

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Address Heron Way Abbeydale Gloucester GL4 5EQ

Ministers Address 63 Wheatway Abbeydale
Gloucester GL4 5ET

CHURCH COUNCIL

Officers & Trustees

Rev Peter Clarkson	Minister and Chair
David Evans	Church Secretary
Susan Hill	Treasurer

Trustees

Lesley Allen		Appointed	24/04/2024
Alison Apperley	Fellowship		
David Barber		Resigned	24/04/2024
Gordon Dale	Children & Young People		
Carole Francis-McGann		Resigned	07/02/2024
Brenda Hamilton-Cowley		Resigned	06/03/2024
Audrey Stalte	Pastoral		
Val Stephens	Prayer		
Mike Thomas			

Norman Whitaker

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
Southgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2DH

CCLA Investment Management Limited
COIF Deposit & Property Fund
Senator House 85 Queen Victoria St
London EC4V 4ET

Independent Examiner Mrs M Adlard

Charity Number 293684

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

The Church

Christchurch Abbeydale is a church which is unique in Gloucestershire, a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) created and responsible to four denominations: Church of England, Methodist, United Reformed and Baptist. Christchurch is a Church of England conventional district within the Gloucester City Deanery and Gloucester Diocese, it is a Methodist church within the Gloucestershire Circuit and Bristol District, a United Reformed church within the Gloucestershire Area of the West Midlands Synod and a Baptist church within the West of England Baptist Association.

The Council

The Council are recruited from members of the church who have an interest and ability in advancing the aims and objectives of the church. The council and the officers (except the minister) are elected at The Annual General Meeting or co-opted during the year

Organisational Structure

The minister, the officers and all Church Council members are trustees of the charity. The council, chaired by the minister meets monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Church. The Council then take their recommendations to the church membership for approval at the quarterly Church meeting.

Aim and Purpose

Christchurch Abbeydale Church Council (CC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Peter Clarkson in promoting in our geographical area (a Conventional District to use the Church of England term), the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The Conventional District occupies parts of the parishes of St Oswald Coney Hill and St Lawrence Barnwood.

We undertake work across the entire neighbourhood, including a responsibility towards those who are members of no church

The Church Council is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church building and grounds.

The ecumenical nature of the church, so foundational in its inception, is reflected in the contact with other churches as people worship elsewhere, as different ministers are welcomed to our church and our minister visits other places of worship. We work with our neighbouring churches all of which promotes the work of meeting and ministering to a wide cross section of our area.

Objectives and Activities

Christchurch Abbeydale is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our faith community. We seek to represent the Body of Christ in Abbeydale and Abbeymead by the caring and love shown to those within the church family and beyond to the whole community.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Church Council Annual Report (contd)

Objectives and Activities (contd)

We aspire to make our services warm and friendly, varied and accessible, but at the same time reverent and meaningful. We are keen on congregational participation and regularly include children who have an important and valued contribution to make

We try hard to offer welcome and hospitality. Theologically, the church aims to be reflective of our four denominational heritage. Our members can belong to any of the denominations or none. The Church Council maintains an overview of worship and makes suggestions on how our services can involve groups connected with our church

Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the Church Council try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our Church community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel, developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus and supporting each other as part of the family of God
- Welcoming newcomers to the church whether they come for one week or longer.
- Provision of pastoral care for people associated with the Church and/or living locally.
- Developing connections into our local community particularly the local schools

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church building, the associated rooms and the area outside the church.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer - The Church Council are keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of a year that are both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling for all. For example, the midweek communion service provides a smaller more intimate, weekly opportunity to share bread and wine, this service offers a quiet space and is valued by those who regularly attend.

We continue to use worship material from various sources reflecting our ecumenical ethos.

Our work week was carried out as usual with the required maintenance of the building and surrounding areas, this was very well supported.

Jubilate carried out singing engagements at Lydney, Café Church, Jubilee festivities, Carols & Flowers to name a few.

We committed to a new vision which had arisen from LYCIG where we will embrace and support a vision to grow numerically, spiritually and its outreach to the wider community. The two new ventures Little Angels and Warm Welcome continue to be successful.

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Church Council Annual Report (contd)

Membership

During the year we had 90 members and 34 adherents, the majority of whom live locally. The average attendance during the year was 57 and the attendance does vary particularly at religious periods like Easter and Christmas and other festivals.

