

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HARPENDEN ST JOHN REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED

# **31 DECEMBER 2023**

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The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Harpenden St John is registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (Charity no. 1131603)

### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 published in October 2019.

# Aims and purposes

St John's Parochial Church Council ("the PCC") has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church within the ecclesiastical parish: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the Parish Hall.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and become part of our church community at St John's. The Ministry Team, in conjunction with the PCC, maintains an overview of worship and makes suggestions on how our worship can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

As trustees of a registered charity, the PCC must report each year on how we have carried out our charity's purposes for the public benefit, which we set out in this trustees' report. We consider that we have complied with our duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on the meaning and scope of "public benefit", when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable parishioners to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ, the crucified and glorified Lord
- provision and pastoral care for people living in the parish
- missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St John the Baptist and the Parish Hall.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

# **Achievements and performance**

# Worship and prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a wide range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community may find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. In addition to our main 9.30 Parish Eucharist on a Sunday, which we continue to livestream for the benefit of those unable to attend in person, we offer Common Worship Morning and Evening Prayer Monday to Friday, and a weekly midweek communion. We have begun a pattern of services each month at 5pm on a Sunday to offer variety: Faith and Light (non-denominational worship for adults with special educational needs); Book of Common Prayer Evensong; Celtic Evening Prayer; a said Eucharist; a Taizé service.

This year we have been able to welcome more new families to our church, and this is an important part of our vision. We offer All Age Worship on the first Sunday of the month; Junior and Mini Church currently takes place on the second Sunday of the month, and we are planning to increase the frequency. We have started a toddler service on Thursday mornings, which attracts 7-10 toddlers and parents each week.

A total of 8 young people were admitted to First Communion.

The church is normally open daily from 10am to 5pm.

The PCC seeks to ensure that all are welcomed at our regular services. At present we have 175 members on the Church Electoral Roll, 113 of whom are resident in the Parish and 62 of whom have stated their eligibility is due to six months or more habitual worship. Since the previously reported number of 182, 5 members have died, 3 resigned, 3 were removed and 4 were added.

In addition to our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the amazing gift of life, in marriage services public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services family and friends express their deep sorrow but also give thanks for the life which is now completed and commend the person into the gracious hands of God. During the year, there were no weddings, 19 baptisms, 7 funerals in church and 1 at the crematorium, 1 memorial service, and 7 burials of ashes.

We have encouraged members of the congregation to deepen their relationship with God in a variety of ways: we offer a monthly bible study and a meditation group and ran Lent courses at different times to meet different needs.

A successful weekend away was held at High Leigh Conference Centre in September, with 30 people of all ages sharing in fellowship.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

# Use of the church

During this year, the PCC has been considering how to make best use of our beautiful building. The altar has been returned to its original position in the sanctuary, and we have been able to use a nave altar, lectern and chairs from Southdown Methodist Church to give more space and flexibility in this area. During the coming year we will be continuing to explore how best to use that space.

The PCC is keen for the church to be kept open for personal prayer and is also delighted to see it used for musical events. We were able to welcome back regular hirers of the church for concerts, including Roundwood Park School and Hardynge Choir as well as new groups – eg, Sonorité, Continuum and the AT Society. Many events are already booked for 2024, highlighting the church's use as a good resource this is for the community.

# Music

After the resignation of our previous Director of Music at the beginning of the year, we were grateful to all those who were able to keep music going: Tom and Madeleine Venner, Andrew Ballard, Terry Charlston and a number of visiting organists. Craig Greene was appointed to the post in September and led us with enthusiasm and professionalism, with a particularly well-received Nine Lessons and Carols. Unfortunately, for a number of personal reasons Craig resigned on 31 December. The PCC will be exploring options for ensuring music continues to enhance our worship.

# The parish hall

The hall continued to be used during the year for both regular and one-off hirers. Fusion Pre-School are the main tenants in the Hall on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 8-2pm. Little Acorns, our baby and toddler group which meets on Tuesdays, continues to grow, and regular hirers include Slimming World, Dance Studio, and Harpenden Musical Theatre Company.

Extensive work had been required to repair the roof of the hall; we benefited from the professional services of a firm of chartered surveyors to assess the damage, receive and assess quotes from contractors and oversee the work. We were grateful that a generous grant from the Harpenden Trust covered almost 50% of the cost to ensure we can continue to use this building while we seek to build a new parish centre. Fundraising efforts for that new centre restarted in the second half of the year and a five-year fundraising plan put in place (further details in the reports of activities).

