The church works at the centre of the community in partnership with the local school, care home and other groups (such as Coventry Foodbank and Christians Against Poverty) who share our aims. The Hope Hub offers emergency food support in a warm, safe place with additional help (such as debt support) available and it is always busy. The Family Link Worker works with the local primary school and co-ordinates regular activities for families, children and youth (including food), along with a holiday club during school holidays (including lunch at a time when there are no school meals available). The staff team offers pastoral support in various ways to those within our community. The church hall (that is the base for most activities) is also an affordable resource space for community groups to hire. We have a dedicated safeguarding lead, with regular training and support for all staff and volunteers in their work with children and vulnerable adults. We do everything we can to protect people from any form of abuse, neglect or harm of any kind.

Over the course of the year we have offered our normal range of services and activities. These include:-

- Weekly services enabling the community to meet together to worship, with Sunday Club for primary aged children and a monthly All-Together Family worship.
- Special services at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest.
- Weddings, baptisms and funerals as required.
- Distributing 20 emergency food parcels a week to those in need and also offering support, a warm safe space and signposting with food and drink, a charging point and Databank available (Hope Hub).
- Working with the local Church of England Primary School (who partially fund our Family Link Worker) running after school clubs, baking classes, stay and play sessions, supporting staff and hosting weekly school assemblies in the church.
- After school activities for families (Connect).
- A monthly informal service of worship and prayer (Encounter) which welcomes members from other local churches across the Deanery and Mission Hub.
- Holiday clubs for families.
- Youth group (JJs and TTs) that is majority BAME.
- We are part of Coventry North Deanery.

Our hall users include:-

- Ladybird Pre-School Playgroup with places for 40 children.
- Cocaine Anonymous with an average of 10 individuals supported each week.
- Dance Club (health and fitness) with 15-20 young people a week.
- Groups from BAME communities with 50-60 people in each.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Highlights of the year are:-

- Our average weekly attendance has increased to 54 adults (from 27 in 2022) and 39 children (from 28 in 2022).
- We have celebrated 7 baptisms.
- A former member of our youth group was confirmed at Coventry Cathedral at Easter.
- The PCC had a successful Away Day with input on “Family on Mission” from a missionary serving in Peru.
- The Hope Hub celebrated its 4th Birthday.
- Hope Hub fed over 2,000 people (part funded by a grant from Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull Communities Fund).
- Hope Hub Christmas Dinner served for 45-50 people, and 200 Christmas hampers distributed (part funded by a grant from Love Christmas)
- The mid-week youth group grew too big for a front room and relocated to the main church hall.
- The number of older children at Connect increased.
- In June we supported the ALIVE praise party and children from Key Stage 2 at the Primary School attended.
- We hosted a Mission Hub retreat at Lee Abbey.
- At Pentecost we ran a prayer room at Riley Square (a local shopping centre) for 10 days as part of Thy Kingdom Come.
- Our Mission Hub set up 2 huddles for leaders overseeing mission and ministry with children and young people.
- We welcomed over 800 children into the church for Christmas assemblies
- The monthly Mission Hub Leaders Formation Huddle has grown in membership and depth of relationships.
- We were awarded a Bronze Award as part of the National Eco Church project.
- A new tenant moved into our Gayer Street property.
- Electrical remedial work on the Church Hall was completed.
- The Deanery Synod met 3 times and heard about the ALIVE event, Eco-Living, Women’s Ministry and the Deanery Plan to be younger and more diverse, serve generously and be bolder and together.

There have been some staffing changes during the year. One of our assistant ministers left in May 2023 to serve a neighbouring parish. We were successful in appointing a replacement (funded by the diocese) who will begin her ministry with us as a Mission Hub Associate in February 2024. In July our previous curate left and a new one was appointed. We appointed a new (paid) cleaner in June 2023 and a (voluntary) treasurer in May 2023. We also welcomed an extra curate for a final year placement. All volunteers and staff have been safely recruited and appropriate safeguarding training has been completed

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Our plans for the future include:-

- We hope to expand the work of our Hope Hub (we are applying for the grants we need to make this possible).
- We are exploring further community projects in Riley Square
- We hope to develop a Greenhouse community for North Coventry, encouraging parishes, clergy and lay leaders to develop potential new mission ideas or initiatives through training, coaching and support.
- We are working towards our Silver Award with the Nation Eco Church Project.
- Lightning Protection and Electrical remedial work for the church is planned and the Quinquennial Inspection is due
- We hope to update the church heating system when funding is available

We would like to thank our staff team and the large group of over 30 volunteers who contribute time and energy to help our activities run successfully. We would also like to thank our 15 regular donors, together with those who have given us one off donations and grants during the year. All this has enabled us to serve the local community in the many different ways described above.

