

# **Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch, Shropshire**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**  
*Charity registration number: 1129900*

Prepared for the

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 23rd April 2023



**The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch  
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**  
*Charity registration number: 1129900*

**Reference and Administrative details**

**Charity Name & Number**

St Alkmund's Parish Church  
Charity number: 1129900

**Address**

St Alkmund's Church, c/o The Rectory, Church Street, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LB

**PCC Members from APCM 2022**

Judy Bellingham  
Elaine Bucknell (PCC Secretary)  
John Castledine  
Sheila Chase (Churchwarden)  
Celia Churchill  
Meriel Edge  
David Fisher  
Hilda Francis-Roberts  
Pauline Green (Lay Chair)  
Judy Hunt (Rector & PCC Chair)  
Linda Martin  
Jane Rylands  
Tom Rylands  
John Stokes (Churchwarden & Deanery Synod)  
Pauline Stokes (Deanery Synod)  
Steve White (Deanery Synod)  
Melanie Williams (PCC Treasurer)

**Names and addresses of advisers**

<b>Bank</b>	Barclays plc
<b>Investment Managers</b>	CCLA One Angel Lane, London EC4R 3AB
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA, Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The PCC is a Body Corporate established by the Church of England and is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission. The PCC is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended that came into effect on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1957, and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

- Trustees (PCC members) are appointed by election at the APCM; ex-officio on the PCC are all clergy licensed to the parish, churchwardens and members of Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.
- New trustees are given an induction pack.
- A Standing Committee exists, and other committees include the Bargates Hall Committee, and a Finance Committee. Other groups meet: the Social Working Group and various pastoral groups.
- Safeguarding and Data Protection have received considerable attention this year and all our policies are now reviewed annually in January.

## **Objectives and Activities**

Promoting the Gospel and the doctrines of the Church of England

Vision statement:

**Our church is a place where all are welcome, and God can be found.**

**We seek to:**

- **build up our spiritual life through prayer and teaching,**
- **actively encourage lay involvement in mission and outreach,**
- **and share the good news of the Gospel with the whole community.**

## **Public Benefit**

The trustees of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

## **Achievements and Performance**

See elsewhere for all the mid-week activities and the ways in which the St Alkmund's community fulfils its remit for worship, pastoral care, outreach, community service and civic involvement

There are usually three services each Sunday; figures for 2022 —

8.00am – average attendance 6.4  
10.00am – average attendance 65.7  
6.30pm – average attendance 16.4  
(of whom 9.2 had attended morning services on the same day)

All who live in the town have a right to the occasional offices. In 2022 there were 2 weddings and 42 baptisms, There were 33 funerals in church followed by burial or cremation (and 18 at the Graveside or Crematorium only).

## STATISTICS FOR ST ALKMUND'S WHITCHURCH

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Electoral Roll</b>	144	155	149	147
<b>Average Sunday (*) Adult Attendance</b>	100	(Oct) 58	64.8	79.3
<b>Average Sunday (*) Under 16 Attendance</b>	4	4	3	4.3
<b>8.00am</b>	11	7	6.5	6.4
<b>10.00am</b>	76.4	44	52.6	65.7
<b>6.30pm (new)</b>	16.5	10	9.2	7.2
<b>6.30pm (total)</b>	25	7	16.7	16.4
<b>Easter Communicants (**)</b>	136	N/A	N/A	89
<b>Easter Attendees (**)</b>	172	N/A	N/A	127
<b>Advent Special Attendees</b>	1710	158	220	1229
<b>Christmas Communicants</b>	125	83	80	121
<b>Christmas Attendees</b>	1092	102	148	675
<b>Baptism (u16)</b>	29	12	14	41
<b>Baptism Adult</b>	0	1	0	1
<b>Funerals (with Church service)</b>	46	21	35	33
<b>Funerals (at Crem Only)</b>	19	55	21	18
<b>Interment of Ashes in GoR</b>	10	15	8	11
<b>Weddings</b>	10	0	10	2
<b>Prayer &amp; Dedication of Marriage</b>	0	0	0	0

### Statistics for St Alkmund's 2019 - 2022

The statistics are shown in the table above. Please note that the Average Sunday Attendance (\*) for 2019-22 figures include Harvest, Mothering Sundays but exclude Baptisms, Easter, Remembrance, Christingle, Memorial & Thanksgiving and Carol Services, and the Queen's Reflective & Memorial Services. 2020 & 2021 figures affected by Covid-19.

### Financial Review

The overall financial position for 2022 is a small surplus of £4,633 (2021 deficit of £16,756) before losses on revaluation of investments at the end of the year of £92,995 (2021 gains of £86,429). The global problems of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the affect this has on utility costs, rising inflation and the Cost of Living crisis are all challenges we face as a church, too.

We negotiated new contracts from 1<sup>st</sup> July for Church and Bargates electricity and Bargates gas. The contract for Church gas renews 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 so we managed to negotiate in advance for this too. We chose 2 year contracts as we hope the current issues will be overcome by then.

The start of the year saw the resignation after ill health of our administrator, Jo Lavin, and also her partner, our Bargates caretaker, Wayne Edwards. Whilst we managed to recruit a new administrator, Alison Dunne, in May, a hall caretaker proved more difficult. Sheila Chase, Church Warden and Social Working Group leader (to name just a couple of her many roles) took on the role. Special mention has been given to her in the Rector's Report, but she has been instrumental in not only accommodating many new groups, but also in bringing the building up to regulation standards.

Our card machine is becoming a regular mechanism for receiving donations. We have used Goodbox's Goodplate up until now, but unfortunate news of their going into receivership made me nervous. Whilst there has been no issue with receiving payments from them, I felt it prudent to source an alternative. We purchased a Dona machine and stand just before Christmas – and the results are promising. Society is becoming more familiar with making payments by card (or other device) and even not carrying cash so it is important that we provide the facility for people to make donations however they wish.

Subcontracting the management of our domestic property, 3 Bridgewater Street, to Barbers Estate Agents relieves us of the many landlord duties and regulations that are not in our field of expertise. Whilst we have had to spend nearly £7,000 to bring them up to standard, it has not been a distraction to us as the agents have dealt with all the work required in a prompt manner. They have also negotiated rent increases in the year.

I must give thanks to all our fundraisers who have worked tirelessly to help boost our revenue through a coffee morning, plant sale, crib festival, harvest lunch, easter breakfast and many other activities throughout the year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

### **Reserves Policy**

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments and £10,000 in Restricted General reserves. Total unrestricted expenditure was £130,608 in 2022, so 3 months' equates to £32,652, plus £10,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves at the year end was £44,496 which is marginally higher than this target.

### **Investment Policy**

The charity is granted power to invest in suitable investments under the PCC Powers Measure 1956 and the Trustees Act 2000. As a charity, the Trustees have a duty of care to take such advice as is appropriate before investments are undertaken. This advice is sought from the Central Board of Finance (CCLA) in London.

The charity's investment policies are based on two key principles: -

- Ethical Investment – this includes ensuring that investments are held in companies which have high standards of corporate governance and act in a responsible way towards stakeholders.
- Long-term responsibilities – the trustees are aware of their long-term responsibilities in respect of the Restricted and Unrestricted reserves and as a result follow a prudent approach to investment decisions.

Investment policy for long-term funds is aimed primarily at generating a sustainable income, with due regard to the need for the preservation of capital value, and the possible need to realise investments to meet operational needs. The charity does not have a policy of generating income at excessive or high risk – known as “purchasing income”, where high returns are guaranteed at the expense of capital.

In summary, the charity has an overall policy to maximise income while preserving the real value of its funds. Due to the nature of the charity, an ethical investment policy is taken into consideration when investments are made:

The charity follows the Ethical Investment Advisory policy as recommended by the Lichfield Diocese which includes the following:

“We aim to invest in companies that:

- \* will develop their business in the interests of shareholders;
- \* demonstrate responsible employment practices;
- \* are conscientious concerning issues of corporate governance, the environment and human rights;
- \* are sensitive to the community in which they operate.”

Planned giving, collections and donations are the main sources of fund raising along with tax recoverable.

## **Safeguarding**

**Meriel Edge**

The PCC believe they have fulfilled their duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Safeguarding is of immense importance in St Alkmund's Church. It features as an Agenda item at every PCC meeting and has a full and comprehensive risk assessment which is regularly scrutinised and updated, when necessary. The following groups/people undergo training and adhere to the safeguarding policy – Incumbent, Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens, Time Together leaders and team, Baptism welcomers, Bible Study, Choir leaders, Homes Communion Teams, Residential Homes team, Junior Church, Prayers for Healing, Pastoral visitors, Tower Captain and Transport.