# Pastoral care

We have a team of pastoral visitors who are able to visit those in need, with some authorised to give Communion. St Luke's Cell is a prayer group, which prays for individuals in any kind of need.

# Mission and evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith, and the PCC donates a part of its stewardship income each year to charities: one local, one national and one international. For 2023/24 the charities chosen are: MIND in Mid-Herts, The Children's Society and Missions Without Borders. We run a very successful monthly Tea at 3 event, which provides tea and companionship to a number of people in the parish.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

### Outreach

A large number of group activities take place at St John's, led by volunteers with both talent and commitment. These provide a range of services to benefit members of the congregation and the wider parish community. Details of these activities can be found on our website (<a href="www.stjohnsharpenden.org.uk">www.stjohnsharpenden.org.uk</a>) and in reports attached to this report.

We publish a free quarterly parish magazine which is available online and distributed to every home and business within the parish. This publicises our church service times and forthcoming events; the aim is to attract and inform readers in Southdown who are not regular churchgoers as well as appealing to our congregation. We also communicate news and events to 247 members of the congregation via a weekly enewsletter.

# Ecumenical relations

St John's is a member of Churches Together in Harpenden. After many years of positive relationships with Southdown Methodist Church, we were sad that Southdown Methodist Church was closed. A service of thanksgiving was held in October, and several members of that congregation have now joined us at St John's.

# **Financial review**

Total income during 2023 was £278,012 (2022: £270,181), an increase of £7,831 or 3% compared to the prior year. This increase was mainly the result of a reduction in Linwood Road property rental of £10,317, a reduction in Gift Aid tax recoverable of £4,182 but accompanied by an increase in church hall lettings of £6,331 and a £14,800 grant towards the hall roof repair. Excluding the Parish Centre, income decreased by £18,082 or 9% to £187,267 (2022: £205,349) for the reasons mentioned above.

Total expenditure during 2023 grew by £11,305 or 5.4% to £222,189 (2022: £210,884). The largest item of expenditure was the parish share of £95,319 (2022: £100,862). Also, there were costs of £24,638 relating to the maintenance of the church hall roof. Once again, cost inflation impacted many expenses in the year.

Our planned missionary giving of 10% of our voluntary income to outside charities in 2023 decreased by 10% to £14,679 (2022: £16,397).

The net of total income and total expenditure for 2023 was a surplus of £55,823 (2022: £59,297). The new Parish Centre had a surplus of £75,945 (2022: £59,237), with the general fund generating a deficit of £34,902 (2022: surplus of £161) and the designated fund a deficit of £20 (2022: deficit of £101). As a result of the net surplus, total net assets as at 31 December 2023 of £548,245 are £55,823 higher than total net assets as at 1 January 2023 of £492,422. Total net assets are represented by general, designated, and restricted funds.

General funds decreased by £19,925 from £40,766 as at 1 January 2023 to £20,841 as at 31 December 2023. This represents around 1.1 months of ongoing expenditure.

Designated funds decreased by £197 from £164,647 as at 1 January 2023 to £164,450 as at 31 December 2023.

Restricted funds increased by £75,945 from £287,009 as at 1 January 2023 to £362,954 as at 31 December 2023, due principally to donations received for the Parish Centre.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

### **Outlook for the future**

The financial position of the PCC as at 31 December 2023 shows the need for substantial improvement towards reducing the underlying structural deficit noted previously. We have been helped considerably by the rental income from Linwood Road, but since the appointment of Ritah as our curate we no longer have that income so further effort is needed in order to establish a financially sustainable position.

The trustees consider that the PCC is a going concern as at the date of approving the 2023 accounts. This is based on considering the level of funds held, the breadth and financial position of its donor base, known or anticipated future changes to either income or expenditure, and planned future capital projects. The PCC will prepare a budget for 2024 which will anticipate further improvements in the underlying deficit. Separately, plans to raise funds for capital projects such as the church porch, re-ordering, a new boiler and an improved sound system will need to be made and prioritised. In all of this, the PCC needs to ensure that the reserves are gradually rebuilt.

# **Reserves policy**

The PCC seeks to operate on a balanced budget basis but periodically sets aside such amounts as it deems prudent to meet anticipated abnormal expenditure. Such amounts are held in designated funds and are represented by bank balances and accounts receivable within the general assets of the PCC. It is the policy of the PCC to hold in general reserves at least the equivalent amount of two months of general running costs, which is currently approximately £37,000. The PCC is aware that at 31 December 2023 this had fallen to 1.1 months (£19,925 - see note in Financial Review above) and that work is needed to restore the deficit.