Financial Review

Review of financial position at end of year

The total receipts on unrestricted funds were £95,400. This came from donations (£49,641 including Gift Aid), letting out our hall, weddings and funerals and other operating activities (£38,899), letting out the freehold house in Gayer Street (£6,790) and other investment income (£70). We also received £14,904 of restricted donations (for our Hope Hub, children/youth work and fabric maintenance) and £3,011 of restricted investment income (for fabric maintenance), making our total income for 2023 £113,315.

£98,358 of unrestricted funds and £14,674 of restricted funds were spent on the activities and achievements described earlier in this report (total £113,032). This included our £26,472 contribution to the diocese (the parish share that helps provide stipends and housing for the clergy) and our staff salary costs (£32,423).

The net result for the year was a small excess of income over expenditure of £283.

We carry forward a cash balance of £39,617 unrestricted funds and £20,542 restricted funds totalling £60,159. The unrestricted funds are split between the general fund (£8,487) and the designated capital projects fund (£31,130) which is earmarked for large projects.

Full details are in our Financial Statements in Appendix A.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months of unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £24,590. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The cash balance of £8,487 held in our general fund at the end of the year was much lower than this target. It is the PCC's hope to increase this over time, as and when funds are available.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Laurence's the membership of PCC consists of the vicar, associate ministers and curate, the church wardens, the treasurer and PCC members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. The PCC met 6 times during the year. Some of our PCC members are paid staff or related to other PCC members. Where there is a conflict of interest these PCC members withdraw from the discussion and decision making.

In between PCC meetings the standing committee (vicar, church wardens, treasurer, family link worker, administrator) make any significant decisions, reporting back next time the PCC meets.

The staff team (ordained staff, paid staff, plus a church warden/safeguarding lead) are responsible for day-to-day decisions.

Safeguarding

The PCC of St Laurence, Foleshill is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our church community and has made the following policy commitments:-

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others

We have a dedicated safeguarding lead and regular training and support for all staff and volunteers.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above at the PCC meeting on 19 March 2024

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees

Signature(s)

C. S. McKirdy	Margaret P. Locke-Wheaton
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Full name (s)

Chris McKirdy	Margaret Locke-Wheaton
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Churchwarden	Treasurer
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Date

19 th March 2024	19 th March 2024
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Appendix A

Independent Examiners Report, Statement of Financial Activities and Notes to the Financial Statements.

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
Note		£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts							
Income from donors	2	49,641	14,904	64,545	31,676	5,536	37,212
Income from operating activities	3	38,899	-	38,899	35,770	3,001	38,771
Income from property investments	4	6,790	-	6,790	2,750	-	2,750
Income from other investments	5	70	3,011	3,081	28	2,714	2,742
Total Receipts		95,400	17,915	113,315	70,224	11,251	81,475
Payments							
Charitable giving	6	3,961	-	3,961	5,272	-	5,272
Activities directly relating to the work of the church	7	58,067	14,007	72,074	59,764	16,195	75,959
Expenditure on property investments	8	2,973	-	2,973	18,016	-	18,016
Church management and sundry administration	9	33,357	667	34,024	28,924	860	29,784
Total Payments		98,358	14,674	113,032	111,976	17,055	129,031
Excess of receipts over payments		(2,958)	3,241	283	(41,752)	(5,804)	(47,556)
Transfer between funds	13	(61)	61	-	12,396	(12,396)	-
		(3,019)	3,302	283	(29,356)	(18,200)	(47,556)
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investment assets	13	-	7,709	7,709	-	(11,543)	(11,543)
Net movement in funds		(3,019)	11,011	7,992	(29,356)	(29,743)	(59,098)
Cash and investment assets brought forward at 1st January	13	197,636	102,451	300,087	226,991	132,194	359,185
Cash and investment assets carried forward at 31st December	13	194,617	113,462	308,079	197,636	102,451	300,087