DBS documentation is continually reviewed and persons are contacted who need to update/refresh their DBS or Safeguarding training. Reverend Judy and Alison Dunne have supported people in achieving this

19 people have renewed their DBS check this year and 34 people have done the same with their safeguarding training. A few people have yet to do this. Safeguarding is at the centre of our faith, in our practice, in our worship, in our praying, and in our believing. In other words, safeguarding needs to become integral to the very DNA of the Church rather than an appendage, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing naturally and intuitively. Theology, by which we simply mean clear thinking about God and the faith we share, has been interwoven into all our learning and the development pathways. As IICSA identified, this will require a significant shift in the Church's culture. Achieving a paradigm shift in safeguarding requires a "whole system" approach within which change is achieved by the inter-relatedness of different strands. One developmental strand is "safeguarding learning". This framework sets out the form that safeguarding learning needs to take to contribute effectively to the paradigm shift envisioned and to overall organisational change. The safeguarding learning pathways support participants in developing and maintaining the necessary values, beliefs, knowledge, and skills to safeguard and protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults as outlined in the 'Promoting a Safer Church' House of Bishops policy statement (2017).

Copies of this Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework 2021-2024 have been printed out by Meriel Edge and placed at the back of Church for any interested parties to read. The plan of the PCC to put in place a small benefice Safeguarding Committee to ensure this paradigm shift is achieved was realised this year with two meetings: Clergy, Reader, PSO's and Churchwardens.

## **Reporting Serious Incidents**

A Serious Incident is an adverse event, whether actual or alleged, which results in or risks significant harm to the charity's beneficiaries, employees, office holders, volunteers or to others who come into contact with the charity through its work, loss of the charity's money or assets, damage to the charity's property or harm to the charity's work or reputation.

The trustees are not aware of any Serious Incidents in the last year.

## **Church Wardens' Report**

**John Stokes and Sheila Chase**

- \* PAT testing carried out on all electrical appliances.
- \* All Fire Extinguishers serviced and renewed where necessary.
- \* Roof Alarm serviced.
- \* Security alarm serviced and a new radio box fitted in the Vestry.
- \* Fire Alarm up-graded and serviced.
- \* Church clock, and church bells serviced.
- \* Gutters maintenance carried out by Mr Simon Dudleston.
- \* The church organ underwent its regular tuning and servicing during the year by Mr Jim Molyneaux.
- \* Old grave yard - grass cut and strimmed.

- \* Memorial Gardens - strimmed and maintained
- \* Rectory Garden - lawns moved, boundary hedges cut, holly trees trimmed by SP Mowing.
- \* Unsafe branches lopped off trees in the Memorial garden and old grave yard.
- \* All graves underwent the annual safety check.
- \* Boiler room - door repaired and painted.
- \* Further work carried out to the lead on the south side of the church roof.
- \* Stonework to the first arch in the gallery repaired.
- \* 2 new hand rails fitted by the Chancel steps.
- \* Rectory stone boundary wall collapsed, and its rebuilding has taken place - Work carried out by the Diocese.
- \* Various signs under Health and Safety erected where appropriate around the church and grounds.
- \* Bridgewater street properties - The management of these two apartments is carried out by Barbers Estate Agents.
- \* Fire alarms tested weekly by John Stokes and Alison Dunne.

## **Electoral Roll**

**Mr Paul Williamson**

1st January 2023 is the date names are recorded for the purpose of the APCM. At that time 140 names were on the list and 12 of those lived outside the Parish. On 1st January 2022 147 names were on the list with 11 living outside the Parish. My thanks to Revd Judy and Alison for their support.

## **PCC Secretary**

**Mrs Elaine Bucknell**

During 2022 two members resigned from the Council but we were delighted to welcome a new member, Linda Martin, after the Annual meetings in April. We had our seven regular meetings, three of which had to be conducted by Zoom, and one extra in June held in the Church. During these meetings many projects have been discussed, approved and carried out including – Chancel Step Rails, Repairs to the Cracked Archway, Fire Alarm System Extension/Upgrade and Raising of the Chandelier. We have been involved in numerous discussions/many revisions of the re-ordering plans and are currently investigating the replacement of the central heating boiler in the Spring of 2023. We have also approved the necessary expenditure for the continuing maintenance of Bargates Hall to meet the necessary requirements for hiring premises. Several members continue to discourage the general public from using the Church Car Park but with little success and some heated discussions! We continue to be represented in Churches Together, Christian Aid, Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch Fairtrade Group and the Higginson's Charities.

## **Bargates Hall**

**Sheila Chase**

I am happy to report that all works required at Bargates Hall have now been done, with all work logged so that all services and contracts can be renewed with our preferred contractors when they are due.

The Fire Alarm is now under maintenance contract with ADT as is the Church so that inspections and testing can be carried out at the same time.

Our Health and Safety certificates are all up to date and issued by Mr Tony Williams of A & H Safety Consultants Ltd of Wrexham and will be reviewed 31 October 2023.

Access signs from the Church Car Park have been put in place to identify Wheelchair access into Church via the ramp, along with signs indicating uneven ground.

Mr Tony Dodd from Via Della Emilia Ltd Tree Surgeons, has been removing any dead and decayed trees out of the lower Car Park, Foot Path and Garden of Remembrance.

The Hall has seen a continued increase in bookings over the last 12 months, our thanks to the Food Bank for their use during Covid period. We now have the Guides and Brownies as regular users, along with groups, Elevate, Time Together, Keep fit and many others, rooms are also being used for regular meetings, and training.

Maintenance has been carried out by Simon Dudleston who has done a sterling job of replacing windows with safety glass, painting all the window frames, replacing carpet tiles, clearing gutters and down pipes.

The water heater has been checked and serviced by Mark Smith who is a catering engineer, all items for use in the Hall have been PAT tested.

The notice board is up to date with, Contact Numbers, Insurance certificate and Health & Safety Report.

All Fire Exits are Clearly marked, Fire Meeting Point sign in place and the system is checked every week. Thank you to John S and Alison for helping with this, it's very much appreciated. My thanks to Standing and Bargates Hall Committee Members for all your Support in making Bargates somewhere to be proud of.

## **Churches Together in Whitchurch**

Revd Judy

### **Groups associated with Churches Together**

Important activities in the town are undertaken ecumenically, and the Churches Together Committee receives reports from these:

Fair Trade

Christian Aid

The Food Bank

Time Together

The Hospital Chaplaincy

The Bible Society

Action on Climate Change

Action on Afghan Refugees

### **Church Services**

We were able to continue with our 'liturgical year' for the churches in the town: a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity hosted by the Beacon Church; a Maundy Thursday service hosted by St John's Church, the Good Friday Walk of Witness prepared by St Alkmund's Church, a Christian Aid service hosted by St John's and a Bible Society Service hosted by St George's. The Beacon Church and St Alkmund's joined together for a Civic Service to celebrate the life of Queen Elizabeth II and St John's and St Alkmund's joined together for Remembrance Sunday.

### **Lent Activities**

The Lent Lunches for Christian Aid resumed..

**The AGM was held** on 7th June 2022, hosted by the Beacon Church.

During the business meeting, Eileen Livesey was elected as Chairperson with Dora Marlow as Vice-Chair. Sue Collins will continue as Treasurer for one more year and Celia Churchill was confirmed as Minutes Secretary.

### **Churches Together Christmas Card**

This was produced in 2022 and was delivered by Royal Mail to all households with an SY13 1\*\* address. It was hand delivered by members of all 4 churches to other addresses. Year 6 children at WJA were invited to submit entries, from which one was chosen for the front cover and 2 others were highly commended for the back page.

## **Foundation Governors Whitchurch Church of England Federation Jane Rylands**

I have changed my 'special interest' area as a governor from Special Needs to Early Years this year. It has been a joy to see what is in place for the Nursery and Foundation age groups. The department has affiliated itself with a scheme called 'The Curiosity Approach' which has entailed a lot of changes to their traditional approach with alterations being made to make the environment more home like and a lot of emphasis on child-led developmental play both inside and outside as well as strategies to lead them to readiness for the 3 Rs. There is also an emphasis on the use of natural materials rather than plastics.

I have maintained my link with all things in the RE and spirituality spheres. The children's visits to St Alkmund's for the Experience sessions, including an additional one this year for the Infants, are a valuable addition to what they do in school.

Sarah Cope, the Principal of the Infants and Nursery, and more latterly the Executive Head of the Federation, left the academies at the end of 2022 to take on an administrative role within the MAT. Her successor as Principal is Sarah Camacho.

There is currently a vacancy for a second Foundation Governor.

## **Whitchurch Junior C of E Academy Experience Days**

Wendy Darter

We were delighted to welcome the students of the Junior Academy for four Experience Days this year. The Y5 came at Easter; the Y6 at Pentecost; the Y3 at Harvest and the Y4 at Christmas.

Each class comes for half a day and learns about five different aspects of the festival, in small groups led by volunteers. The class then gather in the chancel for a concluding session with Rev Judy Hunt.



These sessions are well received by the students who respond with ideas and questions. We hope that what they have learned and discussed will in some way shape their future attitudes. We were pleased to have some new volunteers this year who also enjoyed the Experience Days

## **Junior Church/Sermon Slot**

**Jane Rylands/Meriel Edge/ Wendy Darter**

We have had three families attending regularly on Sunday mornings, one of them newcomers to the congregation and it has been a pleasure getting to know the young people and working with them to develop their knowledge of the Christian faith and to explore how to bring it into their everyday lives. At the end of the year we have had to say goodbye to Diana Marchand who has been a wonderful support and contributor to our young people's work and we wish her and her husband well in their new home nearer their family.