# Structure, governance and management of the PCC

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a registered charity. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. Certain members of the PCC are allocated specific responsibility for some of the matters which affect the parish, e.g., Safeguarding. These individuals attend appropriate training courses provided by the Diocese where necessary and report back to the PCC as a body.

The PCC met six times in 2023 and attendance at meetings was 68% of the maximum possible number of 16.

Prior to each PCC meeting, a Standing Committee (comprising the incumbent, churchwarden, deputy churchwarden, one co-opted member of PCC, Treasurer and Secretary) meets to draw up the agenda of items to be discussed.

At its meetings this year, the PCC has carried out the necessary formalities such as appointing its officers and reviewing its committee structure. Following the resignation of Jacky Dodd as Secretary in March, Mary Jean Pritchard was co-opted to this role in September. There continues to be a focus on safeguarding and all members of the PCC have undertaken the required level of training as provided by the Diocese. The Safeguarding and Health & Safety policies have been reviewed and updated where necessary.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

The PCC devolves some of its work to teams, and all members of the PCC, as well as further members of the congregation with particular skills or interests, are invited to sit on those teams, which meet on a regular basis (or liaise electronically). The current teams are Eco-church, Junior Church and Project Phoenix (our new parish centre project). Two members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod providing an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church of England.

Approximately a week before a meeting, all PCC members receive the agenda, reports from any groups that have met since the last meeting and any briefing documents for items under discussion. Within two weeks of a PCC meeting, minutes of that meeting are circulated to all members. These minutes go on public display on the noticeboard in the porch, once they have been formally approved at the following PCC meeting.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

# **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

St John's Church is situated on St John's Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire. It is part of the Diocese of St. Albans within the Church of England.

The PCC can be contacted at: St John's Parish offices, St John's Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 1DJ.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1131603.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Vicar

Tim Vickers

Curate

Ritah Namakula (from July)

Readers

Lauryn Awbrey (also Deanery Synod)

Anne Edwards

David Nye (also Deanery Synod)

Churchwardens

Jane Donati (until March)

Heather Nye

<u>Secretary</u>

Jacky Dodd (until March)

Mary Jean Pritchard (co-opted September)

Treasurer

Jonathan Pitman

**Council Members** 

Andrew Ballard (co-opted May)

Alison Bygrave Bryan Coventry Sophie Crowley Nick Luckett Liz Macdonald

Dawn Mason (until March)

Alastair Meldrum

Bill Moore (until March)

Martin Myers

Liz Newell (until November) Liz Sergeant (until March)

The Trustees' Report was approved by the PCC on 5 May and signed on their behalf by:

Heather Nye

Churchwarden

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST JOHN HARPENDEN

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 19.

# Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's financial statements 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 Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is to drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has since been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Roger Cox FCA (ICAEW)

Miller & Co Chartered Accountants 5 Imperial Court Laporte Way Luton LU4 8FE

Date: May 2024

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|  |      | Unrestricted Funds Re |            | Restricted | TOTAL   | <b>2022</b><br>(Note |
|--|------|-----------------------|------------|------------|---------|----------------------|
|  |      | General               | Designated | Funds      | 2023    | 18)                  |
|  | Note | £                     | £          | £          | £       | £                    |
| <b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b> Incoming resources from generated funds: |      |                       |            |            |         |                      |
| Voluntary income   | 2    | 148,242               | -          | 90,745     | 238,987 | 229,631              |
| Activities for generating funds                                    | 3    | 24,101                | -          | -          | 24,101  | 27,977               |
| Investment income  | 4    | 6,135                 |            |            | 6,135   | 1,553                |
|  |      | 178,478               | -          | 90,745     | 269,223 | 259,161              |
| Incoming resources from church activities                          | 5    | 8,789                 |            |            | 8,789   | 11,020               |
| Total incoming resources   |      | 187,267               |            | 90,745     | 278,012 | 270,181              |
| RESOURCES EXPENDED Cost of church activities                       |      |                       |            |            |         |                      |
| Missionary Giving  | 6    | 16,125                | -          | -          | 16,125  | 17,222               |
| Parish Share   | 6    | 95,319                | -          | -          | 95,319  | 100,862              |
| Fabric and Running Costs   | 6    | 67,214                | -          | -          | 67,214  | 40,301               |
| Mission & Education  | 6    | 8,685                 | -          | -          | 8,685   | 6,121                |
| Staff Costs  | 6    | 23,272                | -          | -          | 23,272  | 27,002               |
| Other costs  | 6    | 11,554                | 20_        |            | 11,574  | 19,376               |
| Total resources expended   |      | 222,169               | 20         |            | 222,189 | 210,884              |
| Net income/(expenditure) for year                                  |      | (34,902)              | (20)       | 90,745     | 55,823  | 59,297               |
| Transfers between funds  |      | 14,977                | (177)      | (14,800)   | -       | -                    |
| Net movement in funds  |      | (19,925)              | (197)      | 75,945     | 55,823  | 59,297               |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS Total funds at 1 Jan 2023                  |      | 40,766                | 164,647    | 287,009    | 492,422 | 433,125              |
| Total funds at 31 Dec 2023   |      | 20,841                | 164,450    | 362,954    | 548,245 | 492,422              |