Financial Review

The running cost of the church is met by the contribution of the members plus the gift aid claimed. Other contributions from fund raising by friends of Christchurch volunteers and members were greatly appreciated, it has all allowed us to operate within our budget. The Church held a very successful Gift Day when additional donations were made.

The Baptist Strategy Building Scheme has this year informed us that a long term liability exists in the form of a Building Loan of £5,000 which was given when the church was built. This amount only becomes repayable if the church ceases to exist or moves from the building. They however would like that liability to be shown in our accounts.

Reserves Policy

It is the Church Council's policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if funds permit) this should equate to at least three months unrestricted payments. This is following the guidance suggested by the Charity Commission.

This unrestricted fund is to cover unexpected or emergency expenditure that may arise from time to time. In 2024 this fund should be £11,189. The balance of £24,622 held in the (COIF Charities Deposit Fund) at the end of the year, meets this policy, together with £2,243 in the current account to meet immediate expenditure.

The balance of £28,383 in the COIF Charities Property Fund is a restricted fund retained towards meeting the cost of major building repairs that will be required to be undertaken on the church. Although not the legal owners of the land and building (this is held by Shared Churches (Gloucester) Ltd which was set up in 1989 for this purpose), Christchurch Abbeydale carries out repairing and maintenance in lieu of an annual rent.

We work towards transferring £2,500 per annum to the COIF Charities Property Fund to meet that responsibility.

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Summary

For the size of the organisation and its range of activities, the figures presented in these accounts are presented on the basis that the organisation can meet its outgoings, and will be a continuing organisation.

Signature: 

Rev Peter Clarkson

Chair

Signature: 

Susan Hill FMAAT

Treasurer

Date: 30th April 2025

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts					
Planned Givings (S/O)	24,034	0	0	24,034	23,875
Envelope Givings	6,762	0	0	6,762	7,338
Collections and Sum UP	6,213	0	0	6,213	6,228
	37,009	0	0	37,009	37,441
Gift Aid Refunded	10,173	0	0	10,173	10,577
Charitable Donations	0	0	1,309	1,309	1,857
Donations	5,186	3,058	727	8,971	8,821
a Other Voluntary receipts	632	0	0	632	623
b Activities for Generating Funds	3,593	0	0	3,593	6,162
c Receipts from Church Activities	4,679	2,144	0	6,823	4,473
Bank Interest	0	0	0	0	25
Misc. Income	0	0	0	0	562
Total Receipts	61,272	5,202	2,036	68,510	70,541
Payments					
d Denominational Payments	7,891	0	0	7,891	9,849
e Ministerial Costs	40,993	0	0	40,993	41,351
f General Church Expenses	1,362	0	0	1,362	1,807
Altar Expenses	92	0	0	92	103
Junior Church	14	0	0	14	45
g Administration Cost	2,655	5	2	2,662	1,949
Utility Cost	6,460	0	0	6,460	4,311
h Building Maintenance Cost	3,258	917	0	4,175	6,600
Charitable Givings & Gifts	0	0	2,320	2,320	2,484
Church Activities	1,422	961	211	2,594	2,166
Rent in Lieu	2,500	0	0	2,500	2,500
Total Payments	66,647	1,883	2,533	71,063	73,165
Excess of Receipts over Pymts.	-5,375	3,319	-497	-2,553	-2,624
Transfer between funds	-219		219	0	0
Fixed Asset Purchase -	0	0	0	0	-2,468
B/F from previous year	5,334	579	585	6,498	10,943
Prior Year Adjustment	1,000			1,000	
Transfer to Property Account		-3,319	0	-3,319	2,500
Net Transfer from Property Account	618	0	0	618	-1,853
Total Funds C/F	1,358	579	307	2,244	6,498

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Dec-24	Dec-23
Bank Current Account	2,244	6,498
COIF Deposit Account As at Jan 2024	23,422	
Interest during the year	1,200	
Deposits during the year		
Withdrawals during the year		
As at Dec 2024	24,622	
COIF Property Account As at Jan 2024	22,074	
Interest during the year	1,107	
Rent in Lieu Deposit	2,500	
Deposits during the year	3,319	
Withdrawals during the year	618	
As at Dec 2024	28,382	

