

St. James the Less, Tatham, Parochial Church Council.

Independent Examiner's Report for Calender Year 2023.

Having checked and verified NatWest bank statements against the Receipts and Payments spreadsheets (together with cheque book stubs, paying-in counterfoils, electronic transfer sheets, invoices and various receipts), I am satisfied that the information submitted to me reflects an accurate account of the PCC activities during the calendar year 2023.

I can also confirm the accuracy of the CCLA Capital values itemised on a separate schedule.

I understand that an Income and Expenditure account and Balance Sheet are not required this year and I have, therefore, handed copies of my working papers to the Treasurer for his retention.

If, however, there are issues to discuss, my contact details are:-

School House, School Lane, Wray, Lancaster, LA2 8QE.

Tel: 01524-221660.

Derek Cookson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Cookson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Independent Examiner

12 February 2024.

## Tatham Parochial Church Council

Tatham Parochial Church Council											
Income					Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment			
		2023								2022	
		As 31/12								As 31/12	
Income from Donors											
	Collections - Gift Aided	3,003.05			3,003.05					4,024.36	
	non Gift Aided	0.00								0.00	
	Standing Orders - Gift Aided	3,480.00			3,480.00					3,110.00	
	Special collections	2,398.15			2,398.15					0.00	
	Income tax recovered (Gift Aid)	1,805.73			1,805.73					1,389.59	
	Listed Places of Worship Grant - DCMS Scheme - (equivalent to VAT on improvements)	1,230.40			1,230.40					0.00	
	Sundry donations									2,050.00	
	Legacies									15,000.00	
	Parish Council Grant (Tatham & Wennington)	500.00			500.00					450.00	
	DBF-Cost of Lliving Support									1,624.58	
	Headley Trust Grant	0.00								0.00	
	Donations - use of church	682.00			682.00					876.00	
	Friends of St James The Less Donations	0.00			0.00					0.00	
			13,099.33								28,524.53
Income from operating activites											
	Fees - Weddings & Christenings	659.00			659.00					1,052.00	
	Funerals	419.00			419.00					142.00	
	Churchyard	166.00			166.00					0.00	
	Sales of cards, pictures, cushions, book									57.00	
			1,244.00								1,251.00
Income from fund raising											
	Bacon Butties	39.60			39.60					40.40	
	Wray Fair	1,426.00			1,426.00					1,985.35	
	Jazz / Strawberries & Fizz	0.00								0.00	
	Summer Supper	0.00								0.00	
	Flower Festival	0.00								0.00	
	Jumble Sale	1,642.62			1,642.62					1,361.82	
	Harvest Sale	0.00								0.00	
	Lockdown Jam	122.00			122.00					51.00	
			3,230.22								3,438.57
Income from investments											
	CBF bank interest	0.00								0.00	
	CCLA Deposit account	2,568.01									
	CCLA Fabric account	253.55									
	CCLA School account	-1,305.25									
	CCLA investment dividends										
	General	18,934.62									
	General	6,175.85									
	Fabric	446.03									
			27,072.81								0.00
Other income											
	CCLA, School account	1,309.16				1,309.16				0.00	
	Renewable Heat Incentive	3,478.11			3,478.11					2,875.54	
	Sale of Entwistle House	0.00								0.00	
			4,787.27								2,875.54
			49,433.63		21,051.66	1,309.16	0.00	0.00			36,089.64
	From banking transactions		22,360.82								36,089.64
	From investments		27,072.81								0.00
			49,433.63								36,089.64

Ratham Parochial Church Council										
					Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment		
Expenditure		2023								2022
										As 31/12
Cost of Parish Ministry										
	Parish Share	5,458.74			5,458.74					4,460.00
	Wages	46.00			46.00					0.00
	Vicar's expenses (Benefice)	1,260.00			1,260.00					800.00
			6,764.74							5,260.00
Church running expenses										
	Electricity	257.02			257.02					371.29
	Woodchip for biomass boiler	5,569.10			5,569.10					4,120.63
	Insurance	3,788.17			3,788.17					0.00
	Quinquennial Survey	810.00			810.00					0.00
	Repairs & Refurbishments - Biomass Boiler	2,562.27			2,562.27					2,536.96
	Repairs & Refurbishments - General	920.47			920.47					439.68
	Repairs & Refurbishments - Roof	4,264.80			4,264.80					4,601.57
	Churchyard Maintenance & Extension	2,934.00			2,934.00					535.00
	Green Bin	41.00			41.00					98.94
	Organist fees	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Bell ringing fees	0.00			0.00					0.00
	DBF	396.00			396.00					578.00
			21,542.83							13,282.07
Fund Raising Expenses										
	Costs for Sumup	98.46			98.46					0.00
	Costs for bacon butties	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Costs for Wray Fair catering	0.00			0.00					200.00
	Costs for Christmas cakes	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Costs for Jazz & Fizz	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Costs for Jumble Sale	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Costs for Harvest Lunch	0.00			0.00					0.00
			98.46							200.00
Support costs										
	Newsletter	203.50			203.50					225.00
	Gifts for helpers	0.00			0.00					69.77
	Visiting clergy (Benefice)	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Sponsorship of "The Bell"	0.00			0.00					0.00
			203.50							294.77
Administration										
	Stationery, postage & website costs	131.90			131.90					130.43
	Church History booklets/cards for sale	0.00			0.00					0.00
	Legal fees / Architect re: Roof Repair	0.00			0.00					0.00
			131.90							130.43
Missions and Charities										
	Bishop's Harvest Appeal	100.00			100.00					0.00
	Royal British Legion	150.00			150.00					0.00
	Lancashire Assn of Bell Ringers	0.00			0.00					20.00
	FCN	100.00			100.00					0.00
	Lancaster Homeless Action	150.00			150.00					0.00
	St John's Hospice	150.00			150.00					0.00