The notes on pages 12 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

# **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

|                                   |      | 2023     | 2022     |
|-----------------------------------|------|----------|----------|
|                                   | Note | £        | £        |
| FIXED ASSETS                      |      |          |          |
| Tangible assets                   | 9    | 63,888   | 63,888   |
|                                   |      |          |          |
| CURRENT ASSETS                    |      |          |          |
| Debtors                           | 10   | 61,706   | 21,089   |
| Bank and cash balances            |      | 466,542  | 430,417  |
|                                   |      | 528,248  | 451,506  |
|                                   |      |          |          |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES               |      |          |          |
| Creditors payable within one year | 11   | (43,891) | (22,972) |
| NET CURRENT ACCETS                |      | 404.257  | 120 524  |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS                |      | 484,357  | 428,534  |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS                  |      | 548,245  | 492,422  |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS                  |      | <u> </u> | 132,122  |
| THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY          |      |          |          |
| Unrestricted income funds:        |      |          |          |
| General                           | 12   | 20,841   | 40,766   |
| Designated                        | 13   | 164,450  | 164,647  |
| Total                             | 15   | 185,291  | 205,413  |
| . 5001                            |      | 100,201  | 203, 113 |
| Restricted income funds:          | 15   | 362,954  | 287,009  |
|                                   |      | 548,245  | 492,422  |
|                                   |      |          |          |

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 5th May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Heather Nye Churchwarden

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Basis of preparation

The PCC constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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 issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a registered charity. The address of the registered office is given in the administrative details section of the trustees' report. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

These financial statements are prepared on the basis of the PCC being a going concern. The trustees make their own assessment of the PCC's ability to continue as a going concern to assure themselves of the validity of this assumption when preparing accounts. In making this assessment, the trustees take into account all available information about the future for at least, but not limited to, 12 months from the date the accounts are approved. There are no material uncertainties about the PCC's ability to continue. In addition, as at the date of approval of these accounts, there are no contractual commitments in relation to the new Parish Centre, and its development will be conditional on successful fundraising.

# **Funds**

Unrestricted funds represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its general reserves as disclosed in the trustees' report.

Restricted funds represent income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

# 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

*Incoming resources* 

Income and endowments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources;
- and inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Planned giving, collections and donations are therefore generally recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received.

Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Rental income from the letting of the church, the church hall, and the property in Linwood Road is recognised when the rental is due.

Interest income is accrued.

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Resources expended

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable.

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due.

# Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). Such assets are not valued in the financial statements. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the statement of financial activities.

The Church Hall has been fully depreciated, however as it is still in use and is providing economic benefit through rental income it has been retained on the balance sheet but with a valuation of £nil.

The Linwood Road property is held at cost. The land element of the property is not depreciated in accordance with the applicable financial reporting standards. Whilst buildings are ordinarily depreciated, no depreciation is provided on the building element of the property as the current estimated residual value of the property is not less than its carrying amount and the remaining useful life of the property currently exceeds 50 years, and therefore any depreciation charge would be immaterial.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

At each reporting date an assessment is carried out of whether there is any indication that an asset should be written down (i.e. whether the carrying amount on the balance sheet is more than its recoverable amount). If there is no indication that an asset should be written down, it is not necessary to estimate the recoverable amount.