## **Reader's Report**

**Jane Rylands**

I have maintained my pattern of contributing to the pattern of services throughout the Benefice preaching on average once a month but also leading and participating in other services and taking my share of duties on the Junior Church / Sermon Slot rota.

In preparation for the vacancy, in the autumn I undertook a course in funeral ministry and Revd Judy has begun to enable me to shadow her and contribute to some funerals. This is not an area that I have time to specialise in but I was seeking a confidence to step up should there be a specific need.

## **Deanery Report**

**Revd Judy**

Elected Lay Members of the Deanery Synod:

John & Pauline Stokes

Steve White

Clergy Members of the Deanery Synod:

Revd Judy Hunt

The Synod met once on 16th June 2022: there was a brief report from Diocesan Synod, a discussion about the Deanery Vision and information provided by the Revd Deborah Walton on her work in the two secondary schools.

Work on videos for "Open the Book" Collective Worship sessions has gone ahead, led by Bridget Hodges.

The Clergy Chapter met (by Zoom) regularly.

Vacancies in the Deanery: the Revd Rich Creswell left in the summer (Shawbury group) and the Wem group post was advertised in the autumn with an appointment made.

## **Time Together Report**

**Revd Judy**

The purpose of the Time Together group is to provide social, spiritual, physical and emotional support for those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers. We work in partnership with AgeUK and this is very helpful.

The group continued to meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons. During the last two years, we have 'lost' some members, through death or through health deterioration, but we have gained a couple too.

We have received several generous donations from grateful participants and from Community Organisations.

## **Hospital Chaplaincy Team**

**Revd Judy**

The hospital chaplaincy team has been providing support for patients and staff at Whitchurch Community Hospital since October 2015. The team is led by Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt and is currently comprised of eight lay volunteer members from St Alkmund's and Holy Immanuel Fauls Churches and also includes Revd Sue Armstrong. Revd Sue's dog, Merlin, is a qualified PAT (Pets as Therapy) dog and so sometimes visits with Sue – bringing a much appreciated canine presence. Roman Catholic ministers and a Quaker contact are also available if needed.

St Alkmund's PCC has an agreement with the Hospital to provide a service of at least 6 hours per week throughout the year. In practice, during normal times, it is usually more. At least one person of the team visits the hospital every weekday. Weekends and special Holy days are covered by arrangement amongst

the team. Lay members are authorised to administer Holy Communion and consecrated bread and wine are kept in a cupboard at the Hospital for use, as required.

All this regular visiting continued to be on hold because of the Coronavirus pandemic and, more recently, because the Hospital administration team has not been able to process the new DBS checks which we need. Revd Judy was occasionally called in for individual patients.

The Team also usually plans and participates in activities at the Hospital; this usually includes an Easter / Springtide event, a Harvest Celebration and the Christmas Crib Service.

## **Pastoral Care Group Report**

**Jill Wallace**

**Pastoral Care** is something which is shared by many of us through visiting neighbours and caring for those in our Community. However, a few members are available to do the following:

**Communion at Home** ... For those unable to attend services in church, we offer Communion in their homes, and 3 or 4 of us take monthly Communion to those who ask. This is much appreciated.

**Visiting** ... This is continuing to those who would value a visit when ill, or bereaved or no longer able to attend Church, and is perhaps a more 'formal' visit than simply visiting our friends and neighbours!

Prayer may be offered and/or a Bible reading and the weekly Pew Sheet and sometimes the printed sermons are shared when wished for. Judy Bellingham also records and takes round DVD's of the sermons if available to a number of people so that they can watch at home.

**Streaming Services** ... This is another pastoral outreach to enable those who wish to share in the services, but cannot be there in person. We are hoping to do this more often in the future when we have our new sound system in place.

**Services for reflecting on...** We try to put the service talks/sermons onto the website, and also hard copies in a mauve folder on the righthand side as you come into church for you to look at and/or take home.

**The Prayer Board** ...Used by many who come into the church from all over, where they can put prayer requests onto the board (these are left on for about a fortnight). A weekly Prayer Link is sent to all who wish to pray at home, and we include these prayers in general during the church services. If you would like to receive the FTW Prayer Link please let me know and I can email it to you weekly, or let you have a hard copy if preferred. There is a box by the Prayer Board for anyone to put in a request for a home visit.

**Bible Reading Notes** ... Another way of deepening our love for Jesus and sharing in pastoral care is by having a regular personal Bible Reading time, and sample copies of various reading aids are again on the right as you come into church. Just let me know if you would like regular copies of any ... we send off for them as a group and save the postage. The cost is between £4 to £6 per copy every 3 or 4 months.

Jill Wallace (01948666233 or email [jwillwall40@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jwillwall40@yahoo.co.uk))

## **Dementia-Friendly Church**

**Pauline Green**

Much of our Dementia Friendly Ministry as a church takes place through Time Together, general Pastoral Care and the work with our Residential and Care Homes . The Hospital Chaplaincy visits have been on hold throughout 2022 due to current restrictions in place imposed by the Hospital Authority managing infection control. (Hospital Chaplaincy to resume once restrictions have been lifted). We have been awarded a Diocesan Certificate again for this work in 2022.

We keep in touch with other churches involved in similar work through the regional meetings hosted by Sarah Thorpe - Diocesan Dementia - Friendly church enabler Diocese of Lichfield

## **Music Report**

**Mr Richard James**

As stated last year, the organ is tuned regularly and, although the pitch is subject to the varying temperature of such a large church, this is normal and I have no additional recommendations for any changes to the current heating practices. I have been very pleased with the work of the current tuners, but now St Alkmund's needs to find another tuner of good repute after the retirement of Jim Molineux. I will assist in researching a replacement before I leave. The grand piano is of a satisfactory standard for choir solo accompanying. The electric keyboard serves as a satisfactory instrument for choir rehearsals, but currently lacks a sustaining pedal and I am currently researching a replacement.

Transporting the keyboard from the cupboard and back for every rehearsal requires two people and is, to be honest, an inconvenience. The St Alkmund's Choir is again processing and robing! This has been a boost to the singers and they continue to show real commitment and loyalty and are progressing as a musical group. Additional sopranos and altos have joined including two young choristers and this had boosted the sound. The choir rose to the occasion for the Nine Lessons and Carols and there were many positive comments about the singing. A Big Sing for the Blackberry Fair was a great success with more singers attending than expected and this is definitely something that could be repeated for future years.

Frustration remains with the recruitment of broken voices, but illness of members has affected attendance of late. This report is written after giving notice in November and I will continue in the role of Director of Music until the end of February 2023. I have thoroughly enjoyed the last two years working at St Alkmund's, especially playing the organ, working with the choir and performing recitals. It has been a privilege to contribute to the liturgy each week. I have valued the support of Revd Judy, the loyalty of the choir and the warmth of welcome from the congregation. I am certain that a replacement can be found to step in and continue building music at St Alkmund's. There is so much potential for music making in the church and I hope that, with the re-ordering of parts of the church allowing a greater performance space, more opportunities will be opened up. Sadly, with my other increasing musical commitments, I feel that I do not have the time to properly fulfil the role as detailed in the job description. I wish my successor and all the musicians that contribute to the life of the church the very best for the future.

## **Parish Office and On-line Matters**

**Revd Judy**

In the early part of 2022, Jo Lavin resigned from the post of Benefice Administrator and St Alkmund's Clerk. We are grateful for the creativity she brought to the role and for her many years with us. I am also grateful to those who assisted in office work during Jo's absence and the time when we were without someone in post—especially Pauline Stokes in Whitchurch and Caroline Sewry in Fauls.

Having advertised and interviewed, we were very pleased to appoint Alison Dunne to this post and have been delighted with her work since she joined us in May.

During the year, we have livestreamed a service on most Sundays - thanks to Mel Williams and a small team. Also a small group have worked on a replacement sound system with an integrated camera. The current sound system has served us well, but is now beyond its 'sell-by' date in terms of being able to get replacements parts and an integrated system will improve the quality of our recordings and livestreaming. We are very grateful for the expertise of Glyn Chapman (Beacon Church) who has given us a great deal of help. We hope to get permission to install a new system soon.

## **Church Office**

**Alison Dunne**

On joining as Benefice Administrator in May 2022 I can only say that it has been a pleasure to meet and become part of such a welcoming Benefice, with a special 'Thank you' to Pauline who helps me hugely. I have hit the ground running as the office is a very busy environment, with the office now being open Monday - Friday between 9am - 12noon. The position is always evolving with no two days the same! Main aspects of the position are the publishing of the weekly FTW and St Alkmund's pewsheets, and the Bi-monthly FTW Newsletter. The general day to day paperwork is generated from the requirements from our three churches, to include advertising, posters, leaflets and service updates. I also assist Revd Judy with the documentation for Weddings/Funerals/Bookings etc. Duties also include taking telephone enquiries, leaflet production, printing, weekly updating of our social media sites to ensure that we reach the wider community - Facebook, websites for Whitchurch, Fauls & Tilstock, including the 'Church Near You' Websites.

