



Diocese of Peterborough, Archdeaconry of Northampton, Deanery of Brackley

The Parish of St Peter with St James Brackley
(Registered Charity Number 1131151)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2023

Incumbent:
The Revd Rich Duncan
The Vicarage,
Old Town,
Brackley NN13 7BZ

Lay Chair:
Mrs Val Lynam,
17 Stratton Drive,
Brackley NN13 6HE

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank plc
Barclays Bank plc

Independent Examiners:
Blencowes
15 High Street,
Brackley NN13 7DH

St Peter with St James, Brackley
Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Parochial Church Council
For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

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St Peter's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - Pastoral, Social and Ecumenical.

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Incumbent

Revd Rich Duncan

Curate

Revd Rob Wood – July 2023

Permission to Officiate

Revd Sylvia Lafford
Revd Phillip Ball
Revd Geoff Ball moved away 2023
Revd Dave Bell

Lay Chairman

Mrs Val Lynam from APCM 2023

Churchwardens

Mrs Bev Lazenby from APCM 2023
Mr Nick Hebditch from APCM 2023 – resigned July 2023

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Mr John MacMahon from APCM 2023 until 2026
Mr Richard Waterhouse from APCM 2023 until 2026
Miss Helen Price from APCM 2023 until 2026

Elected Members of the PCC

Mrs Uli Ashley	from APCM 2022 until 2024
Mr Chris Bazeley	from APCM 2023 until 2026
Mr John Carter	from APCM 2021 until 2024 – Treasurer
Mrs Karen Gees	from APCM 2022 until 2025 – Secretary resigned July 2023
Mr Steve Gees	from APCM 2022 until 2025 resigned July 2023
Mrs Liz Goddard	from APCM 2023 until 2025
Dr Tony Holden	from APCM 2021 until 2024 PSO
Mrs Denise Johnson	co-opted as Secretary Dec 2023 until APCM 2025
Mrs Rosemary Leeper	from APCM 2022 until 2025
Mrs Val Lynam	from APCM 2023 until 2026 Administrator
Mr Ben Stopher	from APCM 2021 until 2024
Mr Dave Withers	from APCM 2023 until 2026

Church Attendance

There are 153 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll as at 31st December 2023. The Average Sunday Attendance for 2023 was 109 adults and 19 children, excluding services when a baptism was held.

Our aim is to love God, love each other and love Brackley, because of the saving love we have been shown in Jesus Christ.

2023 was an incredibly busy year in the life of St Peter's as we took the opportunity to celebrate 800 years of formalized gospel ministry in Brackley (the first vicar having been installed here in 1223). This involved a great number and variety of events, as well as an ambitious appeal to raise funds for the building and churchyard, with the aim of securing the ministry of St Peter's for generations to come.

The 800 Campaign Management Team and Social Committee, along with many other groups and individuals, put in a vast amount of work to pull off what was an extraordinary achievement in all sorts of ways. One of the highlights was our 800 Celebration Service, attended by our appeal patrons and Bishop Andrew Proud, with other highpoints including the Butterfly Installation, Medieval Banquet, Brides & Blooms Festival, Christmas Ball and 800 Auction. Thank you to all those who gave so generously of their time, money and expertise.

In our Sunday sermons, we sought to preach Christ from all of Scripture throughout the year. We tend to focus on one Gospel from Christmas to Easter, which in 2023 meant seeing Jesus presented as the long-awaited Messiah in Matthew 1-7. After Easter, the book of Colossians set out the all-sufficiency of Christ and implored us never to move on from him. Over the summer, we saw the way in which Jesus fulfils many of the Psalms we all love. Then in the autumn, the story of Joseph in Genesis had a narrative arc that, time and time again, was strikingly Christlike in its shape and direction of travel.