The notes on pages 14 to 19 form part of these financial statements


Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at 31st December, 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
Note		£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment Assets							
37 Gayer Street	1	155,000	-	155,000	155,000	-	155,000
Cave Legacy CB3005792-001	12	-	84,422	84,422	-	77,162	77,162
Cave Legacy CB3005709-001	12	-	8,498	8,498	-	8,049	8,049
Total Investment Assets		155,000	92,920	247,920	155,000	85,211	240,211
Monetary Assets							
Cash at bank		39,617	20,542	60,159	42,636	17,240	59,876
Total Monetary Assets		39,617	20,542	60,159	42,636	17,240	59,876
Total Cash and Investment Assets		194,617	113,462	308,079	197,636	102,451	300,087
Assets							
Gift Aid Recoverable		1,189	-	1,189	8,347	-	8,347
Debtors		1,637	-	1,637	-	-	-
Liabilities							
Sundry Liabilities		1,230	-	1,230	350	-	300
Payroll Taxes		810	-	810	389	-	389

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19th March 2024

 Gareth Irvine Chairman

 Margaret P. Lockhart Treasurer

The notes on pages 14 to 19 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December, 2023

1: Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified for the revaluation of freehold property. They comply with the Charity Commissioner's Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities and all applicable accounting and financial reporting standards. All incoming resources and resources expended are accounted on the receipts and payments basis.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value. The property is currently used as an investment and generates income for the church. A valuation carried out by the PCC in 2020 indicates its current open market value is £155,000.

Fund Accounting

General funds comprise the accumulated surplus or deficit on the income and expenditure account. The funds are for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the Parish.

Designated funds comprise funds that have been set aside at the discretion of the PCC for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific restricted conditions imposed by donors.

2: Incoming resources from donors	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Planned giving	17,851	-	17,851	17,349
Tax recovered on giving	9,631	-	9,631	7,049
Loose plate collections	594	-	594	990
Grants, legacies and donations	5,990	14,904	20,894	6,521
Link worker support	15,212	-	15,212	4,232
Other	363	-	363	1,071
	49,641	14,904	64,545	37,212

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31st December, 2023

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
3: Incoming resources from operating activities				
Hall and other lettings	24,965	-	24,965	19,564
Income from church events	691	-	691	-
Recharged expenses	4,201	-	4,201	-
Fees due to the PCC	9,042	20	9,062	19,207
	38,899	20	38,919	38,771
4: Incoming Resources from Property Investments				
Gayer Street	6,790	-	6,790	2,750
5: Incoming Resources from Other Investments				
CBF funds (dividends)	-	2,491	2,491	2,526
Interest received on bank accounts	70	520	590	216
	70	3,011	3,081	2,742
6: Charitable giving				
Cost of Charitable Fundraising	661	-	661	-
Overseas Christian Mission	-	-	-	1,000
Overseas Christian Relief	1,100	-	1,100	1,010
Other Charities	-	-	-	62
Home Mission & Church	2,200	-	2,200	3,200
	3,961	-	3,961	5,272

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31st December, 2023

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
7: Activities directly relating to the work of the charity				
Advertising	207	64	271	202
Church hall expenses (inc. utilities)	9,241	412	9,653	9,810
Church running expenses (inc. utilities)	5,296	-	5,296	8,037
Clergy expenses	1,068	-	1,068	1,211
Costs to PCC (Weddings / Funerals) inc. DBF	4,943	-	4,943	3,707
Evangelism	2,706	-	2,706	1,215
Events	-	-	-	473
Music and worship	1,497	-	1,497	2,142
New Wine	-	-	-	1,241
Other	334	17	351	83
Parish Share	26,472	-	26,472	28,271
Church maintenance expenses (inc. insurance)	1,825	3,073	4,898	4,863
Teaching and training	3,271	-	3,271	1,119
Hope Hub	34	10,441	10,475	11,161
Tearfund	-	-	-	-
Website	257	-	257	23
Youth and children	916	-	916	2,401
	58,067	14,007	72,074	75,959
8: Expenditure on property investments				
Gayer Street	2,973	-	2,973	18,016
9: Charity management and administration				
Office expenses	702	-	702	1,132
Office salaries	31,756	667	32,423	28,092
Staff training	549	-	549	260
Examiner's Fee	350	-	350	300
	33,357	667	34,024	29,784