DESIGNATED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

	1st Jan 2024		Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Transfer to Property Acc	31 Dec 2024
a Communion Fund	579	Designated	0	0	0	0	579
b Windows	0	Designated	5,202	1,883	0	-3,319	0
	<u>579</u>		<u>5,202</u>	<u>1,883</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-3,319</u>	<u>579</u>
c Charitable Donations	0	Restricted	1,309	-1,471	162	0	0
d Donations	33	Restricted	727	-851	124	0	33
e Church Activities	67	Restricted	0	0	-67	0	0
f Little Angels	485	Restricted	0	-211	0	0	274
	<u>585</u>		<u>2,036</u>	<u>-2,533</u>	<u>219</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>307</u>

(a) Special fund to allow the minister flexibility in supporting relief in need cases out to him.

(b) Money donated and raised through activities towards replacing windows and doors.

(c) The church activities raising money for specific charities.

(d) Monies collected as restricted donations to charities and other bodies

(e) Joint activity for church funds and Winstons Wish

(f) Grant for Little Angels

The church collected funds amounting to £281 for the Boys Brigade and Girls Association via the Sum Up card Machine and has subsequently paid this amount over. No amounts were owing at 31st December 2024 (2023- Nil).

Creditors : The Independent Examiners invoice for the 2024 accounts is expected to be approx £400 (2023 - £390) Baptist Building Loan: £5,000 (2023 - £5,000), Gas and Electricity £853 (2023 - £498). Payment in advance of £300 for Photocopier contract.

Debtors: Gift Aid 2024 £10,600 (2023 £10,026)

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Receipts and Payments Analysis		Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
a	Other Voluntary Receipts					
	Chronicle	410	0	0	410	382
	Sunday Coffee	212	0	0	212	211
	Appeals & Gifts	0	0	0	0	0
	Flowers	10	0	0	10	20
	Books/Cards & Publications	0	0	0	0	10
		632	0	0	632	623
b	Activities for Generating Funds					
	Letting Fees	2,555	0	0	2,555	3,272
	Little Angels	359	0	0	359	1,399
	T @ 3	177	0	0	177	474
	Keep Fit	502	0	0	502	1,017
		3,593	0	0	3,593	6,162
c	Receipts from Church Activities					
	Fees	0	0	0	0	30
	Fetes, Concerts	4,679	2,144	0	6,823	4,443
		4,679	2,144	0	6,823	4,473
	Expenditure					
d	Denominational					
	Baptist	1,148	0	0	1,148	2,772
	Anglican	2,678	0	0	2,678	2,869
	Methodist	2,439	0	0	2,439	2,582
	United Reformed	1,626	0	0	1,626	1,626
		7,891	0	0	7,891	9,849
e	Ministerial Cost					
	Employment Cost	35,605	0	0	35,605	36,023
	Visiting Ministers	66	0	0	66	0
	Manse Rent	5,322	0	0	5,322	5,328
	Communion Fund	0	0	0	0	0
		40,993	0	0	40,993	41,351
f	General Church Expenses					
	Music Copyright & Gen Exp.	1,155	0	0	1,155	1,501
	Flowers	52	0	0	52	0
	Catering & T @ 3	155	0	0	155	306
		1,362	0	0	1,362	1,807
g	Administration Cost					
	Stationery & Post	0	0	0	0	70
	Card Machine	28	5	2	35	21
	Photocopier	2062	0	0	2062	1373
	Web & Accounts	565	0	0	565	485
		2655	5	2	2662	1949
h	Building Maintenance					
	Repairs & Mtce	2,575	917	0	3,492	5,846
	Insurance	618	0	0	618	606
	Cleaning	65	0	0	65	148
		3,258	917	0	4,175	6,600

CHRISTCHURCH ABBEYDALE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

DECLARATIONS

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

Date:

30th April 2025

Name:

Susan Hill FMAAT

Presentation to the Church Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Meeting on Wednesday 30th April 2025 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting:

Rev Peter Clarkson

Date: ...

30/4/25

Independent Examiner's report on the unaudited accounts to the trustees of Christchurch, Abbeydale

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 6 to 9.

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

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.



Mary Adlard

The Pippins
Gambles Lane
Woodmancote
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL52 9PU

20 July 2025