There were many signs of growth in 2023. Average Sunday Attendance of adults rose to 109 from 99 the previous year (and that's before we count the number of children, which also increased). While parish church attendance is down 23% from 2019 in the CofE nationally, ours has risen by 21% during the same period (and by 36% since 2018). Online too, our website had more traffic in 2023 than previously, with 2,400 new visitors over the year. Other major encouragements included the launch of midweek Growth Groups in September, the substantial rise in regular giving to general funds (despite the 800 Appeal), and even fuller services at Christmas than before. These were some of the many causes to praise God for his blessings upon us as a church.

In terms of personnel, it was a joy to welcome Rob Wood to St Peter's as curate and colleague halfway through the year. Helen Price continued to take the children and families work from strength to strength, both at church and in the schools. Val Lynam stepped down as church warden after over a decade in the role, but wonderfully remained as our church administrator. Rev'ds. Sylvia Lafford, Dave Bell and Philip Ball continued to be an enormous support to the ministry team, with the lovely addition of Rev'd James Righetti (and family) in February. A special mention needs to go to my wife, Kate, who continued to do an incredible amount behind the scenes during 2023 to serve the church in all sorts of ways. But, most of all, looking back over the year, we give thanks to the Lord for he is good and his love endures forever.

Goods and Ornaments

A handrail was fitted to improve safety for people going up into the pulpit. Regrettably there was a theft of two Strimmers from the churchyard shed.

Maintenance

The BDM (Building Development and Maintenance Committee) met five times during the year to consider maintenance items on behalf of the PCC, and has a new chair, Chris Bazeley. The other members are John Carter, Rich Duncan, Val Lynam and John MacMahon. Bob Israel stood down. The works undertaken were selected owing to their urgency and available funds.

We are pleased to have David Pendery as our architect following Mark King's retirement. All the urgent repairs identified in the 2021 architect's quinquennial inspection are complete. Of those recommended within twelve months the following are outstanding.

- Re-gilding of wind vane, de-rusting and repainting of supporting metalwork and compass points to weathervane.
- Repairs to roof over kitchen
- De-rusting and painting of gutters and downpipes
- Repairs to lead flashing and pointing of tower parapets.

The hall roof continues to be a concern with the stone slates rapidly deteriorating after twenty-five years when a life of one to two hundred years is the norm. We have replaced 130 sq. metres of the roof area of 241 sq. metres. This includes the east elevation of the storeroom of 14.5 sq. metres which was done this year at a cost of £10,200. The kitchen and entrance roofs at 36 sq. metres are planned for next year. Hughes Roofing Service carried out routine roof maintenance for the first part of the year and we now use C. K Roofing Ltd for routine roof maintenance.

The outside woodwork on the hall and the north and west church doors have been treated and look very good.

The boiler is at the end of its life. No asbestos was found during a survey. The PCC employed CBG Heating Consultants to prepare a proposal for a replacement heating system. They proposed a replacement using two 84 Kw balanced gas flue boilers. The Diocesan Heating adviser and the Diocesan Advisory Committee have agreed with the proposal. The BDM will consider a phased introduction with an opportunity for the second heat source to be low carbon, for example an air source heat pump. The PCC must apply for a Faculty before we go ahead and are waiting for information from CBG and prices to progress this further.

The churchyard wall continues to be a concern. The section immediately behind the east end of the church was repaired and a section at 5 St Peter's Gate will be rebuilt next year.

We have death watch beetle infestation in some of the tower timbers and furniture beetle in the tower and nave roof timbers. We are waiting for a specialist inspection to determine the urgency of treatment of these timbers.

The main rainwater soakaway for the church became blocked by roots at its outflow and in front of the west door. The drain required a high pressure drain service to clear the roots but is now draining very slowly. A typical life of a soakaway is thirty to fifty years with this soakaway installed forty years ago. The contractor advised excavation and renewal of the drainage pipes and potentially the soakaway. The Community Payback Team and the gardening team have maintained the churchyard in excellent condition. There was a successful maintenance day with thirty additional volunteers.

