# The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter's with St Mark's Hospital Church

# Report and Financial Statements 31 December 2023

Registered with the Charity Commission 1128896

## The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter's with St Mark's Church, Maidenhead

Registered Charity no. 1128896

### Financial Report and Statements for the year ended 2023

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### 2023 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Peter's with St Mark's Hospital Church, Furze Platt, Maidenhead

#### 1. Administrative Information

St Peter's Church is situated in St Peter's Road, Furze Platt, Maidenhead. It is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is the Parish Office, St Peter's Church, St Peter's Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7QU. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission, registration no.1128896.

The PCC also has responsibility for St Mark's Hospital Church, which is part of the site of St Mark's Hospital, our local community hospital. The incumbent also acts as the Hospital Chaplain. St Mark's Hospital Church building is owned and maintained by the NHS, although St Mark's congregation have been permitted to improve the building from their own funds.

#### 2. Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC has been formed under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The clergy and Churchwardens are members by virtue of their office. Two churchwardens are elected annually at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP). At the 2023 AMP only one Churchwarden was elected; the second Churchwarden position remains vacant. Deanery Synod representatives are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and hold office for three years. Other members of the PCC are elected for a term of 3 years at the APCM. All Church attenders are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and to consider whether to stand for election to the PCC. PCC members automatically become trustees of the charity.

#### 3. Membership of the PCC

The Membership of the PCC as of 31st December 2023 is shown below:

Ex Officio:

David Short (Vicar)

Joanna Ellington (Assistant Minister)

Carol Cooper (Curate)

lan Knight (Churchwarden)

Elected to PCC:

Lucy Bellinger (elected 2021-2024)
Alan Jell (elected 2021-2024)
Jeremy Stevens (elected 2021-2024)
Martha Baillie (elected 2022-2025)
Tom Collison (elected 2022-2025)
Sue Fleet (elected 2022-2025)

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Mike Weatherley (elected 2022-2025) Marlene Bryant (elected 2023-2026)

Franzi Cheeseman (elected 2023-2024, PCC Vice Chair)

Martin Flynn (elected 2023-2026)

Brian Giddings (elected 2023-2026, Treasurer)
Sandy Young (elected 2023-2026, PCC Secretary)

#### 4. Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. As of 31 Dec 2023 seven members of the PCC were also members of the Deanery Synod: David Short, Joanna Ellington, Carol Cooper, Marlene Bryant, Martin Flynn, Brian Giddings and Sandy Young. In 2023 there were three meetings. In addition to acting as a conduit for General Synod, the Deanery Synod also shared experiences of studying the Bible and providing online church and received updates from the General Synod on topics including Living in Love and Faith and safeguarding. Deanery Synod also heard from Bishop Olivia, Bishop of Reading, about her thoughts on the current state and the future of the church.

#### 5. Organisation and Structure

For the PCC to work to enable the mission and ministry of St Peter's and St Mark's as well as exercise the function of trusteeship for the Church, each member of the PCC will normally be part of at least one sub-group; others not on the PCC can be invited onto these sub-groups. Each sub-group regularly reports to the PCC.

Standing Committee - This committee consists of the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Vice Chair. They have power to transact the business of the PCC between PCC meetings, reporting to the full PCC as appropriate.

Finance Committee – The Finance Committee consists of the Treasurer and 3 other people, including at least one member of the PCC. This committee meets as required and is responsible to the PCC for inspecting financial reports including year-end accounts before external inspection; developing and agreeing financial policies and processes; advising on the management of investments; and advising on financial risk. Practical financial matters are managed by the Treasurer with the support of a bookkeeper and an Assistant who focuses on income and Gift Aid.

Mission Action Group – The Mission Action Group looks to develop mission partnerships at home and abroad. The Group also recommends the distribution of the Parish Tithe between the chosen charities. On 31st December 2023, the mission partners were:

Overseas: Street Kids Direct Guatemala and Open Doors

At home: Re: Charge R&R, Christian Connections in Schools (CCiS) and Yeldall Manor

Building Action Group (BAG) - attends to all matters relating to the normal maintenance of the buildings and grounds in which St Peter's and St Mark's Church has an interest. The position of

chair of this group is currently vacant, however the PCC are grateful to a number of members of the congregation with relevant skills for their support with the maintenance of the buildings and grounds.

Off-Site Event Approval Group (OSAG) — consists of a Churchwarden, the Safeguarding Officer, and the Children's Minister (vacant since April 2023). It reviews and approves off-site events involving children and vulnerable adults, ensuring that safety and safeguarding risks are addressed in line with the church's safeguarding, health and safety and insurance policies. This group reports back to the PCC at each PCC meeting regarding any events that have been approved.