Tatham Parochial Church Council											
Balance Sheet								Balance Sheet			
As at 31st December 2023								As at 31st December 2022			
				Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment				
Capital Account:		2023								2022	
Balance brought forward											
Nat West		65,911.50		65,911.50						49,009.13	
CCLA		198,620.29		198,620.29						219,451.64	
			264,531.79	264,531.79	0.00	0.00	0.00				268,460.77
Sale of Entwistle House School			0.00								0.00
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year											
Nat West		(8,339.77)		(8,339.77)							
CCLA		27,072.81		23,383.16		3,689.65				16,902.37	
Investment		0.00								(20,831.35)	
			18,733.04								(3,928.98)
			283,264.83	279,575.18	0.00	3,689.65	0.00				264,531.79
Represented by:-											
Nat West current account		57,571.73		57,571.73						65,911.50	
Cash		0.00		0.00						0.00	
CBF Deposit account 603037001D		20,731.07		20,731.07						18,163.06	
CBF School account 603037002D		0.00								1,305.25	
CBF Fabric account 603037003D		3,689.65				3,689.65				3,436.10	
	Number of Shares	Mid Market Value							Number of Shares	Mid Market Value	
CBF Investments 603037001M	21,392.63	124,267.65		124,267.65					21,392.63	105,333.03	
CBF Investments - General a/c 603037002S	3,177.04	71,817.94		71,817.94					3,177.04	65,642.09	
CBF Investments - Fabric a/c 603037001S	229.45	5,186.79		5,186.79					229.45	4,740.76	
			283,264.83	279,575.18	0.00	3,689.65	0.00				264,531.79
Debtors			0.00								0.00
			283,264.83	279,575.18	0.00	3,689.65	0.00				264,531.79
Less: Creditors			0.00								0.00
			283,264.83	279,575.18	0.00	3,689.65	0.00				264,531.79
			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00

Old Account No.	Account Name	Fund Name	New Account No.	2023				2022			
				Balance 31/12	Balance 01/01	Annual return	Investment	Balance 31/12	Balance 01/01	Annual return	Investment
603037001D	Tatham, St James the Less PCC - 1781978	CBF Church of England, Deposit Fund	CB3020495	£20,731.07	£18,163.06	£2,568.01	0.00	£18,163.06	£15,983.87	£2,179.19	£0.00
603037002D	Deposit School Account (Closed)			£0.00	£1,305.25	-£1,305.25	0.00	£1,305.25	£1,288.31	£16.94	£0.00
603037003D	Tatham, St James the Less PCC - Fabric Account	CBF Church of England, Deposit Fund	CB3020499	£3,689.65	£3,436.10	£253.55	0.00	£3,436.10	£3,251.13	£184.97	£0.00
603037001M	Tatham, St James the Less PCC	CBF Church of England Global Equity Fund Acc	CB3020496	£124,267.65	£105,333.03	£18,934.62	0.00	£105,333.03	£119,154.81	-£13,821.78	£0.00
603037001S	Tatham, St James the Less PCC - Fabric Account	CBF Church of England, Investment Fund Inc	CB3020497	£5,186.79	£4,740.76	£446.03	0.00	£4,740.76	£5,373.28	-£632.52	£0.00
603037002S	Tatham, St James the Less PCC - General Account	CBF Church of England, Investment Fund Inc	CB3020498	£71,817.94	£65,642.09	£6,175.85	0.00	£65,642.09	£74,400.24	-£8,758.15	£0.00
				£225,693.10	£198,620.29	£27,072.81	£0.00	£198,620.29	£219,451.64	-£20,831.35	£0.00

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Independent Examiner

12 February 2024.

# **St James the Less, Lower Tatham**

## **Annual Report for the Parochial Church Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

St James the Less is located on Monk's Gate, Lower Tatham, Lancaster LA2 8NH and is one of six churches within East Lonsdale Benefice in the Diocese of Blackburn.