The priority items for 2024 are:

- Boiler replacement.
- Renew the kitchen and entrance hall roofs.
- Rebuild the section of wall at 5 St Peter's Gate.
- Resolve the rainwater soakaway issues.
- Continue with routine roof maintenance.
- Develop a plan for timber treatment, rainwater, and tower repairs.

There was a good response to the Appeal last year but unfortunately even with these additional resources there are insufficient funds to pay for all the above items. We are very grateful to all who have undertaken maintenance on St Peter's Church and its churchyard who help to make it a welcoming place to worship God.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (*Chair*), churchwardens, elected members of Brackley Deanery Synod, members elected by those of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

There were four sub committees who are responsible for reporting to the PCC:

Buildings, Development and Maintenance – responsible for managing projects approved by the PCC of any work that needs to be done to keep the church and surrounds in good condition. Meetings are held as required.

800 Appeal Committee – There was a special subcommittee set up for the year under the chairmanship of Robin Morello. The committee both oversaw the organisation of events to celebrate 800 years since the first recorded vicar and raise funds for the ongoing essential maintenance of the building and surrounds.

Finance – responsible for managing the finances of the PCC and to support our treasurer, Mr John Carter, a meeting is held three times a year.

Social Committee – responsible for organising fund raising events which will attract not only church members but also those from the wider community. Planning meetings are held on a regular basis, and they are always willing to listen to any suggestions people might have.

Deanery Synod – there are 3 members on the Deanery Synod who attend meetings with the various churches in the Deanery. This gives us a link with other churches, and they report back to the PCC with information about what is happening in the wider church.

The PCC meets on the first Thursday of the month apart from January and August.

Deanery Synods

Archdeacon Richard Ormston spoke about the functioning of the Diocese and pointed out that PCCs are responsible for their churches. On a glorious evening in July there was a conducted tour of Edgcote Gardens followed by a talk in Edgcote Church about its monuments. At the October meeting there was Holy Communion followed by a talk by Bill Elkington about the union of PCC's within a Benefice and their commitment to fund raising.

Financial Review

The main financial activity of the year was undoubtedly the efforts put in by many people within the church to raise funds for the 800 Appeal. This was both a celebration of the 800 years that have passed since the recording of the appointment of the first vicar of Brackley and the opportunity to raise much needed funds for the work that must be done to ensure the long-term survival of St Peter's. Although falling well below the very ambitious target set, a very creditable £113,000 was pledged of which £87,000 has already been received leaving a further £26,000 still to be claimed including two £5,000 grants which will be released after the work, for which they were promised, has been completed.

At first glance the figures show an increase in the cash balance of £48,437 but this was helped by the £54,085 raised in the Appeal and a further £25,000 taken from the Church House Fund investment. It must be remembered that all the money raised in the Appeal must be spent on those many items which formed the basis of the Appeal (Boiler, roof, etc). Without these two items our deficit would be £30,648! It was encouraging that receipts from all giving (standing orders, collections, donation etc) rose by just over 5% to £95,000 although it should be remembered that inflation averaged 8.6% from 2022 to 2023. A very welcome £18,000 was received from HMRC in respect of the gift aid generously permitted by those parishioners who are able to allow their own tax to be used. A further £1,500 of gift aid also boosted the Appeal fund.

With virtually all social activities arranged to raise money for the Appeal fund it was clear that there would be an inevitable reduction in money raised to boost the income for the normal running of the church. This proved to be the case although the many and varied activities that were organised raised an impressive £23,000 for the Appeal and very many thanks and congratulations are due to those who worked tirelessly throughout the year to achieve this.

With care being taken to ensure costs were kept as low as possible, it was pleasing to see that the normal running costs only increased by 2% in 2023, particularly as inflation was running at 8.6% (see above). After three years with the same Parish Share of £75,291, the diocese has had to increase this for 2024 by just over 4% to £78,498.

Repairs and maintenance continue to run at over £26,000 per year, nearly all of which was spent on the roof of both the church and the church hall. This was, however, a little less than was spent the previous year. Mercifully St Peter's continues to benefit from the very generous donations from FEOFFEE which, in 2023, was £11,000 and is specifically for the upkeep of the church's fabric.