#### 6. Objectives and Activities

St Peter's with St Mark's Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend David Short, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Following extensive consultation with members of the parish, the PCC has agreed that the priorities for St Peter's and St Mark's are to develop our ministry in the areas of Worship, Discipleship, Community, Mission and the Younger Generation and to nurture the values of Compassion, Creativity, Generosity and Joy. Our vision is to LOVE JESUS, SHARE LIVES & TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our two churches and to become part of our parish community. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, worship and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit, and particularly the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Mission and outreach work, especially with children and young people, disadvantaged and vulnerable families, vulnerable and socially isolated older people and refugees/asylum seekers.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St Peter's Church and the Church Centre.

The Church aims to give to other organisations involved in mission in the UK and overseas, or involved in humanitarian relief and development work, 10% of its regular income each year. Giving is prayerfully considered by the Mission Action Group, which makes recommendations to the PCC.

To help it achieve its objectives the PCC employs on a full-time basis:

Children's Minister (Emma Olorenshaw until 02Apr23, vacant since that date), reporting to the Vicar, to connect more children and families to faith in Jesus through missional outreach; to deepen and develop the spiritual life of the children; and to equip and encourage families to raise their children as life-long followers of Jesus.

#### On a part-time basis:

Church Centre Manager (Sandy Young), reporting to the Vicar, to manage the St Peter's Church Centre complex, provide a welcome to the building and to run the office.

Church Administrator/Finance Assistant (Kira Holland), reporting to the Vicar, to provide administrative support for the financial management and mission and ministry of the church.

International Minister (Geoff Yeung), reporting to the Vicar, oversees our international welcome ministry and work with asylum seekers and refugees. He has also been supporting the youth and children's ministry, whilst these positions have been vacant.

Youth Minister (to be appointed), reporting to the Vicar, to connect more young people to faith in Jesus through missional outreach; to develop the spiritual life of the young people; to equip and encourage others and especially young people to grow in leadership; and to develop our ministry among young adults (18-25yrs).

Contract cleaning services are supervised by the Church Centre Manager (Sandy Young).

#### In addition:

Lay Licensed Minister (Ruth Knight) reporting to the Vicar. Ruth is involved with leading and preaching at both churches and is also a joint leader of a Connect Group.

The church relies on the voluntary work of many people within the church and the PCC hugely appreciates their service to the church and the local community.

#### Safeguarding:

The PCC has discussed, reviewed and approved several safeguarding documents over the year including the following:

- Parish safeguarding policy (which takes account of "Promoting a Safer Church")
- Safeguarding action plan
- Procedure for dealing with safeguarding concerns
- Policy on recruitment of ex-offenders
- Safer recruitment and people management process
- Lists of church and non-church activities
- Use of social media policy

The Church has applied the required safer recruitment guidelines when new volunteers, who will work with children, young people and vulnerable adults, have been appointed. Leaders and helpers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults or involved in administration and governance of the Church continue to be checked with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS); long-standing group leaders and helpers have been reviewed when required.

The training of volunteers in diocesan safeguarding training modules that are appropriate to their roles has continued, as has refresher training for those already in roles.

The Off-Site Activity Approval Group (OSAG) continues to review all off-site activity planning documents and risk assessments involving vulnerable persons. The OSAG approves the majority of these activities on the PCC's behalf, although higher risk activities are still taken to PCC meetings for final approval.

We have progressed to the top level on the Safeguarding Dashboard, which is an online system to streamline safeguarding administration and governance. It makes life simpler for the Parish Safeguarding Officer as it shows an overview of the parish at a glance and can be shared with the vicar and churchwardens.

During the year we were given the opportunity by the Diocese to start using the Safeguarding Hub. This is a new online tool which enables all aspects of safer recruitment and training requirements to be recorded in one place. Work is on-going to transfer all our existing data relating to DBS and safeguarding training onto the new Safeguarding Hub which in time will make the recording and storing of this information simpler, secure and more efficient.

Lucy Bellinger continues in the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and has also taken on the role of DBS Administrator and as such is responsible for the administration of DBS applications, with assistance from Sandy Young as DBS Verifier.