The incumbent of the East Lonsdale Benefice is Rev Jane Lee, appointed in February 2022, .

The Parochial Church Council is exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. The Parochial Church Council is a Trustee of a small, registered charity: Tatham Charity – registered number 224735.

The following parishioners served as members of the PCC during 2023:

**John Parkinson, Linda Kirkby** (churchwarden and bellringer), **Paul Whatmough** (treasurer and bell ringer), **Elizabeth Atkinson** (sidesperson), **Dennis Lund, Lucy Leather, Helen Bramley, Stephen Robson** (churchwarden and Deanery Synod representative), **Margaret Wilson** (secretary) and **Kate Warburton** (Vice Chair and sidesperson). Resigning from the PCC was **Phyllis Holt** – churchwarden (not sworn in) and Deanery Synod representative and Sue Marsden.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC have complied with the duty with regards to the Guidance on Safeguarding.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC supports the incumbent of the East Lonsdale Benefice (Reverend Jane Lee). The responsibility for the maintenance of the Church building, churchyard and car park remains with the PCC.

### **Achievements, performance, and attendance**

There are 36 names on the Electoral Roll. Average attendance at the 11.15 am fortnightly services is 14.

During 2023, services have been held regularly. Special services were held for Plough Sunday, Mothering Sunday, the coronation of King Charles III, Harvest Festival and Remembrance Sunday. There was one baptism, one funeral and one wedding. A packed church enjoyed Wenning Voices annual open evening/ carol concert at Christmas.

### **Review of the year**

In May, the PCC again provided catering on the first Sunday of Wray Festival week, generously supported by many of the Friends of St James the Less who provided baked goods and help on the day. This was followed by a PCC stall on Wray Fair Field day, with bric-a-brac, goodies for sale and games. These two initiatives, together with the annual Grand Jumble Sale held in September at Hornby provide significant financial support to Church funds. In June, the annual Benefice Service was followed by a picnic and games in the garden of the Old Rectory, by kind permission of Mrs Phyllis Holt. In October, we were saddened by the loss of Dorothy Lund. Following a private committal at Beetham, Dorothy's funeral service was held at St James the Less, with the Church full to capacity and Wenning Voices leading the singing.

The PCC held 5 meetings in 2023. One issue of the Church newsletter was circulated. It was resolved to discontinue the Parish Church newsletter and replace with regular updating to the St James the Less website and an entry in The Bell.

## **St James the Less, Lower Tatham**

### **Annual Report for the Parochial Church Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

During 2023, the following actions have taken place:

Boiler and boiler house monitoring with significant boiler repairs being carried out. Regular mowing, strimming, and tidying in the churchyard.

Fire extinguisher check was undertaken in August. Lightning conductor check is due in 2024.

Electrical equipment check – last complete inspection 2019, with the next planned in 2024.

Two members of the PCC continued training as bellringers.

A sub-committee was convened to direct and oversee - in conjunction with HPA architects - the proposed repairs to the church roof and the churchyard extension. It was agreed to delay further work on the churchyard extension until the full financial implications of the roof works were known. However, the transfer of the land for the extension from the PCC to the Incumbent (as required by the Diocese) was registered in September. The roof repairs contract was sent out to tender in October. In December, of the five firms who received documents, only one returned a valid tender. The construction contract will progress in 2024.

The Quinquennial Inspection and report were undertaken by HPA Architects in July. The most urgent works to the north facing roof, tower roof and other stonework repairs are included in the contract referred to above. Other works will be reviewed during 2024 when the costs of the contract works are known.

The Churchyard trees were inspected in Summer 2023, including the mature Lime tree covered by a Tree Preservation Order. Urgent works to remove basal growth from the Lime and dead wood from the Pine Tree in the car park are to be undertaken in 2024.

The Friends of St James the Less continue to generously support the building with events and fund raising. In June, the Friends invited Lancaster Singers, who gave a well-attended Musical Medley concert (delayed by Covid 19 from an original date in 2021). The Friends' 100 Club continues to raise valued funds to maintain and enhance the Church facilities .

Groups continue to meet in Church – Wenning Voices rehearse weekly, and Stitch and Chatter meet monthly. Wennington Parish Council meets bi-monthly and Tatham Parish Council alternates their meetings between St James and the Church of the Good Shepherd at Tatham Fells. A decision was taken during the year not to close the Church after autumn clock change and we now welcome visitors by opening the church daily throughout the year. Volunteers organise regular cleaning days and together with the PCC and the Friends, these groups combine to ensure the church is well-decorated with flowers and foliage for special services including Easter, Harvest Festival and Christmas.

The end of year accounts are attached to this report.