## **Wednesday FTW Bible Study group**

**Celia Camplin**

It is with great sadness that I write this report, when I remember one of our loyal members who has just passed away. Margaret and her friend May were very loyal, they came most times and added much to the group. Margaret didn't like reading out aloud but her comments and burst of knowledge gave all of us something to think about.

God bless you Margaret. You are now with the Lord and away from any pain and suffering you experienced here during the past few months. We will try to continue knowing you are with us spiritually.

During this past year we have looked, at great depth, at the Book Numbers. We have found it hard going at times, our previous knowledge of the 40 years plodding through the wilderness that Moses had to put up with, the people's groaning and whining, and wanting to go back to Egypt, was enough to drive anybody scatty! But with God's organising, they continued.

Here is a lesson for us!.....When life seems so hard and unfair, do we turn to the Lord for help. He knows us all so well and has everything under control. HIS plan is always the RIGHT one, not ours. Do we listen or not!

Anyway we got as far as 'home base' which is what we called Kadish just a matter of a hair's breath from the Promised Land, when we called it a day and turned the pages in our Bibles to St Matthew's Gospel.

We will continue reading this powerful Gospel in the weeks ahead. Hopefully, reaching the Passion story towards Easter. We would love to have some new members, especially from Fauls or Tilstock,- remember the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month, 2.00pm in Bargates Hall. You'll all be very welcome.

## **Flower Arrangers**

**Sue Fawcett**

There goes another great year of Floral decorations in St.Alkmunds.

We started the year with a blaze of colour as we celebrated Easter. Lots of warmth in colour and freshness to welcome the spring weather and to lift our spirits to give us hope for the year ahead. As flower arrangers, along with the help of many others, we aim to provide the means for us to remember and celebrate loved ones or events who are close to us in a tactile way. This hopefully gives comfort, recognition and remembrance to all who participate, while others reap benefit from purely the beauty, colour and form of nature. Harvest festival symbolises and emphasises the meaning of our beautiful world in which we live. The plentiful produce, the sharing and giving we were able to demonstrate with our displays and floral arrangements, remind us just how lucky we are. Remembrance was marked with our traditional red poppy and laurel displays which stood in every corner of the church to honour those who are no longer with us. As more difficult times for many, start to take hold this Autumn, it seemed fitting to bring boldness, colour and warmth into play. Vibrant colours portray warmth, comfort and cheeriness which started our festive period of Advent with style. The fruits of our labour, I know are enjoyed by everyone, both locally and by visitors alike. We as Flower arrangers aim to reach as many people as we can to brighten their lives even just a little. Our enthusiastic team also benefit by helping others and each other. So, I would like to thank all of those involved, both on a weekly basis and those who help at the bigger events throughout the year. Their continued efforts to produce wonderful arrangements, collect materials and for the many donations are invaluable. I know this is hugely appreciated. My heartfelt thanks to all.

If anyone locally wishing to find out more about Flower Arranging in the church, then do not hesitate to contact:

Sue Fawcett 07855067296.

## **Guild of Service**

**Sue Wainwright**

As always members of the Guild continue to go above and beyond to keep St Alkmunds the shining jewel in our town of Whitchurch. All our ladies & gentleman have kept up the good work whenever possible to make sure that our church is admired by visitors and of course the people of the town. I am very grateful to all the members and it has been good to welcome a couple of people – but there is always room for more!

## **Bell ringing**

**Malcolm Monie**

The regular band of Peter, Helen, Mike and myself have been regularly augmented by Chris and Sarah from Malpas and Malcolm Aird. The latter used to ring at Whitchurch when he lived in the town.

Occasionally we have been joined by Stephen Stoker from Congleton who has a seasonal caravan pitch at Mile Bank. We rang for two weddings which was fewer than in 2021 when everyone was playing catch-up after the Covid lockdowns. We also rang for the funeral of David Gillespie who was a regular member of the band in the Nineties and Noughties. Practices have been held on most Thursday evenings. As well as those mentioned above, we were frequently joined by Peter, Vicky and Ray from Ellesmere.

Currently we have one learner, Paul Bennett who is doing well and should soon be ready to join in with service ringing. However, the band is still very low on numbers, and we are actively recruiting both new and experienced recruits. The death of Queen Elizabeth II and the proclamation of King Charles III gave us further opportunities to ring the bells but it did mean that the muffles were on and off the bells like yo-yos, especially as one of the weddings was in the middle of it all!

## **Baptism Welcome Group**

**Wendy Darter**

In 2022 we continued to hold several baptisms each month to accommodate those who had to postpone during the pandemic, as well as newer babies. Quite a few of our candidates are now toddlers, enjoying running around the church, but as we only have one family at each service this is not a problem. We have also had several baptisms at the 10.00am service and a new service booklet has been produced for these occasions.

We continue to visit the families at home so that we volunteers can talk to the parents about the service and the promises they are going to make. These meetings sometimes take place in church but we still talk about the Godparents and their important role in nurturing the child as well as the practical aspects of the service.

Unfortunately, few families return to church services, but it is good to greet them when we meet in town and show them that they are remembered. Anyone who would like to volunteer to make home visits or assist at baptism services please contact the Rector.

## **Plant Sale**

**Janet Ivens and Judy Bryant**

2022 saw the easing of covid restrictions and our first sale in Bargates for two years. Thanks to our ever willing helpers and John Foster's trusty flat bed truck, the entire nursery was moved from Tarporley Road to Bargates in a record time. There was no shortage of eager customers who also enjoyed the refreshments provided and were even able to pay by card at one of the three checkouts - a sign of the times! The final total including sundry plants sold in the weeks after the sale amounted to £1,731.92.

Sadly 2022 is likely to be the last Plant Sale in the present format as Janet and I are not getting any younger. If anyone feels moved to take over the reins please let us know. Thank you everyone for your unfailing support.

## **Social Working Group**

**Sheila Chase**

Although we were getting back into the swing after Covid Lockdown it was a busy year for St Alkmund's Church Social Working Group.

The Year started in April on Sunday 17th with our Easter Breakfast in Bargates Hall, slightly down in numbers, but for those who came along a full English Breakfast was served, with plenty of Tea, Coffee and Fruit Juice, for the cost of £6:00 per head.

Saturday 23rd April: Our Organist, Richard gave a musical recital in Church 7:00 pm till 8:00pm, SWG served refreshments afterwards.

Saturday 7th May: Plant Sale in Bargates 10:00 am till 12pm, organised by Janet Ivens and Judy Bryant.

Saturday 16th July: Our Parish Outing to Llandudno saw us leave Church with a full coach of happy people, We had lovely weather while we were there, and everyone enjoyed themselves. During our journey Elaine Bucknell held a prize draw, raising funds for The Historic Churches Trust, a fabulous amount of £177:00 was raised. Thank you everyone.

Tuesday 21st June: Friends AGM, Refreshments served, cakes Tea and Coffee, thank you to the SWG team for baking and serving.

Friday 12th August: We held a Coffee Morning at The Civic Centre. We had many stalls and lots of helpers, a fantastic amount of £616.17 was raised.

Sunday 2nd October: We held a Harvest Lunch in Bargates Hall, a lovely lunch was enjoyed by those who came along, thank you to all SWG members who prepped and served lunch to everyone.

On Wednesday 12th October: Careers Fest at Sir John Talbot's School. Wendy and myself attended Sir John Talbot's School to represent St Alkmund's Church and serve refreshments to the other businesses attending this event. We had baked and made all the goodies on offer and served Tea and Coffee all day. Many questions were asked by the students about our Church, though it was possibly the goodies on offer which brought them our way. All of the businesses were grateful for the refreshments served, all in all a very pleasant day, forging links within our community.

Saturday 12th November: A Christmas Coffee Morning was held at The Civic Centre, this was run by Hilda with help from members and friends of St Alkmund's Church as well as SWG. A terrific £2,181 was raised.

Thursday 15th November: Sir John Talbot's School held a Christmas Concert in Church. Members of SWG were on hand all day in Church to provide refreshments for the staff and be on hand with any visitors that came into Church during the children's rehearsals. Refreshments were served after the concert.

Friday 16th November: A concert was held by Peter Edge on Friday evening, members of the SWG were on hand to serve refreshments of Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

Saturday 24th December: Light tea served in Bargates Hall to Church members who were on duty during the Crib services. Thank you to Doreen for making the soup, which was served with freshly baked bread rolls, mince pies and cream, plus a selection of Wine, Mulled wine and Tea and Coffee. Thank you Wendy for your help and to those who helped us clear up afterwards.

We have a few dates for the coming year already.