#### 7. PCC Review of the Year 2023

The PCC met 6 times in 2023. Over the year the PCC discussed many topics, significant among them:

January 2023 – At this meeting Brian Giddings was elected to the PCC and appointed as Treasurer, following the resignation of Alan Berry, who was thanked for his many years service. The annual report and accounts for 2022 were discussed and approved for submission for Independent Examination. Approval was given for the closure of a number of restricted funds, which had fulfilled their purpose, were no longer relevant to current activities or had been superseded by other funds. Approval was given for the addition of bank signatories and facilities, following the change of Treasurer and appointment of a Finance Assistant. The allocation of the 2022 mission tithe and the list of those authorised to administer Holy Communion were approved. A Youth weekend away was approved. The Safeguarding Policy and Recruitment of Ex-offenders Recruitment Policy were approved along with a new Use of Social Media Policy. Following discussion, a Diocesan Development Fund grant offer towards a project to appoint a part-time International Minister and a part-time Youth Minister was accepted by PCC.

March 2023 – The mission partners for 2023 were approved. The independently examined annual report and accounts for 2022 were approved for submission to the APCM and financial policies, including Legacy, Reserves. Authorisation Levels and Purchasing were reviewed and approved. Approval was also given for a new restricted fund to hold Diocesan Development Fund grant payments. A 6.1% pay increase for staff and increased PCC fees were also approved. The annual safeguarding review took place. Lists of approved church and non-church activities were approved along with the safeguarding action plan. PCC carried out a practical exercise to consider changing the orientation of the worship space in St Peter's Church to facilitate growth. The meeting also approved the deputy wardens, stewards and sidespeople for 2023.

May 2023 – A clarification to the wording of the administrative section of the annual report was approved. The updated Safer Recruitment Process was also approved. The Commitment Sunday response was shared and enables PCC to move ahead with confidence and humility. Plans for St Mark's Hospital Church 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations were outlined. Howard Goldsmith, Abi Griffiths Price, Anna Holloway and Richard Thorogood were thanked for their work on the PCC, as they would be standing down at the APCM. An extended time of worship and prayer was held for our Children's and Youth Minister vacancies, our outreach activities and our staff and thanks were given for God's generous provision and the many areas of growth.

July 2023 – This meeting included a shared meal to welcome new members of the PCC and to thank existing members for their support and service. The role of PCC was presented, with reference to two documents, which had been circulated as pre-reads: an Introduction to the PCC and a PCC Code of Conduct. Comments were invited. PCC transparency was discussed. The officers for this PCC were elected and membership of the Standing Committee was agreed. An update on plans to upgrade AV equipment was presented and PCC asked for the team to proceed with phase 1. Positive feedback on the CollecTin trial was received. Increases in room hire charges, effective 1st September, were approved.

September 2023 – The annual health and safety review took place and the updated Health and Safety Policy and Improvement Plan were approved. A time of small group discussion, followed by feedback to the whole PCC and further discussion took place to consider how we might fill our vacancies for a full-time Children's Minister and part-time Youth Minister. Ideas were recorded for consideration and follow-up.

November 2023 – A recruitment update for our Children's/Youth Minister vacancies was shared. Approval was given for a part-time Facilities Manager role for the church centre. Standing Committee were authorised to manage the interface for this appointment to be combined with facilities management of Furze Platt War Memorial Hall. A one-off bonus was approved for PCC staff in recognition of the additional workload that had arisen due to staff vacancies. The draft budget for 2024, including the Parish Share, was approved. Following a review and benchmarking of PCC fees, it was agreed not to increase our fees for 2024 except for our heating surcharge.

#### 8. Services and Worship

The number of names on the electoral roll as of May 2023 was 166 (2022: 169), 52% of whom live within the Parish, 48% outside the parish. Adrian Young continues as Electoral Roll Officer.

At the St Peter's weekly 10am service, THE TEN O'CLOCK, we worship together as a whole church family at the beginning of the service, before the children and young people move to their groups. Our sung worship is in a contemporary style, with song words, liturgy and readings projected, and large print booklets available for those who need them. The service is livestreamed and remains available on our YouTube channel and the teaching is made available as a weekly Podcast. An unsupervised creche is available with a live link to the service. Prayer ministry is offered after the service. Refreshments are served before and after the service. All are welcome, with space for all ages from families with young children to seniors.

A short contemplative Midweek Service, alternating between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, is held twice monthly at St Peter's. Those attending are welcome to stay on for a Community Lunch, served after the service.

An 11am Morning Prayer service is held at St Mark's Church on the second Sunday of each month and a traditional Anglican service of Holy Communion based on Common Worship, is held on the fourth Sunday of each month. The St Mark's congregation, which we would describe as welcoming and caring, is mainly from an older demographic. From 12<sup>th</sup> February until 11<sup>th</sup> June, whilst there was no heating available in St Mark's Church, services took place in the nearby Seminar Room 1 on the hospital site.