The investments in the two deposit accounts grew slightly whilst at the same time provided a quarterly contribution to the Chancel fund although this didn't quite meet the Chancel fund's portion (1/7th) of the insurance bill. The Church House fund on the other hand, grew by nearly £10,000 during the year which lessened the impact of having to transfer £25,000 to general funds to make sure the bills could continue to be paid.

Finally, a word of caution. There has been a steady increase in the average Sunday attendance (ASA) during the past few years, but it is still to be reflected in any substantial increase in giving. For the past two years St Peter's has been running at a base deficit of £2,500 per month and although the reserves are currently sufficient to ensure the short, maybe medium-term survival, a consistent deficit of this magnitude is ultimately unsustainable.

Reserves Policy

The policy regarding the General fund is to carry the balance forward to the next financial year to help meet the ever-increasing costs of running the church, meeting the Diocesan Quota (£78,498 for 2024) and to help with major repairs and furnishings when there are insufficient funds in the Fabric and Chancel funds. The longer-term aim would be to have 3 months cash reserves in the General fund to

meet any unforeseen "emergency" costs. This equates to approximately £55,000 based on "normal" expenditure. The reality is, however, that the General fund has a virtually zero cash value although there are, at present, funds in the Church House investment fund which exceeds this. However, two and a half more years with a £30,000/year deficit would see the reserves disappear!

Halse Mission Chapel

Halse Mission Chapel was conveyed to Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance (with St Peter's PCC as managing trustees) in 1924. The management of Halse has been independent of St Peter's PCC but from 2024 a representative from Halse will attend PCC meetings twice a year. A copy of their report is attached as an appendix.

Risk Management

St. Peter's Church PCC has conducted and continues to conduct, risk analyses and holds insurance against property damage and third party claims up to £10 million. The PCC is also aware of the Health and Safety matters both within the Church, the Church Hall and Church grounds and operates a vulnerable person's policy under the auspices of the Diocese, obtaining DBS checks for all who have contact with vulnerable people. To that end, a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) is a member of the PCC.

A Note of Thanks

Many individuals have given a great deal of their time and their gifts to support the life and worship of St Peter's in the last year. Particular appreciation is noted here for the churchwardens; all those who have supported Sunday worship such as readers, intercessors, Eucharistic Assistants, the Welcome Team and laptop operators; bell ringers; for our Treasurer, PCC Secretary and all members of the PCC; the Administrator; those who produce and distribute the magazine; members of the Social Committee, the 800 Campaign Management Team, the Finance Committee and Buildings, Development and Maintenance; the Deanery Synod reps; those who maintain the Tower clock; those who volunteer in Junior Church and Tots; the Foundation Governors of Brackley Junior School; helpers at the Summer Holiday Club and other events for children; those who help take services in the care homes; cooks for Friendship Lunches and other church meals; the Mother's Union; graphic designers; those who lead Growth Groups; those who visit the sick, the bereaved and the housebound; organisers of fundraising and social events; those who apply for grants; those on the gardening team and the cleaning rota; the flower team and the coffee rota; those who have given support through their prayers, their help behind the scenes and many unrecognised acts of kindness and care for others.



Mrs Val Lynam - Lay Chair



Revd Rich Duncan - Vicar

St Peter with St James, Brackley
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Receipts & Payments Account