## **The Children's Society**

**Rebecca Sims**

As a church we support the work of the Children's Society through individual collection boxes and our annual Christingle service. 70 people hold collection boxes which are emptied on a yearly basis or sooner if requested. The total raised this year was £1095.15. An excellent result, especially with people not using as much cash now and so not having as much loose change. Thank you to everyone who generously

contributes in this way. Also to the people who don't hold a box but make a yearly donation. It was wonderful to see over 130 people attend the Christingle service in December and have representatives from the schools taking part too. 140 Christingle oranges were prepared, with around 110 being given out at the service. The rest will be made into Christingle marmalade. A total of £212.32 was raised, this is made up of £144.32 donations and £68 from the sale of chocolate oranges. This year the Infant and Junior Academy agreed to distribute a template for a collecting cube to each child, after not doing so for the last 2 years due to the pandemic. Unfortunately the uptake on this was very low with only 8 being returned. A few were returned at the service, but for most of the donations at church envelopes were used. We will need to look at a different way of doing this next year as there is the expense of card and ink to take into consideration. An idea for next year could be to still advertise the event within the schools, but perhaps ask the children to bring a jar to collect loose change in and then invite them to bring that to the Christingle service? The Children's society does wonderful work supporting deprived children, especially helping children in family breakdown, runaways, refugees and child carers amongst others. A big thank you to everyone who supports it. The box collection is particularly invaluable to what we've been able to contribute to the society this year, so if you haven't got a box please do consider it. Just ask me if you would like any more information on being a box holder.

## **Residential / Nursing Homes' Communion**

**Pauline Stokes**

Visits to our Residential and Nursing Homes continued during the year – though from only a couple of years ago, how things have changed. We now only visit regularly Greenfields and St. John's Park each month. Sadly, we have not visited Weston House since Covid, and Edgeley House and Cloverfields are no longer in operation.

However, our small team of visitors remain faithful, and we look forward to our visits, when we meet up with familiar faces! Usually held during the second week in the month — firstly to St. John's Park, where we meet in their lovely Day Room. Sadly numbers are very low, but we always enjoy our visit with Revd. Judy, and the residents, certainly appreciates our visits. (Remember - *"where two or three are gathered together, there am I in the midst"*) And yes, though small in numbers, we *always* make sure we sing a couple of seasonal hymns, too. (sometimes quite gustily !!)

From there, we travel to Greenfields Nursing Home, where, we are always made most welcome by the Staff and residents. Again, things have changed since Covid, sadly we no longer are able visit Bluebell, where we visited residents with Dementia, however we are able to hold our Communion Service with the residents in Snowdrop, now in the comfort of their Day Room., led by Revd Judy, and supported by our team.

The Rector, so aptly gives a short reflection on the Gospel reading, which is much appreciated by the residents. After the service we are able to circulate and talk to the residents, some of whom have become 'old' friends! – which is lovely!

Jane Rylands, our Reader takes a lovely, short "Songs of Praise" Service in Snowdrop, when our team join in with the residents with the singing, and take part with readings, etc .Jane, too gives a short reflection on the special readings of the day, which is always much appreciated. We endeavour to hold such a service each month, but sometimes it is postponed, usually because of illness, so we look forward even more to the next "Songs of Praise" !! Once again, after the service, we like to circulate amongst the residents and have a chat with them!

## **Crib Festival**

**Doreen Ashurst and Wendy Darter**

We were pleased to be able to celebrate our Annual Crib Festival in Church in November. We had 100 cribs to display and almost 400 Visitors attended on the day, many of whom were not regular attenders. Again a valuable outreach event which raised £183 in donations.

## **Whitchurch Foodbank Report**

**Mrs Pauline Stokes**

The use of Food Banks has certainly been mainstream news on our Television Screens, during this past year, which has brought attention to the plight of so many people struggling to put food on their tables, or pay their bills, when they are already "down and out" so to speak!! – but apparently, now including, many people who *do* have jobs, but who just cannot make ends meet !!

Whitchurch Food Bank is playing its part - (It is 9 years since we began operating !) During the first six months of 2022 we had over 400 referrals to Food Bank, which provided more than 12 tonnes of food for 600 adults and 339 children. During the summer we invited Schools to put forward the names of families who might struggle to provide lunchtime food for their children over the 6 week period. Food vouchers were given to parents of children eligible for Free School Meals for the first 3 weeks of the holiday and our Food

Bank was pleased to be able to support families for the remaining 3 weeks. Thanks to our volunteers, we picked, packed and distributed **984 kg** of food which was then collected at Bargates by the families.

At the time of writing, I do not have full details to hand of our Christmas distributions which took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> December – this was a huge operation in itself (and we are still recovering from it!!) But, without all our wonderful volunteers, it would just not have been possible!!

I conclude with a quote from an Email we received, which says it all, as they say:

**“To all the Staff at Whitchurch Food Bank. – My Son and I called in for the first time today, and I have no other words than – Thank you. Truly humbled and in awe of the supplies you gave us, from after weeks of feeding the kids, and eating their left overs, we will have a proper family meal tonight. On top of that, the kids have something to open on Christmas Day, and Santa can fill their stockings with sweet treats. I’m not ashamed to say, I cried with relief *all* the way home. Thank you for all you do and for making us feel so welcomed”**

And, finally, a huge **“Thank you”** to every single one of you who have made donations to Food Bank, whether by personally bringing in bags of food, etc. to Bargates, or by making financial donations – these have truly been outstanding, not only from our wonderful community of Whitchurch, but also from *all* the local villages and towns round about, too – **Bless you all & THANK YOU !!**

## **Fairtrade Report**

**Mrs Judy Bellingham**

St Alkmunds renewed their Fairtrade Church status in 2022. This means that we agree to serve Fairtrade tea/coffee at our services and events and other things like sugar and biscuits if possible. We also agree to support Fairtrade Fortnight. We have done this in the past by having a Big Brew in church. Hopefully we can have one in 2023. I continue to have a stall in the Whitchurch Market each Friday and have had stalls at Blackberry Fair and the Christmas Lights Switch on. We also have a representative at Whitchurch Fairtrade Town Group. Thanks to all of you who have supported Traidcraft despite not having the stall in church. I am hoping to start the stall again this year. Traidcraft have stopped doing their catalogues so now if you want to order anything you need to look on their website. I can get anything for you to save postage. Just let me know. Every time we choose to buy a Fair trade product we are helping someone less fortunate to make a decent living for their family.

## **The Friends of St. Alkmund’s, Whitchurch**

**Revd Judy, Chair**

### ***Main Project: The Chancel Step Handrails***

Money was raised during 2022 with a number of events:

Strawberry tea in the Rectory Garden,

A concert with Jean Martyn,

An Open Garden at the Beeches (courtesy of the Bradshaw family),

A talk on a trip “From Bargates to the Bosphorus” (thanks to Garry & Celia Churchill),

An Evening at Etzio (thanks to Etzio staff and to Sandra Stone for organising this once again)

A Christmas Social Evening courtesy of Mr & Mrs F Dimelow

**The Friends AGM** was held on 14.06.2022.

Trustees for the coming year were appointed:

The Revd Judy Hunt Ex-officio and Chair

Mr Simon Edge Elected and Treasurer

Mrs Hilda Francis-Roberts PCC Nomination

Mr Ray Hatton Elected and Secretary

Mrs Belinda Hutchinson-Smith Elected

Mrs Alex Williamson PCC nomination and Membership Secretary

Mr Tom Rylands PCC nomination

Mr Chris Smith Elected

After the business part of the meeting; we had a talk from Simon Lyon about his ‘sound and vision’ work for television programmes. The brightness of the sun hindered us seeing the images he’d brought for projection but he made up for this in his words! Raffles were held on numerous occasions—thanks to Hilda Francis-Roberts and Allison Haycox. Looking ahead, the programme for 2023 has yet to be finalised but the date for the AGM is Thurs 4th May with Anna Turner (Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire) as the speaker. During 2022, Anna kindly agreed to be our Patron.

## **FTW Report**

**Revd Judy**

The FTW co-ordinating group for the three parishes, with PCC representation from each, met in January, March and June. No progress was made on the vacant House for Duty post.

The links between the three parishes have been key in helping us forward after Covid.

Administrative support for all three parishes was provided by Jo Lavin and then Alison Dunne. Website and Social Media development have been important.

We held a training session for those who had been approached or offered to lead worship. This leading then took place, with another feedback session later in the year. It has proved to be a good use of people's gifts and will be very helpful in the forthcoming vacancy.

The Clergy and Reader team members move around the 3 parishes to lead and preach at Sunday Services. The other leaders have a mixture of 'practice', some staying in their home parish and some going to others in the benefice too.

Revd Judy has overall oversight and particular responsibility for Whitchurch and Tilstock and Revd Sue for Fauls. Revd Sue has also taken on some aspects of ministry in Tilstock.

The Treasurers and Clergy have been in contact during the year.

Time Together and the Hospital Chaplaincy are joint ventures too.

The FTW section to intercessions in all three parishes in our main Sunday services and by e mail round to those who wish to pray at home has continued; thanks to Jill Wallace, together with Caroline Sewry, Joan Hockenhull and Judy Bellingham.

There is an item on the agenda at each Coordinating group meeting to highlight any requests for support from any of the three parishes.

There has been a sharing of resources and a working together in times of lockdown: prayer & nurture, pastoral care and ensuring communication are areas of this in particular.

Online / Livestreamed services have been appreciated.

Mutual support has been strong for social and fundraising events.

A new group formed in September to work on the Benefice Profile, with Jane Rylands as Chair, again with representatives from each of the Parishes.

