

Charity Registration No. 1206680

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### Trustees

Revd Ali Marshall  
Jason Cole  
David Clements  
Mason Nelson  
Richard Jago  
Rowena Watson  
Rosie Dracott  
Samuel Dracott  
Stephanie Windsor  
Emma Plastow  
Adam Dracott  
Caroline Childs  
Lydia Smith  
Marion Clements  
Margaret Lyons  
Daphne Cowle  
Georgina Bennett  
Susan Lucas  
Daniel Quinn  
Benjamin Johnson

### Charity number

1206680

### Principal address

St Leonards Church  
New Church Road  
Hove  
BN3 4ED

### Independent Examiners

TC Group  
The Courtyard  
Shoreham Road  
Upper Beeding  
Steyning  
West Sussex  
BN44 3TN

### Bankers

The Co-operative Bank  
PO Box 250  
Skelmersdale  
WN8 6WT

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON  
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# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT**

## ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the charity's Trust Deed and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **Our aims and purposes as a charity**

The PCC has the responsibility of :

- Promoting the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical.
- Knowing Jesus better and making Him better known.
- Providing practical support and care for people in the parish, especially the vulnerable.
- Providing financial support to those in need and, to other organisations with similar objectives.

### **What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives**

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

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

For this year we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, both in person and online, and to become part of our parish community
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Reaching out to the unchurched through our youth café, mid-week toddler group, community cafe, Alpha and one off events such as the Christmas market, pub quiz, carols.
- Providing buildings, facilities and open space where possible while building works were ongoing.
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish

# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

## **What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives**

### ***Attendance at worship***

Everybody is welcome at St Leonard's Church, from within as well as outside the parish. Provision of a sacred space and worship services, public rituals and ceremonies such as baptisms, weddings and funerals, as well as running Sunday school groups which contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children, are some of the ways that we provide public benefit through our activities. Our charitable donations and activities in partnership with other organisations (as described in this report) also contribute to the recipients' well-being across a wide sector of society both local and further afield.

We have two regular Sunday services at St Leonard's; 9am (Parish Eucharist Service) and 11am (Informal Service with Kids and Youth groups). The 9am service average attendance was 30 people and the 11am service average attendance was 114 adults plus 44 children and young people. Across both services including children, the average attendance was 188.

### ***Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers***

We have multiple expressions of musical worship with a choir singing at our 9am service and a band for our 11am service. The songs are thoughtfully chosen by our worship pastor, working with the speaker to link the talk and theme of that week, helping people deepen their relationship with Jesus.

The Choir who attend the traditional service meet weekly to practice and again spend time considering which hymns should be sung on the Sunday ahead, ensuring they tie in with the talk.

During 2024 we continued to run an Alpha course. This was aimed at people from outside St Leonard's to help them explore the Christian faith, we saw a mix of regular church attendees coming as well as those from local communities.

We have continued to keep the teaching of scripture as a central part of our services, exploring the themes of God's love, hope, leadership, worship, prayer and our identity in Christ. We ran a variety of different Sunday teaching series with three particular focuses, The Holy Spirit, Mission and the Fruits of the Spirit.

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St Leonard's Church attended HTB Focus in 2024. This is our annual church weekend away with around 10,000 others from the "HTB Network", about 100 from St Leonard's attended. There was a lot of laughter, community building, worship and teaching. Some from St Leonard's camped onsite as well as others staying locally and travelling in each day. Focus is a great way to bring all ages of the congregation together, sharing meal times and building upon Christian fellowship.

5 baptisms were held at St Leonard's in 2024. We were able to baptise a mixture of children, youth and adults throughout the year which was celebrated by all in the congregation.

In 2024, our home groups continued across the parish and beyond. These seek to connect people new to the church into community but also grow the church community closer to Jesus, and are key places where discipleship and spiritual growth happens. About 60% of our congregations are in a home group. We have a wide variety of home groups catering to congregants of all ages, including families with children.

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# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

We were delighted to be able to hold our Harvest celebration, collecting food items for local food banks in the area.