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31st December, 2023

10: Analysis of staff costs and staff numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Expenditure includes staff costs as follows :		
Salaries	28,734	29,670
National Insurance (employer contribution)	1,145	1,010
Pensions (employer contributions)	2,431	2,253
Total Staff Costs	32,310	32,933

The average monthly headcount was 3 people (2022 :3) and the average monthly full time fulltime equivalent employees (including part-time staff) was 2 (2022: 2). No staff were paid at higher rate than £60,000 per annum during the year or previous year. The charity contributes to a workplace pension scheme.

Two trustees were remunerated a total of £26,159 for services provided to the charity (2022 : £28,492).

11: Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions (2022: nil)

12: Investment Funds

Caves Legacy :

CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund CB30055792-001 :

	2023		2022	
	Units	£	Units	£
Investment value at 1st January	3,735	77,162	3,735	87,458
Dividends received		2,308		2,295
Increase/(decrease) in value during the year		7,260		(10,295)
Transfer to savings account		(2,308)		(2,295)
Investment value at 31st December	3,735	84,422	3,735	77,162

CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund CB30055709-001 :

	2023		2022	
	Units	£	Units	£
Investment value at 1st January	5,871	8,049	5,871	9,296
Dividends received		183		231
Increase/(decrease) in value during the year		449		(1,248)
Transfer to savings account		(183)		(231)
Investment value at 31st December	5,871	8,498	5,871	8,049

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31st December, 2023

13: Movement of Funds	Balance at 01/01/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised losses on Investments	Balance at 01/01/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised gains on Investments	Balance at 31/12/2023
Restricted Funds											
Church Fabric Maintenance	102,471	5,392	(4,863)	-	(11,543)	91,457	5,438	(3,073)	61	7,709	101,592
Poor Fund	2,131	974	(83)	(2,000)	-	1,022	882	(17)	(1,652)	-	235
Hope Hub	23,023	1,884	(11,161)	(4,440)	-	9,306	3,572	(8,066)	-	-	4,812
Children's Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,823	-	-	-	6,823
Love Christmas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,200	(2,852)	1,652	-	-
Administration Fund	4,569	3,001	(948)	(5,956)	-	666	-	(666)	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	132,194	11,251	(17,055)	(12,396)	(11,543)	102,451	17,915	(14,674)	61	7,709	113,462
Designated Funds											
Capital Projects Fund	48,330	-	-	(17,200)	-	31,130	-	-	-	-	31,130
Gayer Street	155,000	-	-	-	-	155,000	-	-	-	-	155,000
Unrestricted Funds	23,661	70,224	(111,976)	29,596	-	11,506	95,400	(98,358)	(61)	-	8,487
Total Funds	359,185	81,475	(129,031)	-	(11,543)	300,087	113,315	(113,032)	-	7,709	308,079

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31st December, 2023

Restricted Funds :

Church Fabric and Maintenance Fund : These funds provide for the upkeep of the church building.

Administration Fund : These are funds provided by the diocese to employ a church administrator.

Hope Hub : The Hope Hub provides practical support to people in crisis in the local area.

Poor Fund : These funds are provided to support people in poverty in the local community.

Children's Fund : These funds are provided for work with children and young people.

Love Christmas : These funds are provided for giving Bags of Kindness (containing food and seasonal items) to those in need at Christmas

Designated Funds :

Capital Projects : Funds designated by the PCC towards future capital projects

Gayer Street : Investment property held by the church

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Laurence, Foleshill

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- (1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Gavin Kibble

Mozaic Innovate Ltd

1 Kineton Road, Coventry,

CV2 3NR

6th March 2024