**Thanks** to all who have prayed, worked together and provided support and encouragement.

## **Rector's Report St Alkmund's, Whitchurch**

**Revd Judy**

In 2022, we started to emerge fully from the Covid Pandemic but continued to be aware of its effect. Numbers at Sunday services are down but people are enjoying being able to meet again in different ways.

### **Sadnesses**

The death or illnesses of several 'core' members of St Alkmund's community

The loss of Jo Lavin as our benefice Administrator & Parish Clerk

The lack of movement on DBS checks so that we can resume Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry

The lack of movement on having a House-for-Duty post clergy colleague

The loss of Messy Church and of a Junior Chorister contingent

The news from Richard James that he will be stepping down as Director of Music at the end of February 2023

### **Challenges**

Challenges have been linked to the sadnesses—see above

Ensuring that our income did not plummet during the year

Other challenges have come through the work continuing on the church building and on Bargates Hall

Regular individual and corporate prayer for God's help in meeting these challenges with grace and hope has been important, and has been answered.

### **Joys**

The arrival of Alison Dunne as our Benefice Administrator & Parish Clerk

A strengthened prayer network – in St Alkmund's but also with Fauls and Tilstock

Zoom meetings with an increased attendance compared with face-to-face ones

Junior Church meetings and feedback



## **Our activities**

There is much to be thankful for in the year as a whole, as you can read above and in the rest of this booklet. First and foremost, we are thankful to God, but following closely on – we are also thankful for each other. In each area listed below, I would like to include thanks to the people involved:

The continuing ministry of Jane Rylands as Reader and Revd Sue The oversight & ministries exercised by the Churchwardens and their deputies, Treasurer, Secretary, and other PCC and Standing Committee members.

The week by week preparation and 'on a Sunday' work with service sheets, Junior Church, bell-ringing, welcome, music, cleaning, flowers, readings, intercessions and communion distribution

The pastoral care exercised in many different ways

The prayer life of the church and its people; leading of Wednesday prayers by various lay people on Zoom; thanks to Judy Bellingham for overseeing this as well as taking DVDs of services out to those who don't have internet connections

Wendy Darter's work as Baptism Co-ordinator

Time Together and the ministry exercised throughout; and thanks to Pol Green as our Dementia-work Co-ordinator

The links and activities with the four local schools

The publication of the Newsletter; the work of our Administrator, Alison Dunne in general and to Pauline Stokes for proof-reading.

The upkeep and regular use of Bargates Hall, especially to Sheila Chase who has taken on the role of Bargates Manager—as well as becoming Churchwarden. Congratulations to her, also, for being chosen as "Whitchurch Citizen of the Year"!

The funds given to charities from our Christingle and Harvest Services, our general involvement with Christian Aid & Fair Trade and our support of our link missionaries via CMS and Crosslinks

The PCC unrestricted finances showing only a small deficit, the faithful and accurate work of our treasurer

All the work of our Social Working Group, including the fundraising Civic Centre Coffee morning

The Plant Sale – thanks to Judy Bryant & Janet Ivens

The Christmas Coffee Morning—thanks to Hilda Francis-Roberts and team

The Crib Festival—thanks to Doreen Ashurst and Wendy Darter; also Jane Rylands

The continued fundraising work of the Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch

Work on the church building, carpark and Bargates Hall—with thanks to Garry Churchill for his work on statutory Statements of Need *etc*

Ongoing work on Safeguarding (see elsewhere) - thanks to Meriel Edge

## **Mission Action Plan (MAP)**

We have kept our activities under review, bearing in mind the Diocesan priorities of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism:

### ***Discipleship:***

Sunday services – including livestreaming and the talks / sermons which are available afterwards in printed form or on the church website

Confirmation Courses for adults and young people

Holy Week input on Zoom

Autumn Discipleship Course on Zoom

Advent Meditative service

### ***Evangelism***

On-line group work; stream-lining of our publicity and other outreach, including "A church near you" website

Blackberry Fair Involvement

Crib Festival

Reflections and services on Church Facebook

Posts on Whitchurch Town Facebook site

Schools' work

### ***Vocation***

Conversations leading to people feeling able to offer new ministries e.g.

Co-leading of Zoom groups

Leading at services

**Workload**

There has been a 'shifting' within the workload of church members—with some needing to cut back but others being able to offer more.

For myself, I'm very glad that Alison Dunne was appointed and that she has done so much with the administration to keep us all up to date with safe-guarding training and DBS checks! This has taken a load off me and enabled me to do more of equipping and planning for the vacancy

I am aware that this will be my last annual report—but my prayers for you all will continue in the future.

**Conclusion**

By God's grace and through our prayer and action, we have continued to see positive developments in 2022. The way in which members of St Alkmund's work together continues to be inspirational.

Thanks to all involved and thanks be to God.

Approved by the PCC on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Juliah M Mont  
Reverend ..... (Chairman)

E Bucknell  
Secretary (Vice Chairman/Secretary etc)

Rector  
Rev Canon Dr J M Mont

## **Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch**

Registered charity number: 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 which are set out on the following pages.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the 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 as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the with the accounting records
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  .....

Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA  
Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance  
St Marys House, The Close, Lichfield. WS13 7LD

Date: 05/04/2023 .

# The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch

## Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

### Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. 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.

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not being shown.

### Cashflow Statement

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a Cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

### Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

### Accounting Estimates and Prior Year Errors

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

### Description of Funds

**Unrestricted funds** are 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 "free reserves" as disclosed in the trustees' annual report.

**Restricted funds** comprise of two elements:

- a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest
- b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Endowment funds** are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

### Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received or when the PCC becomes entitled to the resource and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. 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 and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

### Expenditure

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts

## **Accounting Policies continued**

received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

### **Governance and Support Costs**

Support costs should be allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources eg by allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.

### **Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s.10(2)(a)&(C) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable 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). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

The Tangible Assets are shown at historical cost and are not revalued each year. The properties are well maintained, and an impairment review is carried out periodically.

### **Investments**

Investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at market value at the year end. Investments held for re-sale are treated as current asset investments.

### **Debtors**

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount. Subsequently they are measured at cash expected to be received.

### **Creditors and Accruals**

Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts. Accruals are measured on best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

## Whitchurch PCC

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	86,732	38	16,145	—	102,915	86,805
Income from charitable activities	12,185	—	—	—	12,185	15,319
Other trading activities	18,349	—	1,072	—	19,421	15,136
Investments	16,014	—	15,818	—	31,832	27,459
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total income</b>	<b>133,280</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33,036</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>166,353</b>	<b>144,719</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	1,663	—	—	—	1,663	321
Expenditure on charitable activities	128,945	—	31,112	—	160,056	161,154
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>130,608</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>31,112</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>161,720</b>	<b>161,474</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,633</b>	<b>(16,756)</b>
<b>Transfers</b>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	1,932	—	1,000	—	2,932	600
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,000)	—	(1,932)	—	(2,932)	(600)
<b>Other recognised gains / losses</b>						
Gains / losses on investment assets	(20,456)	—	(72,539)	—	(92,995)	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—	86,429
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(16,853)</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>(71,547)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(88,362)</b>	<b>69,673</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>1,123,110</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>596,570</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>	<b>1,652,482</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,106,257</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>525,023</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,633,793</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
General Fund	1,106,257	—	—	—	1,106,257	1,123,110
<b>Designated</b>						
Bell Designated	—	2,512	—	—	2,512	2,474
<b>Restricted</b>						
Agency collection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	—	—	220	—	220	220
Fabric Restricted	—	—	514,061	—	514,061	584,931
Interior Decorating Scheme	—	—	3,514	—	3,514	3,014
Lectern Restricted	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,000
Time Together	—	—	6,229	—	6,229	7,406

**Whitchurch PCC**

**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022**

	Total funds	Prior year funds
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	892,300	892,300
Investments	696,996	789,992
	1,589,296	1,682,292
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	4,573	3,639
Cash at bank and in hand	41,993	44,612
	46,567	48,251
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,070	6,388
	2,070	8,388
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>	44,496	39,863
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	1,633,793	1,722,154
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>	1,633,793	1,722,154
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
General Fund	1,106,257	1,123,110
<b>Designated</b>		
Bell Designated	2,512	2,474
<b>Restricted</b>		
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	220	220
Fabric Restricted	514,061	584,931
Interior Decorating Scheme	3,514	3,014
Lectern Restricted	1,000	1,000
Time Together	6,229	7,406
Agency collection	—	—
<b>Funds of the church</b>	1,633,793	1,722,154

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27/02/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature: John M. Hunt

Name: Revd Canon Dr J M Hunt; RECTOR

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

## Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs comprise Trustee Training and Governance Costs etc. Due to the nature of the financial activities of the PCC, these would be allocated across Charitable Expenditure which comprises the majority of its expenditure and as such are automatically charged there.

## Staff Costs

	2022	2021
Wages & Salaries	£ 19,388	£ 18,929
Average number of employees	3	3

During the year the PCC employed an administrator, church cleaner and organist (all part-time). There was a period between March and May, between Jo Lavin's resignation and Alison Dunne's appointment, when there were no administrator salary costs. Our organist, Richard James gave notice of resignation at the end of the year, so we are seeking to make a new appointment soon. The administrator's salary attracts additional employer pension costs of £294.83 (2021 £379.17). There was no employers NI. The PCC use the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST), for its pension payments.