We held a Remembrance Service and observed a two minute silence to show our respects. We always welcome other members of the local community at these services, as well as the congregation.

### **Christmas**

This year at St Leonard's, we had the incredible opportunity to host a variety of different Christmas services and events for our church family and wider community.

### Community market

The festive season started with a Christmas market, which saw local vendors hosting stalls as well as members of our own congregation. The day was dry and we were able to enjoy a live band playing festive songs outside the church. More than 600 people from the community were welcomed into the church during a 4 hour period. Profits went towards our Christmas campaign partnering with local food banks and charities.

### Informal carols

We partnered with the Foghorn pub to provide sing-along carols for the community. We set up outside the pub and were thrilled so many passersby joined in. We also held a 'coffee and carols' event on a Thursday morning during one of our community café sessions. The church was full of people from the local community wanting to celebrate the Christmas season, including some residents from a local care home as well as clients of 'gateway women' a charity set up for those who have suffered from domestic violence.

### Carol services

We hosted several carol services over the Christmas period including:

- Kings school Christmas service for over 280 students along with parents and teachers
- A service of traditional and contemporary carols; there were 211 people in attendance. This had a very high level of production and was only made possible by amazing volunteers from our congregations.
- 2 carol services aimed at families and the younger generations. We hired in a petting Zoo – which was very popular. We had 456 people attend the services including 174 under 18's. Many families from the local community attended for the first time, including those who had become involved in the church community through our Little Lions mid-week toddler group.

### Other services

We were pleased to host a Christingle service, something which we had paused in 2023. The service was beautiful and included all ages creating Christingles to take home. The church looked stunning as the night drew in and candles were lit, and children sat engaged with the adults that brought them. A Midnight Communion service was held on Christmas Eve, with 90 people in attendance joining together to see in Christmas Day. Finally, we had an all-age Christmas Day Family Celebration, where 129 people joined in with carols and fun for all the family.

St Leonard's had an incredible Christmas season, welcoming over 1000+ people from our congregation and the local community to our services and events.

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*'Just to let you know how much the women from Gateway Women's Centre really loved the Christmas meal at St Leonard's. We had such positive feedback from all of them. They particularly appreciated the delicious food – one woman described all elements of the meal to me and had taken pictures - they also liked being able to take home leftovers and another was so pleased to take some home for her son. They said it was a warm and fun atmosphere, and they appreciated the decoration details like the tree and crackers. They were surprised and so pleased with the gift bags. Another woman commented on and appreciated the team who were cooking, hosting and serving on the day. There was a real 'buzz' around the chat about the afternoon – all said how lovely it had been' KD*

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# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### *Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish*

We are part of the St Peter's Family of Churches (FOC) in Brighton and Hove. This comes with many benefits, one of which being the opportunity to share resources and courses. Within the FOC in 2024, there were a variety of different courses offering care and support for those in the congregation and parish; Tackling Anxiety Together, The Bereavement Journey and the recovery programme.

We have had members of St Leonard's running and helping run these courses throughout 2024. We were pleased to host 'the marriage course' and 'youth Alpha'.

St Leonard's has an amazing mixture of ages, ranging from newborn babies to people in their 90's. We have sought to care and provide support for all those age ranges offering different spaces for people to connect in.

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*'I love meeting my friends at St Leonard's, having fun and worshipping God together.' BC - age 11*

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Towards the end of 2023 we opened up a community café space on Thursday mornings. Our associate Vicar, Ali attends each week, and this gives us an opportunity to engage with the community, offering prayer and deeper conversations with those exploring their own faith.

One of things which we see as being central to the life of the church is prayer. During early 2022 we began a prayer morning at 7am every Wednesday during term time. We have often described this as the "engine room" of the church as it fuels our weekly rhythms. This is something we continued throughout 2024.

Our Associate Vicar, Ali, along with our retired clergy with permission to officiate offer pastoral visits, home communion and prayer for people in the community whether at home, in the church, neutral space, or hospital visits.