	General Fund (Unr'stcd) £	Designated Fund (Unr'stcd) £	Fabric Fund (Restricted) £	Chancel Fund (Restricted) £	Appeal Fund (Unr'stcd) £	Total Funds 2023 2022 £ £	
Receipts							
<i>Regular giving</i>							
Planned giving (note 3a)	67,686	-	-	-	3,087	70,773	64,547
Collections & others (3a)	27,769	-	11,000	-	59,227	97,996	25,695
Income tax (from gift aid)	<u>18,812</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,511</u>	<u>20,323</u>	<u>15,204</u>
	<u>114,267</u>	-	<u>11,000</u>	-	<u>63,825</u>	<u>189,092</u>	<u>105,446</u>
Transfer (from Ch Hse fund)	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
Transfers to/from App fund	46,643	-	-	-	-	46,643	
Insurance claim & VAT refund	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,286
Legacy receipts (3e)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Funding activities (3b/3e)	3,338	-	-	-	23,088	26,426	8,676
Receipts from activities (3c)	16,092	-	-	-	-	16,092	21,730
Investments (3d)	492	-	-	423	314	1,229	615
Misc receipts (3e)	<u>529</u>	-	-	-	-	<u>529</u>	<u>615</u>
	<u>92,094</u>	-	-	<u>423</u>	<u>23,402</u>	<u>115,919</u>	<u>69,922</u>
Total receipts	<u>206,361</u>	-	<u>11,000</u>	<u>423</u>	<u>87,227</u>	<u>305,011</u>	<u>175,368</u>
Payments							
<i>Church activities</i>							
Diocesan parish share	75,291	-	-	-	-	75,291	75,291
Light & heat (4a)	11,464	-	-	-	-	11,464	9,676
Running costs (4b)	7,568	-	-	-	-	7,568	9,434
Repairs & maint (4f)	15,234	-	11,000	-	-	26,234	29,882
New Fixtures (4f)	571	-	-	-	-	571	40,060
C & F Worker	-	26,044	-	-	-	26,044	26,454
Clergy expenses	2,593	-	-	-	-	2,593	831
Administration (4c)	9,818	-	-	523	-	10,341	10,789
Choral & music (4d)	5,499	-	-	-	-	5,499	4,410
Children's activities (4e)	197	-	-	-	-	197	171
Fund raising costs (4f)	6,148	-	-	-	33,142	39,290	3,958
Transfers to/from App fund	45,300	-	-	-	-	45,300	-
Fees, charity giving (4f)	<u>6,182</u>	-	-	-	-	<u>6,182</u>	<u>7,441</u>
Total payments	<u>185,865</u>	<u>26,044</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>33,142</u>	<u>256,574</u>	<u>218,397</u>
Excess of Recs/Payments	<u>£20,496</u>	<u>-£26,044</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>-£100</u>	<u>£54,085</u>	<u>£48,437</u>	<u>-£43,029</u>
Movement of funds							
Fund value at 1 Jan 2023 *	32	45,224	6,071	9,743	-1,839	59,231	
Net receipts in the year	206,361	-	11,000	423	87,227	305,011	
Net payments in the year	<u>185,865</u>	<u>26,044</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>33,142</u>	<u>256,574</u>	
Increase (Decrease)	<u>£20,496</u>	<u>-£26,044</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>-£100</u>	<u>£54,085</u>	<u>£48,437</u>	
Fund value Jan 1st 2024 (pages 7 & 11)	<u>£20,528</u>	<u>£19,180</u>	<u>£6,071</u>	<u>£9,643</u>	<u>£52,246</u>	<u>£107,668</u>	

* Note: The deficit in the initial Appeal Fund was due to start-up costs of consultancy and printing material.

St Peter with St James, Brackley
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023 (contd)

Statements of Assets & Liabilities

Investment assets

The General Fund investment is invested in £4% Consolidated Stock (yielding £410 during the year) taken out in 1954/5. The Chancel fund investment is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Units (yielding £423 during the year). The Church House fund investment is invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund Accumulation Shares. Movements during the year were as follows:-

	CBF Deposit fund	General fund (Unrestr'ctd)	Chancel fund (Restricted)		CBF Ch Hse fund (Permanent endowment)		Total
	£	£	£	Units	£	Units	£
Market value 1 st Jan 2023	15,203	394	14,121	684	94,765	1,787	124,547
Purchases at cost (transfer)					-25,000	-453	-25,000
Net gain annual revaluation	915	16	1,341	-	9,874	-	12,082
Market value 31st Dec 2023	<u>16,118</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>15,462</u>	<u>684</u>	<u>79,639</u>	<u>1,334</u>	<u>111,629</u>

Other Assets retained for Church use.