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

|   |  | Unrestricted Funds |            | Restricted | TOTAL   | TOTAL   |  |
|---|--|--------------------|------------|------------|---------|---------|--|
|   |  | General            | Designated | Funds      | 2023    | 2022    |  |
|   |  | £                  | £          | £          | £       | £       |  |
| 2 | VOLUNTARY INCOME                             |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
|   | Planned Giving:                              |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
|   | Gift Aid donations                           | 108,247            | -          | -          | 108,247 | 118,172 |  |
|   | Tax recoverable                              | 24,162             | -          | -          | 24,162  | 28,344  |  |
|   | Non gift aid donations                       | 14,390             | -          | -          | 14,390  | 17,458  |  |
|   | Grants                                       | -                  | -          | 14,800     | 14,800  | -       |  |
|   | Donations, appeals etc.                      | 1,443              | -          | -          | 1,443   | 825     |  |
|   | Parish Centre fundraising                    | -                  | -          | 62,288     | 62,288  | 52,407  |  |
|   | Tax recoverable on Parish Centre funds       |                    |            | 13,657     | 13,657  | 12,425  |  |
|   |  | 148,242            |            | 90,745     | 238,987 | 229,631 |  |
|   |  |                    |            | ·          |         |         |  |
| 3 | <b>ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS</b>       |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
|   | Church Hall lettings (non-church activities) | 18,194             | -          | -          | 18,194  | 11,863  |  |
|   | Fundraising Events                           | 113                | -          | -          | 113     | -       |  |
|   | Linwood Road property rental income          | 5,794              | -          | -          | 5,794   | 16,114  |  |
|   |  | 24,101             |            |            | 24,101  | 27,977  |  |
|   |  |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
| 4 | INVESTMENT INCOME                            |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
|   | Bank interest                                | 6,135              |            |            | 6,135   | 1,533   |  |
|   |  | 6,135              |            |            | 6,135   | 1,533   |  |
|   |  |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
| _ | INCOME FROM CHURCH                           |                    |            |            |         |         |  |
| 5 | ACTIVITIES                                   | 2 422              |            |            | 2 422   |         |  |
|   | Income from Social events                    | 3,420              | -          | -          | 3,420   | -       |  |
|   | Parish Magazine advertising                  | 1,675              | -          | -          | 1,675   | 3,390   |  |
|   | Fees for Weddings & Funerals                 | 3,694              |            |            | 3,694   | 7,630   |  |
|   |  | 8,789              |            |            | 8,789   | 11,020  |  |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|  | Unrestrict<br>General | ed Funds<br>Designated | Restricted<br>Funds | TOTAL<br>2023  | TOTAL<br>2022 |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|
|  | £                     | £                      | £                   | £              | £             |
| COSTS OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES                         |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Missionary and Charitable giving (also see note 8) |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Relief and development agencies                    | 16,125                |                        |                     | 16,125         | 17,222        |
| _  | 16,125                |                        |                     | 16,125         | 17,222        |
| Parish share                                       | 95,319                |                        |                     | 95,319         | 100,862       |
| ==   | 33/313                |                        |                     |                | 100/002       |
| Fabric and running costs:                          |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Church running costs                               | 12,699                | -                      | -                   | 12,699         | 9,950         |
| Church maintenance                                 | 2,926                 | -                      | -                   | 2,926          | 8,472         |
| Organ/piano tuning & maint.                        | 965                   | -                      | -                   | 965            | 1,019         |
| Grounds upkeep                                     | 370                   | -                      | -                   | 370            | 529           |
| Hall running costs                                 | 6,617                 | -                      | -                   | 6,617          | 4,114         |
| Hall maintenance                                   | 30,739                | -                      | -                   | 30,739         | 6,262         |
| Vicarage running costs                             | 2,878                 | -                      | -                   | 2,878          | 2,639         |
| Linwood Road property upkeep                       | 1,757                 | -                      | -                   | 1,757          | 416           |
| Upkeep of services                                 | 4,666                 | -                      | -                   | 4,666          | 3,870         |
| Parish Office Admin Costs                          | 3,597                 |                        |                     | 3,597          | 3,030         |
| _  | 44,172                |                        |                     | 67,214         | 40,301        |
| M: : 0.51 !:                                       |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Mission & Education:                               | 6 262                 |                        |                     | 6 262          | F 460         |
| Parish magazine                                    | 6,362                 | -                      | -                   | 6,362          | 5,168         |
| Education  | 2,323                 | <del>-</del>           |                     | 2,323          | 953           |
| _  | 8,685                 | <del>-</del>           |                     | <u>8,685</u>   | 6,121         |
| Staff Costs:                                       |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Working expenses of incumbent                      | 4,478                 | -                      | -                   | 4,478          | 2,191         |
| Wages and salaries Note 7                          | 18,794                | -                      | -                   | 18,794         | 24,811        |
|  | 23,272                |                        |                     | 23,272         | 27,002        |
|  |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Other costs: Flower Guild expenditure              | _                     | 20                     | _                   | 20             | 101           |
| Promotional and communications                     | _                     | -                      | _                   |                | 144           |
| Sundry expenses                                    | 2,861                 | _                      | _                   | 2,861          | 3,095         |
| Wedding & funeral fees to Diocese                  | 1,181                 | _                      | _                   | 1,181          | 3,984         |
| <del>-</del>                                       | · ·                   | _                      | _                   | <del>-</del>   |               |
| Wedding & funeral fees – other                     | 3,280                 | -                      | -                   | 3,280          | 3,037         |
| Costs of fund-raising                              | 173                   | -                      | -                   | 173            | 808           |
| Bank charges                                       | 66                    | -                      | -                   | 66             | 355           |
| Social events                                      | 2,331                 | -                      | -                   | 2,331          | 661           |
| Independent examiners fee:                         |                       |                        |                     |                |               |
| Independent examination                            | 948                   | -                      | -                   | 948            | 912           |
| Accountancy  | 714                   | _                      | _                   | 714            | 684           |
| New parish centre costs                            | -                     | -                      | -                   | , <del>-</del> | 5,595         |
|  | 11,554                | 20                     |                     | 11,574         | 19,376        |
| <del>-</del>                                       | -,                    |                        |                     |                |               |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