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*'Our family love Sunday's, the kids work is fun and faith building, my children often come away telling me all they have learnt about Jesus!' HC*

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### **Evangelism and outreach**

Little Lions – Runs on Wednesday morning (during term-time) for all preschool ages. It is aimed for families in the community who meet for coffee, cake, soft play, toys, games and friendly, inclusive conversation each week. The group seeks to include every baby and child in the welcome song before sharing a selection of well-known nursery rhymes, familiar tunes and Christian faith-based songs. It then ends by saying goodbye with a blessing song, before tidy-up time. We have seen many families come from Little Lions to attend one of our Christmas services and Sunday services.

Community café – This had been now running for over a year; it is a wonderful space for all.

Toys are put out similar to Little lions where preschool children can play under parent/carer supervision.

The lady chapel side of the church is transformed into a café space, where many of the community regularly meet and enjoy barista style coffee.

### Business connect group

Each Monday during 2024 local businesses and members of the community were invited to join the connect group which was held in the main church. This time was positive and impactful for all attending, hearing from local business leaders sharing how they navigated through challenging times, some speakers were able to bring a faith element in, sharing how as Christians they faced some challenges. Food was shared and enjoyed each week.

### The marriage course

A 7-week course which was hosted in the main church, the church was set up beautifully, allowing couples to connect, share food and drink before the course started. Workbooks were provided for all couples attending to take home and continue the discussions that had. The atmosphere was relaxed and was designed to replicate a 'date night' setting for all couples.

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT

## **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Bright Party – This was the third party we had run at St Leonard's, for ages 5 – 11.

It was a huge success with around 100 children and 50 adults attending. The churchyard was brightly lit and looked warm and inviting. The party was castle themed; it was a community outreach as many came who had not been to the church before. We were able to be a light in the community and offer warm smiles on a dark night of the year.

### Youth Café

Youth Café continued for its second year in St Leonards Hall, many young people from the local community have been attending, excitingly we have seen a cross-over in attendance from a Thursday to a Sunday service.

20-40 Youth on average attend each week and enjoy a range of games, activities and snacks!

### Youth Alpha

We launched our first youth Alpha series held in the main church; we had plenty of team sign up to help which enabled the young people to be put into different groups. The youth attending ate Pizza, watched the video content, reflected on their views and had discussions around faith. The course ended with the Alpha Holy Spirit day on the final Saturday which included time for praying and worshipping together.

### King's school outreach

Throughout 2024, our rising generations pastor went to Kings school to offer a safe space where young people could relax and discuss topics around faith. The club was encouragingly very well attended.

Our vicar and rising generations pastor had the honour of helping put on school services at Christmas and Easter. These services were moving and gave opportunities for children to respond and take communion.

### Christmas meal

We hosted a Christmas meal for all involved in a local charity called 'Off The Fence'. It was a privilege to open our doors to those going through challenging times, as well as volunteers and staff members of the charity.

We enjoyed a full Christmas meal, pudding and plenty of Christmas cheer. Carols were sung and gift bags were handed out to each person and family that attended.

We were able to hand out around 80 further Christmas gift bags to two local Food banks.

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*'I really enjoy being part of a church which has something for all ages and stages, and where everyone is welcome' BJ*

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## **Provision of the church building, hall and churchyard for people to enjoy**

### **The Church**

The green gym continues to operate in the Churchyard, they are an external group who tend to the churchyard several times per month. This is a beneficial time for all. Once tasks are complete in the churchyard they enjoy tea, coffee, and homemade cakes inside the church on a Thursday. It is great to have them enjoy the newly refurbished church in the community café space and unwind after a hard morning of gardening.

In August 2024, we opened the church for 4 Sundays hosting the well known and loved 'cream tea' events.

Each Sunday afternoon the church was filled with plenty of cakes and people from the community.

Throughout 2024 we continued to lend the Church and hall spaces to the Diocese of Chichester for specific events and training including a churchwardens visitation service and various Diocesan events plus Environment days.



# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

## ***The Church Hall***

We continue to rent the hall space for community events including baby sensory classes, tumble tots, a children's drama group, Postcard Club and Hove Gardening Club. The hall was also used as a polling station in the local council by-election and a few other local community groups held their AGMs there.

The gardening club held a two-day spring fayre which was very popular with the local community

## ***The Churchyard***

Our large churchyard with over 500 graves is a peaceful green space in an urban area. Many people, particularly those with no gardens, regularly sit in the churchyard to eat their lunch or come during the day to enjoy the peace and quiet, fresh air and the greenery.

We are pleased to have a member of St Leonard's on the secret garden committee representing the church, we keep in close communication working together with regards to the welcoming space and churchyard.

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The Green Gym, who garden together for their physical and mental well-being and companionship. They visit monthly, weather permitting, and enjoy the challenge of clearing the brambles and uncovering previously hidden graves and spring bulbs. The Green Gym love the tranquillity of the churchyard and have worked tirelessly throughout 2024 to maintain the grounds. The group enjoy join the community cafe once they have finished their tasks, relaxing with tea and homemade cakes baked by one of the PCC members.

## ***Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy and other charitable giving***

We celebrated our Harvest Festival in church and brought food donations for our local food bank, The Purple People's Kitchen in Portslade, which we continue to support. We have a permanent collection basket inside of the church where both the congregation and members of the community may leave items they wish to donate to the foodbank.

One of the charities we have been working with is Gateway Women. They are a local charity seeking to help vulnerable and isolated women across the city. At Christmas time we helped by delivering hampers to some of the women they support. We had feedback of happy memories of St Leonard's from some of the women whose parents were married in the church and some who were baptised as babies. We have enjoyed welcoming the group along to the community cafe.

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The Safe Families organisation seeks to provide support for families in the local community that might be struggling. We worked with them by making "Jars of Kindness" on Mother's day in 2024 for the mothers of those families.

In 2024, we joined with the Love Christmas campaign and delivered over 280 "Bags of Kindness" through 4 different local charities; Gateway Women, Fishersgate & Purple People Foodbank, plus YMCA hostels (including George William & William Collier house). We partnered with LoveYourNeighbour charity, part of the Church Revitalisation Trust, who match funded our donations which enabled us to serve the community in this way.

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# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

## **Safeguarding update**

Rosie Dracott continues as PSO with Bronwyn Pearce as Safeguarding lead. Ali Marshall has oversight on all reported safeguarding concerns. We continue to consult with the Diocese Safeguarding team for any safeguarding concerns that need a fuller conversation and for advice and guidance. We continue to use My Concern to report safeguarding concerns. Any concerns that are recorded are followed up with a conversation with the PSO to discern what if any further action may be required. A total of 15 concerns were reported in 2024. Of these 3 were discussed with the Diocese safeguarding team and followed up with the individuals.

All PCC members were reminded that they need to have a current DBS and complete C0 and C1 safeguarding training.

In April we completed Level One of the Simple Quality Protects standard as required by the Diocese.

In October it was agreed that Rosie should be added as a DBS recruiter to support Bronwyn with the administration of this.

## **Financial Review**

The total receipts on general unrestricted funds were £238,976 and are detailed in the Financial Report. Unrestricted expenditure amounted to £168,989.

The total receipts on restricted funds were £64,510 and are detailed in the Financial Report. Restricted fund expenditure amounted to £100,337, with the balance being transferred from general unrestricted funds. The majority of this transfer is to pay staff costs which are not funded by the SDF grant.

Restricted funds at the end of the year have a value of £1,931.

The surplus for the year of £35,756, is budgeted to be spent in 2025.

The balance sheet for the end of 2024 shows cash-in-hand of £138,078.

Together with a few minor outstanding invoices, the total current assets as at 31/12/24 were £138,110.

Together with accrued bills, including the balance of the Building Project, the total current liabilities as at 31/12/24 were £184,198. £141,859 represents repayable loans, repayable over the next 5 years.

## **Income and expenditure**

The main sources of income were through regular and one-off giving, and amounted to £156,712. Gift Aid of £29,526 was claimed from HMRC. VAT of £11,133 was claimed from the Listed Place of Worship Grant Scheme.