Significant Church equipment comprises:-

- a) Yamaha clavivova – original cost £3,504, b) Hilltop Audio/Visual system £25,490
- c) Henry Jones organ – original cost not known. d) HSE Lighting system £39,429. All have been fully written down, so no depreciation is included in these accounts.


St James churchyard, (“closed” since approximately 1937), is owned by the PCC but nominally maintained by the local council and constitutes an asset of the Church although no value has been estimated for this. The church has been looking, possibly, to develop the site but it currently appears not to be a viable proposition.

A loan of £50,000 was made from the Church House fund, some 25 years ago, in 1998, with the permission of the Charity Commissioners, to help the financing of the extension and has now, after revaluations, been repaid, the total fund now being available. (See page 11).

Analysis of net assets by fund

	Gen Fund	Des Fund	Fab Fund	Chanc Fund	App Fund	Chu Hse Fund	CBF Dep Fund	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment								
Fixed assets	410	-		15,462	-	79,639	16,118	111,629
Current Assets	20,528	19,180	6,071	9,643	52,246	-	-	107,668
Fund Balance	<u>20,938</u>	<u>19,180</u>	<u>6,071</u>	<u>25,105</u>	<u>52,246</u>	<u>79,639</u>	<u>16,118</u>	<u>219,297</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:-


C J Carter - Treasurer

Date: 25/3/2024

1. Accounting policy

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments (R & P) basis which is recommended when gross income is less than £250,000.

2. Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Permission has been given by FEOFFEE to utilise their donation for general expenditure on the fabric of the church if needed (see below). The current value of the General fund is shown as £20,528.

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and these are:-

a) **Fabric fund** which normally only receives money from the FEOFFEE charity and can be used for repairs, acquisitions, replacements and renewals or maintenance of the church buildings, their contents, fixtures and fittings including organ, heating, lighting etc.

b) **Chancel fund**, which is restricted and used for any expenses relating to the Chancel. All of the income from the Chancel Fund investment account (£423 in 2023) goes to this fund and 1/7th of the insurance cost (£523) comes from it.

c) **Church House fund**, at least some if not most of the money given to buy the original clergy housing would have been given for that explicit purpose. Which means that the Charities Commission approval is required for the funds to be unrestricted and spent. The funds must be used in accordance with the original charitable purpose of ecclesiastical purposes within the parish of Brackley.

d) **“Designated fund”** is a fund into which the 2019 legacy of £187,225 had been placed so that it could be identified for the growth and protection of St Peter’s into the future. A portion of the repairs and maintenance were paid from this fund which now stands at £19,180. Future costs of the Children & Families Worker will come from this fund until it is exhausted.

St Peter with St James, Brackley
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023 (contd)