There were no employee benefits to key management personnel in the previous or current year.

## Trustees' Remuneration & Expenses

1 Trustee was paid expenses during the year of £2,244 (2021 £2,053).

## Related Parties

No other expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Donations from related parties (PCC members) totalled £10,455 (2021 £12,740). This does not include donations made by debit/ credit card as these are anonymous, unless offered specifically.

## Fees for the examination of the accounts

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent Examiner's fees	150	150
Other fees (eg accountancy services) paid to the Independent Examiner		



## Analysis of Transfer between Funds 2022

	Unrestricted £	Restricted IDS £	Time Together £
Payment to Diocese for Interior Decoration Scheme becomes Restricted Debtor	(500)	500	
Hire of Church Hall and Photocopying recharges for Time Together Sessions	1,072		(1,072)
	360		(360)
<b>Total</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>(1,432)</b>

## Analysis of Transfer between Funds 2021

	Unrestricted £	Restricted IDS £	CBFS £
Payment to Diocese for Schemes become Restricted Debtors	(600)	400	200

## Fixed Assets

### Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Buildings £	Freehold Buildings £	Total £
	Bargates	3a & 3b	
	Church Hall	Bridgewater Street	
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>			
As at 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	584,282	308,018	892,300
Additions in the year			
Disposal in the year			
Revaluation (if any)			
<b>Value at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	<b>584,282</b>	<b>308,018</b>	<b>892,300</b>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
As at 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan			
Charge for the year			
Disposals			
<b>Value at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>			
<b>Net Book Value at 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022</b>	<b>584,282</b>	<b>308,018</b>	<b>892,300</b>
<b>Net Book Value at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2022</b>	<b>584,282</b>	<b>308,018</b>	<b>892,300</b>

The Tangible Assets are shown at historical cost and are not revalued each year. The properties are well maintained, and an impairment review is carried out periodically.

## Investments

	At 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan £	Additions £	Disposals £	Transfers £	Change in market value £	At 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
CCLA Investment Fund Income Shares						
CCLA 620371001S	52,925				(6,230)	46,695
CCLA 620371002S	89,682				(6,739)	82,943
CCLA 120002469S	63,604				(7,488)	56,116
Total Unrestricted	206,211				(20,456)	185,754
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
CCLA Investment Fund Income Shares						
CCLA 620371002S	583,781				(72,539)	511,242
<b>Total</b>	<b>789,992</b>				<b>(92,995)</b>	<b>696,996</b>

## Current Assets

### Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
LDBF IDS & CBF Schemes	3,734	3,234
LDBF Extra Parishes claims	53	
Prepayments and accrued income		346
Other debtors	786	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,573</b>	<b>3,639</b>

## Liabilities

### Amounts falling due in one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	884	150
Agency collections	(1,660)	(1,494)
Other creditors	2,846	9,732
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>8,388</b>

## Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2022

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
<b>Fixed assets - Investments</b>						
CCLA Investment Fund 2469S -	56,116	—	—	—	56,116	63,604
CCLA Investment Fund 1001S -	46,695	—	—	—	46,695	52,925
CCLA Investment Fund 1002S -	82,944	—	511,242	—	594,185	673,463
<b>Totals</b>	<b>185,755</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>511,242</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>696,996</b>	<b>789,992</b>
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets</b>						
Bargates Hall -	584,282	—	—	—	584,282	584,282
3a Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
3b Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
<b>Totals</b>	<b>892,300</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>892,300</b>	<b>892,300</b>
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>						
Barclays Current Account -	17,795	83	(1,018)	—	16,860	4,397
Barclays Deposit Account -	13,190	2,429	9,405	—	25,024	40,000
Petty Cash -	106	—	—	—	106	95
Flowers Petty Cash -	3	—	—	—	3	119
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31,093</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>8,387</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>41,993</b>	<b>44,612</b>
<b>Current assets - Debtors</b>						
Interior Decorating Scheme -	—	—	3,514	—	3,514	3,014
Church Building Fund Scheme -	—	—	220	—	220	220
Sundry Debtors -	53	—	—	—	53	346
Accounts Receivable -	786	—	—	—	786	59
<b>Totals</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,734</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,573</b>	<b>3,639</b>
<b>Liabilities - Agency accounts</b>						
Agency collections -	—	—	(1,660)	—	(1,660)	(1,494)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(1,660)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(1,660)</b>	<b>(1,494)</b>
<b>Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year</b>						
Accruals -	884	—	—	—	884	150
Accounts Payable -	2,847	—	—	—	2,847	9,733
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,730</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,730</b>	<b>9,883</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,106,257</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>525,023</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,633,793</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities 2021 Comparatives

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
<b>Fixed Asset - Investments</b>						
6450: CCLA Investment Fund 2469S	63,604	-	-	-	63,604	55,644
6455: CCLA Investment Fund 1001S	52,925	-	-	-	52,925	46,301
6460: CCLA Investment Fund 1002S	89,682	-	583,781	-	673,463	451,618
<b>Totals</b>	<b>206,211</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>583,781</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>789,992</b>	<b>553,563</b>
<b>Fixed Asset - Tangible Assets</b>						
6430: Bargates Hall	584,282	-	-	-	584,282	584,282
6441: 3a Bridgewater Street	154,009	-	-	-	154,009	154,009
6442: 3b Bridgewater Street	154,009	-	-	-	154,009	154,009
<b>Totals</b>	<b>892,300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>892,300</b>	<b>892,300</b>
<b>Current Assets - Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>						
6501: Barclays Current Account	167	45	4,186	-	4,397	15,143
6505: Barclays Deposit Account	25,666	2,429	11,905	-	40,000	190,003
6530: Petty Cash	95	-	-	-	95	127
6531: Flowers Petty Cash	119	-	-	-	119	-
6535: Bargates Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	-	100
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26,047</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>16,091</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,612</b>	<b>205,373</b>
<b>Current Asset - Debtors</b>						
6560: Interior Decorating Scheme	-	-	3,014	-	3,014	2,514
6561: Church Building Fund Scheme	-	-	220	-	220	-
6565: Sundry Debtors	346	-	-	-	346	2,532
Z05: Accounts Receivable	59	-	-	-	59	1,196
<b>Totals</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,234</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,639</b>	<b>6,242</b>
<b>Liabilities - Agency Accounts</b>						
6699: Agency collections	-	-	(1,494)	-	(1,494)	1,215
<b>Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,494)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,494)</b>	<b>1,215</b>
<b>Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year</b>						
6601: Accruals	150	-	-	-	150	2,050
Z04: Accounts Payable	1,703	-	8,029	-	9,733	1,732
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,853</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,029</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,883</b>	<b>3,782</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,123,110</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>596,570</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>	<b>1,652,482</b>

## Fund movement by type for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
<b>Bell - Bell Designated</b>						
Designated						
<b>Sub-total for Bell</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,512</b>
<b>CBFS - Church Buildings Fun</b>						
Restricted						
<b>Sub-total for CBFS</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Fabric - Fabric Restricted</b>						
Restricted						
<b>Sub-total for Fabric</b>	<b>584,931</b>	<b>31,349</b>	<b>29,680</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(72,539)</b>	<b>514,061</b>
<b>IDS - Interior Decorating</b>						
Restricted						
<b>Sub-total for IDS</b>	<b>3,014</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,514</b>
<b>Lectern - Lectern Restricted</b>						
Restricted						
<b>Sub-total for Lectern</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Time Toget - Time Together</b>						
Restricted						
<b>Sub-total for Time Toget</b>	<b>7,406</b>	<b>1,687</b>	<b>1,432</b>	<b>(1,432)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,229</b>
<b>General - General Fund</b>						
Unrestricted						
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>1,123,110</b>	<b>133,280</b>	<b>130,608</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>(20,456)</b>	<b>1,106,257</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>	<b>166,353</b>	<b>161,720</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(92,995)</b>	<b>1,633,793</b>

## Fund Description

The restricted funds comprise:

General Fabric Fund	To maintain the Church building
LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	Fund set up to assist funding for the decoration of the Rectory
LDBF Church Building Fund Scheme	Fund set up to assist funding for Church Building
Lectern	Bequeathed my Mavis Bancroft in memory of her 3 x great grandfather who made it
Time Together	Dementia-friendly group where sufferers and carers meet regularly in Bargates Hall to socialise and share experiences

The designated funds are to help maintain the bell-ringing services of the Church

## Fund movement 2021 comparatives

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/(losses)	Closing
<b>Bell</b>						
Designated	2,429	45	-	-	-	2,474
<b>Sub-total for Bell</b>	<b>2,429</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,474</b>
<b>CBFS</b>						
Restricted	-	20	-	200	-	220
<b>Sub-total for CBFS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Fabric</b>						
Restricted	528,016	20,534	35,464	-	71,845	584,931
<b>Sub-total for Fabric</b>	<b>528,016</b>	<b>20,534</b>	<b>35,464</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,845</b>	<b>584,931</b>
<b>IDS</b>						
Restricted	2,514	100	-	400	-	3,014
<b>Sub-total for IDS</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,014</b>
<b>Lectern</b>						
Restricted	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
<b>Sub-total for Lectern</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Time Together</b>						
Restricted	6,910	1,120	624	-	-	7,406
<b>Sub-total for Time Together</b>	<b>6,910</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,406</b>
<b>General</b>						
Unrestricted	1,111,613	122,900	125,387	(600)	14,584	1,123,110
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>1,111,613</b>	<b>122,900</b>	<b>125,387</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>14,584</b>	<b>1,123,110</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,652,482</b>	<b>144,719</b>	<b>161,474</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,429</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>