The Associate Vicar, Churchwardens and Treasurer looked in detail at the project costings, the 2024 surplus, the cash in hand at the end of 2024 and the general trends in income to the church through giving and other grants. With this in mind, a detailed budget for 2025 was drawn up and approved by the PCC which shows that, after loan repayments, church expenditure in 2025 is expected to exceed income by up to £49,000.

## **Staff Costs**

St Leonard's has a small staff team covering operations, worship and youth/children's work. These staff costs were initially funded through the SDF grant, but this is tapering down, and St Leonard's is gradually paying more towards the staff costs. In 2024, the grant covered £61,695 of the total staff costs of £89,101. For 2025, the grant is budgeted to be £33,520.

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain cash at bank of at least 3 months' worth of essential operations expenditure, as contingency against unforeseen situations. Based on our budget for 2025, this policy means holding a bank balance of at least £40,700 throughout the year. We satisfied this policy throughout 2024. We expect to have sufficient cash flow to continue to meet the policy, and to pay bills and loan repayments when they fall due.

### Structure, governance and management of the charity

The APCM was held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024:

Priest in Charge	Revd Daniel Millest
Associate Vicar	Revd Ali Marshall
Churchwardens	Daniel Quinn Benjamin Johnson
Elected Members	Sue Lucas Emma Plastow Richard Jago Lydia Smith Georgina Bennett Adam Dracott Rosie Dracott Caroline Childs David Clements Daphne Cowle Margaret Lyons Rowena Watson Mason Nelson Jason Cole Ibrahim Mikhail
Treasurer	Sue Lucas
Deanery Synod Rep	Samuel Dracott Stephanie Windsor
Safeguarding Officer	Rosie Dracott Bronwen Pearce
PCC Secretary	Emma Plastow
Co-opted	Marion Clements

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON  
ANNUAL REPORT**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod and members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Benjamin Johnson, Churchwarden and Deputy Chair.

Signed .....



Date .....

23-4-25

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 20.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not 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.

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 to be reached.

  
TC Group

Mark Cummins FCCA FCIE  
On behalf of TC Group  
Office: Steyning, West Sussex

Dated: 25 April 2025

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2024	2023
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	218,572	1,923	-	220,495	691,665
Other trading activities	4	18,720	61,695	-	80,415	79,156
Charitable activities	5	1,375	-	-	1,375	814
Investments	6	309	892	-	1,201	1,095
<b>Total income</b>		<b>238,976</b>	<b>64,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>303,486</b>	<b>772,730</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities		168,989	100,337	-	269,326	951,473
<b>Total expenditure</b>	7	<b>168,989</b>	<b>100,337</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>269,326</b>	<b>951,473</b>
<b>Net gain on investments</b>	14	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>3,897</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>69,987</b>	<b>(35,827)</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>35,756</b>	<b>(174,846)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	18	<b>(36,294)</b>	<b>36,294</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>33,693</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>35,756</b>	<b>(174,846)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>	19					
Total funds brought forward		(45,038)	1,464	53,475	9,901	184,747
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>(11,345)</b>	<b>1,931</b>	<b>55,071</b>	<b>45,657</b>	<b>9,901</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON  
BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	13	36,674		52,417	
Investments	14	55,071		53,475	
			91,745		105,892
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	32		492	
Cash at bank and in hand		138,078		124,986	
			138,110		125,478
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	(55,177)		(154,802)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			82,933		(29,324)
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	17		(129,021)		(66,667)
<b>Net assets</b>			45,657		9,901
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>					
Unrestricted funds	19	(11,345)		(45,038)	
Restricted funds	18	1,931		1,464	
Endowment funds	14	55,071		53,475	
			45,657		9,901

The accounts were approved by the Board on 23-4-25



**Benjamin Johnson**  
Churchwarden and Deputy Chair  
Charity Registration No. 1206680

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1 Legal status of charitable company**

The Parochial Church Council of St Leonard's, Aldington is a charity.