| 7  | STAFF COSTS  |                  |                | 2023        | 2022     |
|----|--|------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|
|    |  |                  |                | £           | £        |
|    | Wages and salaries   |                  |                | 17,598      | 22,521   |
|    | Social security costs  |                  |                | 1,196       | 2,290    |
|    |  |                  |                | 18,794      | 24,811   |
|    | The average number of staff employed was 2 (2022: 2.5)       |                  |                |             |          |
|    | There are no employees who received employee benefits of     | more than £60,00 | 00 (2022: none | 2)          |          |
| 8  | MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING                             |                  |                | 2023        | 2022     |
|    | The missionary and charitable giving is made up of the follo | wing donations   |                | £           | £        |
|    | Relief and development agencies                              | _                |                |             |          |
|    | Accrual for 2023/2022 Charitable Giving                      |                  |                | 14,679      | 16,397   |
|    | Harvest Appeal   |                  |                | 680         | -        |
|    | Other  |                  |                | 766         | 825      |
|    |  |                  |                | 16,125      | 17,222   |
|    |  |                  |                |             |          |
| 9  | TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS  | Linwood<br>Road  | Church<br>Hall | TOTAL       |          |
|    |  | property         |                | 2023        | 2022     |
|    | Actual/ deemed cost:   | £                | £              | £           | £        |
|    | Brought forward at 1 January                                 | 63,888           | 48,299         | 112,187     | 112,187  |
|    | Carried forward 31 December                                  | 63,888           | 48,299         | 112,187     | 112,187  |
|    | Depreciation:  |                  |                |             |          |
|    | Brought forward at 1 January                                 | -                | (48,299)       | (48,299)    | (48,299) |
|    | Charge for year  | -                | -              | -           | -        |
|    | Carried forward 31 December                                  |                  | (48,299)       | (48,299)    | (48,299) |
|    |  |                  |                | - <u></u> - |          |
|    | Carrying value at 31 December                                | 63,888           |                | 63,888      | 63,888   |
|    | The Curate's House at 2 Linwood Road was independently v     | alued on 2 March | 2010 at £380   | ,000        |          |
| 10 | DEBTORS  |                  |                | 2023        | 2022     |
|    |  |                  |                | £           | £        |
|    | Gift Aid Tax recoverable                                     |                  |                | 46,906      | 21,089   |
|    | Prepayments and accrued income                               |                  |                | 14,800      |          |
|    |  |                  |                | 61,706      | 21,089   |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|    |  | 2023           | 2022    |
|----|--|----------------|---------|
| 11 | CREDITORS                                    | £              | £       |
|    | Outside giving                               | 14,679         | 16,397  |
|    | Accruals and deferred income                 | 28,446         | 6,575   |
|    | Other creditors                              | 766            |         |
|    |  | 43,891         | 22,972  |
|    |  | 2023           | 2022    |
| 12 | GENERAL FUNDS                                | £              | £       |
|    | Brought forward at 1 January                 | 40,766         | 40,605  |
|    | Transfer from Designated fund                | 177            | -       |
|    | Transfer from Restricted fund                | 14,800         |         |
|    | Net income / (expenditure) for year          | (34,902)       | 161     |
|    | Carried forward at 31 December               | 20,841         | 40,766  |
| 13 | DESIGNATED FUNDS                             | 2023           | 2022    |
|    | The PCC operates seven Designated Funds:     | £              | £       |
|    | Parish Centre                                | 6,988          | 6,988   |
|    | Organ - Reserve to fund future organ repairs | 21,045         | 21,045  |
|    | Legacies - Legacies received and spent       | 48,777         | 48,777  |
|    | Flower Guild                                 | -              | 197     |
|    | Fabric reserve                               | 23,752         | 23,752  |
|    | Linwood Road property                        | 63,888         | 63,888  |
|    |  | <u>164,450</u> | 164,647 |
|    |  |                |         |