## Summary of Assets by Fund - 2022

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2022 £	At 31/12/2021 £
Fixed Assets	892,300	-	-	-	892,300	892,300
Investment Assets	185,755	-	511,242	-	696,996	789,992
Current Assets	31,933	2,512	12,122	-	46,567	48,251
Current Liabilities	(3,730)	-	1,660	-	(2,070)	(8,388)
	<b>1,106,257</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>525,023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,633,793</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>

## Summary of Assets by Fund - 2021

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2021	At 31/12/2020
					£	£
Fixed Assets	892,300	-	-	-	892,300	892,300
Investment Assets	206,211	-	583,781	-	789,992	553,563
Current Assets	26,452	2,474	19,325	-	48,251	211,616
Current Liabilities	(1,853)	-	(6,535)	-	(8,388)	(4,997)
	<b>1,123,110</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>596,570</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>	<b>1,652,482</b>

## Analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022

						Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>							
<b>Donations and legacies</b>							
Planned Giving - Gift Aid - Bank	41,853	—	—	—	41,853	42,582	
Planned Giving - Gift Aid (Envelopes)	820	—	—	—	820	1,066	
Other planned giving	4,097	—	345	—	4,442	4,842	
Loose plate collections	7,101	—	150	—	7,251	3,603	
Other Donations eg Funerals	13,681	38	165	—	13,884	3,817	
Giving through church boxes	1,189	—	—	—	1,189	1,182	
One-off Gift Aid gifts	437	—	—	—	437	956	
Donations appeals etc	—	—	—	—	—	1,100	
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	9,069	—	—	—	9,069	8,631	
Legacies	—	—	15,485	—	15,485	1,500	
Recurring grants - LDBF IDS & CBFS	—	—	—	—	—	120	
Bonus	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Recurring grants - LDBF Extra	131	—	—	—	131	148	
Parishes	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Recurring grants - Fauls Admin	1,367	—	—	—	1,367	1,743	
Contribut	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Recurring grants - Tilstock Admin	1,348	—	—	—	1,348	3,036	
Contri	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-recurring one-off grants	2,418	—	—	—	2,418	11,238	
Other funds generated	3,221	—	—	—	3,221	1,243	
Total	86,732	38	16,145	—	102,915	86,805	
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>							
Statutory Fees for weddings	876	—	—	—	876	3,039	
Statutory Fees for funerals	5,194	—	—	—	5,194	5,636	
Local Fees for weddings	110	—	—	—	110	594	
Local Fees for funerals	1,705	—	—	—	1,705	1,750	
Fund Raising activities	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Hospital Chaplaincy	4,300	—	—	—	4,300	4,300	
Total	12,185	—	—	—	12,185	15,319	
<b>Other trading activities</b>							
Rummage sales etc	1,732	—	—	—	1,732	2,892	
Church hall lettings	15,094	—	1,072	—	16,166	10,489	
Hire of Church	716	—	—	—	716	765	
Magazine income - advertising	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Parish magazine and other income	807	—	—	—	807	989	
Total	18,349	—	1,072	—	19,421	15,136	
<b>Investments</b>							
Dividends	4,911	—	15,818	—	20,730	17,083	
Bank and building society interest	24	—	—	—	24	13	
Rent from 3a Bridgewater Street	5,625	—	—	—	5,625	5,460	
Rent from 3b Bridgewater Street	5,453	—	—	—	5,453	4,903	
Total	16,014	—	15,818	—	31,832	27,459	
<b>Other income</b>							
Insurance claims	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Surplus - sales of fixed assets	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>133,280</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33,036</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>166,353</b>	<b>144,719</b>	

## EXPENDITURE

### Raising funds

Fees paid to fund raisers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of applying for grants	—	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of fetes & other events	81	—	—	—	81	38
Investment management costs	1,582	—	—	—	1,582	283
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,663</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,663</b>	<b>321</b>

### Expenditure on charitable activities

Giving to missionary societies	2,000	—	—	—	2,000	2,000
Giving - relief and development agencies	500	—	—	—	500	—
Home mission	10	—	—	—	10	1,260
Secular charities	500	—	—	—	500	—
Parish Share	40,673	—	—	—	40,673	35,397
Assistant staff costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salary of parish administrator	10,403	—	—	—	10,403	13,018
Rector expenses - mileage	340	—	—	—	340	289
Rector expenses - postage and other misc	25	—	—	—	25	59
Rector expenses - publications	95	—	—	—	95	116
Rector expenses - hospitality	220	—	—	—	220	178
Rector expenses - telephone	1,066	—	—	—	1,066	954
Rector expenses - computer	240	—	—	—	240	220
Rector expenses - house insurance	38	—	—	—	38	37
Rector expenses - training	220	—	—	—	220	200
Rector expenses - Rectory garden	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - mileage	—	—	—	—	—	185
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - publications	—	—	—	—	—	114
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - hospitality	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	68
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - computer	—	—	—	—	—	120
Curate/ HfD/ OLM Expenses - House Insura	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reader/Deanery Synod and other expenses	—	—	—	—	—	15
Education	52	—	1,792	—	1,844	751
Parish training and mission	—	—	—	—	—	152
Church running - insurance	5,749	—	—	—	5,749	5,650
Church office - telephone	1,681	—	—	—	1,681	1,541
Organ / piano tuning and organist	6,850	—	—	—	6,850	4,520
Church maintenance	8,062	—	15,986	—	24,048	7,110
Cleaning	2,930	—	—	—	2,930	3,268
Upkeep of services	2,802	—	—	—	2,802	1,913
Upkeep of churchyard	5,072	—	—	—	5,072	3,673
Upkeep of car parks	285	—	—	—	285	14,395
Printing/Photocopying	3,816	—	(360)	—	3,456	2,218
Postage & Stationery	1,079	—	—	—	1,079	599
Office Equipment	3,407	—	—	—	3,407	2,477
Annual Subscriptions	1,593	—	—	—	1,593	1,051
Bank Charges	500	—	—	—	500	409
Visiting speakers / locums	—	—	—	—	—	—
Memorial Book	521	—	—	—	521	665
Church running - electric	4,323	—	—	—	4,323	2,072
Church running - gas	2,198	—	—	—	2,198	1,473
Church running - water	182	—	—	—	182	181
Church running - oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church running - heating and lighting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospital Chaplaincy costs	—	—	—	—	—	—



Hall Caretaker costs	—	—	—	—	—	2,000
Hall running - oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall running - electricity	1,616	—	—	—	1,616	724
Hall running - gas	4,291	—	—	—	4,291	1,297
Hall running - insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall running - maintenance	4,234	—	—	—	4,234	1,209
Hall running - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall running - water	316	—	—	—	316	24
Hall running - consumables	52	—	—	—	52	389
Governance costs examination/audit fee	150	—	—	—	150	150
Church major repairs - structure	—	—	1,152	—	1,152	32,672
Church major repairs - professional fees	—	—	12,541	—	12,541	2,791
Church interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall + major repairs - structure	4,157	—	—	—	4,157	7,360
Hall + major repairs - installation	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall + interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bridgewater Street property costs	6,696	—	—	—	6,696	4,190
New building parsonage house	—	—	—	—	—	—
New building house for curate	—	—	—	—	—	—
New building Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
New building Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,945</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>31,112</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>160,056</b>	<b>161,154</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>130,608</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>31,112</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>161,720</b>	<b>161,474</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,633</b>	<b>(16,756)</b>

## Statement of Financial Activities 2021 comparatives

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	79,512	45	7,247	—	86,804	217,582
Income from charitable activities	15,319	—	—	—	15,319	11,757
Other trading activities	14,735	—	400	—	15,135	12,091
Investments	13,333	—	14,125	—	27,459	28,185
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total income</b>	<b>122,899</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>21,773</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>144,718</b>	<b>269,616</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	320	—	—	—	320	—
Expenditure on charitable activities	125,066	—	36,087	—	161,153	381,363
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>125,387</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>36,087</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>161,474</b>	<b>381,363</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>(2,488)</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>(14,314)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(16,756)</b>	<b>(111,747)</b>
<b>Transfers</b>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	600	—	600	1,115
Gross transfers between funds - out	(600)	—	—	—	(600)	(1,115)
<b>Other recognised gains / losses</b>						
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	14,583	—	71,844	—	86,428	219,345
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>11,496</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>58,131</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>69,672</b>	<b>107,598</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>1,111,613</b>	<b>2,429</b>	<b>538,439</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,652,481</b>	<b>1,544,883</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,123,109</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>596,570</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,722,154</b>	<b>1,652,481</b>