**2 Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation**

The Parochial Church Council of St Leonard's, Aldington meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

There are no material uncertainties about The Parochial Church Council of St Leonard's, Aldington's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

**2.2 Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, it is probable the income will be received and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Donations and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as income when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement.

Income from charitable activities comprises grants awarded for activities undertaken by the charity's project partners. Grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable unless a grant is subject to donor imposed conditions that specify the time period in which the expenditure of the resources can take place; in which case they are deferred.

**2.3 Expenditure and basis of apportioning costs**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis with the irrecoverable element of VAT included with the item to which it relates and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable activities comprises all expenditure directly relating to the objectives of the charity.

Governance costs (included within Support costs) comprises all costs associated with constitutional and statutory requirements with which the charity must comply.



# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

#### **2 Accounting Policies (continued)**

##### **2.4 Investments**

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### **2.5 Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures & fittings – 3 & 5 years straight line

##### **2.6 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### **2.7 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments. The trustees seek to use short term deposits to maximise the return on monies held at the bank and to manage cash flow.

##### **2.8 Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

##### **2.9 Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are to be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds are to be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

##### **2.10 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised.

The trustees do not consider that there are any critical estimates or areas of judgement that need to be brought to the attention of the readers of the financial statements.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Regular giving	132,430	-	-	132,430	123,069
One-off giving including gift days	24,282	-	-	24,282	20,728
Gift Aid	29,526	-	-	29,526	27,910
One-off event income	2,334	523	-	2,857	2,531
Grants	30,000	1,400	-	31,400	517,427
<b>Total income from donations and legacies</b>	<b>218,572</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>220,495</b>	<b>691,665</b>

**4 Income from other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Hall revenue	8,006	-	-	8,006	2,341
Tots and Toddlers income	4,536	-	-	4,536	2,052
Other non-giving income	-	61,695	-	61,695	72,733
Focus income	2,000	-	-	2,000	1,550
Community Café income	3,775	-	-	3,775	470
Alpha income	203	-	-	203	10
Marriage course income	200	-	-	200	-
<b>Total income from other trading activities</b>	<b>18,720</b>	<b>61,695</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80,415</b>	<b>79,156</b>

**5 Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Weddings, funerals fee income	1,375	-	-	1,375	814
<b>Total income from charitable activities</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>814</b>

**6 Income from investments**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
CBF Deposit Interest	309	-	-	309	215
COIF C Hallet Finch Winter Parish Charity	-	549	-	549	541
COIF (Churchyard and Grave)	-	343	-	343	339
<b>Total income from investments</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>1,095</b>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**7 Total expenditure**

	Staff Costs £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
Activities undertaken directly	89,101	15,743	161,795	266,639	949,019
Support costs	-	-	2,687	2,687	2,454
	<u>89,101</u>	<u>15,743</u>	<u>164,482</u>	<u>269,326</u>	<u>951,473</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u><b>89,101</b></u>	<u><b>15,743</b></u>	<u><b>164,482</b></u>	<u><b>269,326</b></u>	<u><b>951,473</b></u>

**8 Analysis of support costs**

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Governance costs (independent examination)	2,687	2,454
	<u>2,687</u>	<u>2,454</u>

**9 Employees**

**Number of employees**

The charity employed 4 employees during the year (2023: 4)

**Employment costs**

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Wages and salaries	85,240	75,251
Social security costs	1,366	178
Pension costs	2,495	1,329
	<u>89,101</u>	<u>76,758</u>

**10 Trustees**

During the year trustees were reimbursed expenditure totalling £5,513 (2023: £4,396).