3. Receipts Analysis

	General Fund (Unr'stcd)	Designated Fund (Unr'stcd)	Fabric Fund (Restricted)	Chancel Fund (Restricted)	Appeal Fund	Total Funds	
	£		£	£	£	2023	2022
						£	£
3 a) Voluntary receipts							
Standing orders (gift aided)	65,762	-	-	-	3,087	68,849	60,572
Weekly envelopes (G A)	587	-	-	-	-	587	1,998
Non G A envelopes & SO's	1,337	-	-	-	-	1,337	1,977
Other "casual" G A	2,191	-	-	-	-	2,191	1,760
Collections inc Good Box	12,378	-	-	-	-	12,378	7,398
Donations inc Sum Up	13,200	-	11,000	-	59,227	83,427	16,537
Income tax (G A refund)	18,812	-	-	-	1,511	20,323	15,204
	<u>114,267</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,825</u>	<u>189,092</u>	<u>105,446</u>
3 b) Funds generating activities							
Social events	-	-	-	-	23,088	23,088	6,743
Film Shows	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sunday lunches	670	-	-	-	-	670	1,140
Others (R&S, tea/coffe etc)	2,668	-	-	-	-	2,668	793
	<u>3,338</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,088</u>	<u>26,426</u>	<u>8,676</u>
3 c) Church activities receipts							
Weddings/funerals	6,524	-	-	-	-	6,524	9,087
Assigned fees to diocese	2,806	-	-	-	-	2,806	4,315
Hire of church hall	3,390	-	-	-	-	3,390	3,825
Church mag (total receipts)	2,526	-	-	-	-	2,526	2,882
Children's activities	846	-	-	-	-	846	1,621
	<u>16,092</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,092</u>	<u>21,730</u>
3 d) Investments							
Dividends	-	-	-	423	-	423	420
Interest	492	-	-	-	314	806	195
	<u>492</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>423</u>	<u>314</u>	<u>1,229</u>	<u>615</u>
3 e) Other receipts							
Transfer from Ch Hse Fund	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,775
Transfers to/from App Fund	46,643	-	-	-	-	46,643	-
VAT refund	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,511
Miscellaneous	529	-	-	-	-	529	615
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>72,172</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,172</u>	<u>38,901</u>
Total receipts	<u>£ 206,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£ 11,000</u>	<u>£ 423</u>	<u>£ 87,227</u>	<u>£ 305,011</u>	<u>£ 175,368</u>

Cash in bank accounts

Location Account no.	Barclays 43960404	Lloyds 0060124	Lloyds 7140379	CBF 628032001D	Total
Cash at 1 Jan 2023	33,639	9,694	695	15,203	59,231
Gross receipts in 2023	114,256	102,613	87,227	915	305,011
Gross payments in 2023	122,143	101,289	33,142	-	256,574
Increase/(Decrease) in cash	-£ 7,887	£ 1,324	£ 54,085	£ 915	£ 48,437
Cash at 31 Dec 2023	<u>£ 25,752</u>	<u>£ 11,018</u>	<u>£ 54,780</u>	<u>£ 16,118</u>	<u>£ 107,668</u>

St Peter with St James, Brackley
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022 (contd)

4. Payments Analysis

	General Fund (Unr'stcd)	Designated Fund (Unr'stcd)	Fabric Fund (Restricted)	Chancel Fund (Restricted)	Appeal Fund (Unr'stcd)	Total Funds	
						2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
4 a) Energy costs							
Gas	3,688	-	-	-	-	3,688	4,269
Electricity	7,776	-	-	-	-	7,776	5,407
	<u>11,464</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	11,464	9,676
4 b) Church running costs							
Cleaning (inc windows)	3,158	-	-	-	-	3,158	2,976
Altar requisites	265	-	-	-	-	265	240
Churchyard maintenance	870	-	-	-	-	870	692
Organ/piano tuning/maintnce	574	-	-	-	-	574	1,502
Others	2,701	-	-	-	-	2,701	4,024
	<u>7,568</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	7,568	9,434
4 c) Administration							
Insurance	3,141	-	-	523	-	3,664	3,562
Print, post & stationery	3,649	-	-	-	-	3,649	3,310
Administration	2,172	-	-	-	-	2,172	2,966
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ind examiner's fee	756	-	-	-	-	756	756
Bank charges	100	-	-	-	-	100	195
	<u>9,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>-</u>	10,341	10,789
4 d) Choral & music							
Choir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Music fees	5,499	-	-	-	-	5,499	4,410
	<u>5,499</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	5,499	4,410
4 e) Children's activities							
1st Steps, J C, Hol Club	197	-	-	-	-	197	171
	<u>197</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	197	171
4 f) Other payments							
Parish share	75,291	-	-	-	-	75,291	75,291
Assigned fees (weds, funls)	2,806	-	-	-	-	2,806	4,315
Fees to verger & other clerg	1,916	-	-	-	-	1,916	2,566
Clergy expenses	2,593	-	-	-	-	2,593	831
Fund raising costs	6,148	-	-	-	33,142	39,290	3,958
Charity giving	1,460	-	-	-	-	1,460	560
C & F Worker	-	26,044	-	-	-	26,044	26,454
New fixtures	571	-	-	-	-	571	40,060
Repairs, maintenance	15,234	-	11,000	-	-	26,234	29,882
Transfers to/from App A/c	45,300	-	-	-	-	45,300	-
	<u>151,319</u>	<u>26,044</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,142</u>	221,505	183,917
Total payments	£ 185,865	£ 26,044	£ 11,000	£ 523	£33,142	£ 256,574	£ 218,397