The movements on the Designated Funds during 2023 were as follows:

|                                | Parish<br>Centre<br>£ | Organ<br>£  | Legacies<br>£                    | Flower<br>Guild<br>£ |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Brought forward at 1 Jan 2023  | 6,988                 | 21,045      | 48,777                           | 197                  |
| Income                         | -                     | -           | -                                | -                    |
| Expenditure                    | -                     | -           | -                                | (20)                 |
| Transfer to General fund       |                       |             |                                  | (177)                |
| Carried forward at 31 Dec 2023 | 6,988                 | 21,045      | 48,777                           |                      |
|                                |                       | Fabric<br>£ | Linwood<br>Road<br>property<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2022<br>£   |
| Brought forward at 1 Jan 2023  |                       | 23,752      | 63,888                           | 164,647              |
| Income                         |                       | -           | -                                | -                    |
| Expenditure                    |                       | -           | -                                | (20)                 |
| Transfer to General fund       |                       |             |                                  | (177)                |
| Carried forward at 31 Dec 2023 |                       | 23,752      | 63,888                           | 164,450              |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

# 13 DESIGNATED FUNDS (continued)

The movements on the Designated Funds during 2022 were as follows:

|                                | Parish<br>Centre | Organ  | Legacies                  | Flower<br>Guild |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------------|
|                                | £                | £      | £                         | £               |
| Brought forward at 1 Jan 2022  | 6,988            | 21,045 | 48,777                    | 298             |
| Income                         | -                | -      | -                         | -               |
| Expenditure                    | -                | -      | -                         | (101)           |
| Carried forward at 31 Dec 2022 | 6,988            | 21,045 | 48,777                    | 197             |
|                                |                  | Fabric | Linwood<br>Rd<br>property | TOTAL<br>2021   |
| Duranah famurud at 1 Jan 2022  |                  | 22.7F2 | £                         | 164 740         |
| Brought forward at 1 Jan 2022  |                  | 23,752 | 63,888                    | 164,748         |
| Income                         |                  | -      | -                         | -               |
| Expenditure                    |                  |        |                           | (101)           |
| Carried forward at 31 Dec 2022 |                  | 23,752 | 63,888                    | 164,647         |

# **Fund descriptions:**

Parish Centre – for the build of a new parish hall/parish centre, replacing the current hall.

Organ – for the replacement or repair of the organ that is in place in the church.

Legacies – being receipts from legacies where no restrictions apply that the PCC designates for the purpose of paying for items of a capital nature.

Fabric – for repairs to the fabric of the church building.

Linwood Road Property – for work required to upkeep/repair the Linwood Road property.

# 14 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

| Fixed assets Current assets Current liabilities Total | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£<br>-<br>64,732<br>(43,891)<br>20,841 | Designated funds £ 63,888 100,562 - 164,450 | Restricted<br>funds<br>£<br>-<br>362,954<br>-<br>362,954 | TOTAL<br>2023<br>£<br>63,888<br>528,248<br>(43,891)<br>548,245 |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Fixed assets Current assets Current liabilities Total | Unrestricted funds £ - 63,738 (22,972) 40,766                   | Designated funds £ 63,888 100,759 - 164,647 | Restricted funds £ - 287,009 - 287,009                   | TOTAL<br>2022<br>£<br>63,888<br>451,506<br>(22,972)<br>492,422 |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