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 11 Comparative Funds – Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

SOFA	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	171,920	519,745	-	691,665
Other trading activities	6,873	72,283	-	79,156
Charitable activities	814	-	-	814
Investments	215	880	-	1,095
<b>Total income</b>	<b>179,822</b>	<b>592,908</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>772,730</b>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Raising funds	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	144,299	807,174	-	951,473
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>144,299</b>	<b>807,174</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>951,473</b>
<b>Net gain on investments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,897</b>	<b>3,897</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>35,523</b>	<b>(214,266)</b>	<b>3,897</b>	<b>(174,846)</b>
Transfer between funds	(214,244)	214,244	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(178,721)</b>	<b>(22)</b>	<b>3,897</b>	<b>(174,846)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	133,683	1,486	49,578	184,747
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>(45,038)</b>	<b>1,464</b>	<b>53,475</b>	<b>9,901</b>

#### 12 Taxation

The Parochial Church Council of St Leonard's, Aldington is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

<b>13 Tangible fixed assets</b>	<b>Fixtures and Fittings Total</b>	
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£</b>	
As at 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024		<u>76,315</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
As at 1 January 2024		23,898
Charge for year		15,743
As at 31 December 2024		<u>39,641</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
As at 31 December 2024		<u>36,674</u>
As at 31 December 2023		<u>52,417</u>
<b>14 Investments</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>£</b>	
Fair value at 1 January 2024		53,475
Change in fair value		1,596
Fair value at 31 December 2023		<u>55,071</u>
The total investment gain of £1,596 (2023: gain of £3,897) shown in the Statement of Financial Activities is represented by an unrealised gain of £1,596 (2023: gain of £3,897).		
<b>15 Debtors</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	32	425
Other debtors	-	67
	<u>32</u>	<u>492</u>
<b>16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	17,192	2,477
Other creditors (see note 17)	37,985	152,325
	<u>55,177</u>	<u>154,802</u>

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S, ALDRINGTON

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

<b>17 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other creditors	<b>129,021</b>	<b>66,667</b>
	<b>129,021</b>	<b>66,667</b>

Other creditors in notes 16 and 17 includes £141,859 (2023: £160,000) of loans from 'non-financial' institutions.

### 18 Restricted Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held for specific purposes:

	<b>1 Jan 2024</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Transfer</b>	<b>31 December 2024</b>
<b>Fund name</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Eileen's Oasis	569	-	-	-	569
Charity Donations	82	1,862	(2,045)	101	-
Winter Fund	813	549	-	-	1,362
Churchyard donations	-	404	(6,206)	5,802	-
Salary	-	61,695	(89,101)	27,406	-
Building Project	-	10,434	(13,419)	2,985	-
	<b>1,464</b>	<b>74,944</b>	<b>(110,771)</b>	<b>36,294</b>	<b>1,931</b>

**Eileen's Oasis** is restricted to the creation of a seating area in memoriam of Eileen Odom.

**Charity Donations** represents appeals held for external charities throughout the year.

**Winter Fund** is restricted to relieving hardship during the winter.

**Churchyard Donations** are restricted to the upkeep and maintenance of the churchyard.

**Salary** is a restricted grant from the Strategic Development Fund to cover salary costs of specific St Leonard's employees during the period of the grant.

**Building Project** is restricted to the SDF project to refurbish the church.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LEONARD'S,  
ALDRINGTON**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**19 Analysis of net assets between funds**

Fund balances at 31 December 2024 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	36,674	-	55,071	91,745
Current assets	136,179	1,931	-	138,110
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(55,177)	-	-	(55,177)
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(129,021)	-	-	(129,021)
	<u>(11,345)</u>	<u>1,931</u>	<u>55,071</u>	<u>45,657</u>

Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	52,417	-	53,475	105,892
Current assets	124,014	1,464	-	125,478
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(154,802)	-	-	(154,802)
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(66,667)	-	-	(66,667)
	<u>(45,038)</u>	<u>1,464</u>	<u>53,475</u>	<u>9,901</u>

**20 Related parties**

The Priest-in-Charge of St Leonard's was Rev Daniel Millest. He was also Vicar of St Peter's Brighton. Within the parameters of the Apostolic Partnership, St Leonard's made payments to the value of £4,061 (2023: £10,471) to St Peter's for the supply of services, and the passing on of donations made by members at St Leonard's to the work of St Peter's.

**21 Ultimate controlling party**

The charity was under the control of the Trustees during the period under review.