5. Trustees and Related Parties

Three members have a financial interest, the Administrator, Val Lynam, the Children and Family's Worker, Helen Price, and Tony Holden as spouse to Jacinta Holden the Principal Musician.

The vicar and curate are paid expenses.

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year.

**Independent Examiners Report
to the PCC of St Peter with St James, Brackley**

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations").

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC'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.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and to be found in the Church guidance. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given on whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 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.



Rob Blencowe BSc FCA
Blencowes,
15 High Street,
Brackley
NN13 7DH

Date: 15/04/2024

St Peter with St James, Brackley

Appendix to Trustees' Annual Report for 2023

Halse Mission Body Report to St Peter's PCC Meeting 4th March 2024

1. Responsible people: S Bridge: Treasurer/Keyholder, S Hollett: Asst Treasurer/Keyholder, P Gamble: Keyholder.
2. Worship and attendance/ other events:

We have a communion service once a month taken by either Rev Rich Duncan or Rev Sylvia Lafford. Attendance is on average 9 but we do get more at Christmas and Easter. The hall is used by the villagers for a Christmas party each year and it is available for hire at other times.

A memorial service for Frank Ayes, formerly of the village, was held in 2022. The Greatworth and Halse Parish Council hold an annual meeting there and it is also where we vote as it is the only accessible building in the village. It is already booked for this year in May.
3. Condition of the building and surrounds:

The land around the building is kept tidy by the Community Payback scheme attendees, they also clean the building inside on a monthly basis. The building itself is in a sad state. It was completely refurbished in 2000 and we have tried to keep it in good repair since whenever funds allowed. We apply for a grant of £250 from G&HPC every year which helps. It is not a given though.

The windows were repainted and the front of the building tidied up in 2021 for the Robinson wedding.

In 2023 the fences were completely replaced with monies raised by Rowan Tinkler who lives in the village, the G&HPC grant and a donation from St Peter's Brackley. The roof is now over 100 years old and the corrugated tin is wearing very thin and needs replacing.
4. Financial position:

As with most community buildings our outgoings are rising steadily and our 'incomings' not keeping pace.

At the end of December 2023 (our year-end) we had £2674.49 in the bank account. We closed our deposit account this year as the interest was so little and we were running short of funds. At the end of December 2022 we had £1,102.09 in the bank which would not have seen us through the year.

Below is a copy of the accounts for 2023:

Receipts

Collections	£574.00
<u>Misc receipts</u>	
CBF fund interest	£31.12
Closure of deposit account	£2010.70
Hall hire	£75.00
Donation village xmas party 2022	£60.00
Donation St Peter's	£250.00
Donation (anon)	£100.00
Grant (G & H P C)	<u>£250.00</u>
Total	<u>£3,350.82</u>

St Peter with St James, Brackley
Appendix to Trustees' Annual Report for 2023 (continued)

Payments

Electricity	£196.02
Water	£129.87
Insurance	£466.83
Maintenance	£985.70
Total	<u>£1,778.42</u>

Bank Account: Lloyds 30.11.08.
Account number: 00038455

5.Thanks go to Rev Rich and Rev Sylvia for continuing to come out for services and the community payback team for keeping the building and surround looking good, we really couldn't manage without them.