# 15 RESTRICTED FUNDS

|                | 2023    | 2022    |
|----------------|---------|---------|
|                | £       | £       |
| Parish Centre  | 358,306 | 282,361 |
| Choir Fund     | 3,671   | 3,671   |
| Education Fund | 977_    | 977     |
|                | 362,954 | 287,009 |

The movements on the Restricted Funds during 2023 were as follows:

|                                     | Fabric   | Parish<br>centre<br>£ | Education<br>Fund<br>£ | Choir<br>Fund<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2023<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Brought forward at 1 January 2023   | -        | 282,361               | 977                    | 3,671              | 287,009            |
| Voluntary Income                    | 14,800   | 75,945                | -                      | -                  | 90,745             |
| Expenditure                         | -        | -                     | -                      | -                  | -                  |
| Transfer to general fund            | (14,800) |                       |                        |                    | (14,800)           |
| Carried forward at 31 December 2023 |          | 358,306               | 977                    | 3,671              | 362,954            |

The movements on the Restricted Funds during 2022 were as follows:

|                                     | Parish centre | Education<br>Fund | Choir<br>Fund | TOTAL<br>2022 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                     | £             | £                 | £             | £             |
| Brought forward at 1 January 2022   | 223,124       | 977               | 3,671         | 227,772       |
| Voluntary Income                    | 64,832        | -                 | -             | 64,832        |
| Expenditure                         | (5,595)       |                   |               | (5,595)       |
| Carried forward at 31 December 2022 | 282,361       | 977               | 3,671         | 287,009       |

The PCC accounts include certain Restricted Funds, where the monies can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the PCC. These monies are not at the disposal of the PCC for any other purpose.

# **Fund descriptions:**

Parish Centre – for the build of a new parish hall/parish centre, replacing the current hall. Fabric – for repairs to the fabric of the church building. A grant was received from The Harpenden Trust for part of the cost of the hall roof repair. This was transferred to the general fund towards the repair costs incurred.

# 16 PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES

No PCC members received remuneration (2022: £nil). Members of the Ministry Team who were also members of the PCC were reimbursed working expenses, relating primarily to travel expenses, totalling £nil (2022 £111).

# 17 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions in the year (2022: £nil).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

# 18 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

|   |   | Unrestricted Funds<br>General Designated |         | Restricted<br>Funds | TOTAL<br>2021 |
|---|---|--|---------|---------------------|---------------|
|   |   | £  | £       | £                   | £             |
| INCOMING RESOURCES Incoming resources from generated funds: |   |  |         |                     |               |
| Voluntary income  | 2 | 164,799                                  | _       | 64,832              | 220,155       |
| Activities for generating funds                             | 3 | 27,977                                   | _       | -                   | 26,526        |
| Investment income   | 4 | 1,553                                    | -       | -                   | 70            |
|   |   | 194,329                                  |         | 64,832              | 246,751       |
| Incoming resources from church activities                   | 5 | 11,020                                   | -       | -                   | 10,472        |
| Total incoming resources                                    |   | 205,349                                  |         | 64,832              | 257,223       |
| RESOURCES EXPENDED  |   |  |         |                     |               |
| Cost of church activities                                   |   |  |         |                     |               |
| Missionary Giving   | 6 | 17,222                                   | _       | _                   | 17,222        |
| Parish Share  | 6 | 100,862                                  | _       | _                   | 100,862       |
| Fabric and Running Costs                                    | 6 | 40,301                                   | _       | _                   | 40,301        |
| Mission & Education   | 6 | 6,121                                    | _       | -                   | 6,121         |
| Staff Costs   | 6 | 27,002                                   | -       | -                   | 27,002        |
| Other costs   | 6 | 13,680                                   | 101     | 5,595               | 19,376        |
| Total resources expended                                    |   | 205,188                                  | 101     | 5,595               | 210,884       |
| Net income/(expenditure) for year                           |   | 161                                      | (101)   | 59,237              | 59,297        |
| Transfers between funds                                     |   | -  | -       | -                   | -             |
| Net movement in funds                                       |   | 161                                      | (101)   | 59,237              | 59,297        |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS                                     |   |  |         |                     |               |
| Total funds at 1 Jan 2022                                   |   | 40,605                                   | 164,748 | 227,772             | 433,125       |
| Total funds at 31 Dec 2022                                  |   | 40,766                                   | 164,647 | 287,009             | 492,422       |