On Good Friday, a reflective 'Hour at the Cross' service of music, Bible readings and meditation was held at St Peter's. On Easter Sunday there was an All-Age Communion service at St Peter's and an Easter Communion service at St Mark's. On 7th May a service to mark the Coronation of King Charles III was held in Seminar Room 1 on the St Mark's Hospital site, as St Mark's Church was closed. In June, a service to remember loved ones was held at St Peter's and St Mark's held a special service to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Church.

During Advent we offered a range of special services across both churches. These included a service of nine lessons and carols, a traditional daytime carol service and an evening carol service. On Christmas Eve we held two Nativity and Carols services at St Peter's. On Christmas day there was an All-Age Celebration service at St Peter's and a Christmas Communion at St Mark's.

#### 9. Achievements and Performance

Church Service Attendance 2023

During October (taken to represent a typical month statistically) in-person Sunday services were taking place weekly at St Peter's and twice monthly at St Mark's. Typically, the service on the second Sunday of the month at St Peter's was a communion service. At St Mark's the services alternated between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. The St Peter's Sunday morning services were livestreamed online and available for catch-up at another time. There was also a twice monthly midweek daytime service at St Peter's alternating between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.

Please note that online service counts are the number of views within a week of broadcast, not the number of individuals who have watched them.

#### St Peter's in-person & online:

Sunday	1st October	74 adults	16 children	47 views
Sunday	8th October	74 adults	14 children	56 views
Wednesday	11th October	14 adults	0 children	
Sunday	15th October	103 adults	27 children	79 views
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	71 adults	10 children	56 views
Wednesday	25th October	14 adults	0 children	

#### St Mark's in-person:

8th October	22 adults	0 children
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	18 adults	2 children

#### Easter Day:

All Age Communion Service at St Peter's	137adults	38 children	21 views
Holy Communion Service St Mark's	22 adults	0 children	

#### Christmas Services:

St Peter's in-person services (5, of which 3 were livestreamed)

503 adults 137children 151 views

St Mark's in-person services (2) 54 adults 6 children

#### 10. Review of Activities and Events

**Connect Groups.** There are currently six evening Connect Groups, which meet on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. In addition, a new daytime group was started at the beginning of the year. The aim of the groups is to facilitate fellowship, Bible study and pastoral support for members of our congregation. Groups usually choose their own study materials, and most groups meet weekly. This is a great space to get to know and support each other and grow in our faith together.

**Patchwork** is a monthly women's breakfast meeting with 8-20 women attending to share faith stories and pray together in a way that is biblical, personal and encouraging. Women share testimonies, pray together and encourage each other through Bible study and shared faith experiences.

Children's Ministry. With an average of 13 children attending, our Sunday morning children's sessions are varied, but always include having fun with one another, exploring the Bible and connecting with God through prayer and worship. Sessions have been planned using resources from Energize with a focus on encounters with Jesus. Despite not having a Children's Minister in post since April, our volunteer team have continued to walk alongside parents and carers as they nurture their children's spiritual life and equip them with confidence, courage and resources.

St Peter's Toddlers continues weekly, welcoming in many families from the community. Attendance remains high, with an average of about 15 adults and 25 children each week. In addition, we have run successful Play Café mornings during school holidays, which have averaged between 25 and 30 children per session. Successful relationships have been established through this group, resulting in two requests for infant baptisms. The structure of the sessions includes a gently Christian message, designed to promote wonder and curiosity in the minds of the Toddlers (and adults!) who attend, and many remark on the kindness of the volunteers, their willingness to listen, and the safe, fun atmosphere they experience.

**Schools Ministry** continued across the Parish. We ran Easter and Christmas presentations for children from Courthouse Junior School and Furze Platt Junior School. We were also able to run one-off assemblies and talks across the year for Alwyn Infant School and Little Fishes Pre-School. Weekly assembles were also delivered by our Children's Minister to Furze Platt Junior School.

Schools Chaplaincy. Jo Ellington continues as Chaplain in Altwood C of E Secondary School and Cookham Dean C of E Primary School. At Cookham Dean school Jo has supported the Pupils for Praise Club. At Altwood school the chapel has been reordered to make it a more hospitable space and the 'Chapel and Chats' group for Christians and non-Christians is now well established with 15-20 pupils attending at lunchtime to learn and talk about Jesus, play games and eat brownies. Links have also been established between the school, church and the community through the students carol singing at Larchfield care home, volunteering to help at St Peter's community lunch and a sponsored sleep out by year 12 students in support of Street Kids direct.

Youth Ministry: Wednesday Night Live (WNL) continued to take place fortnightly throughout 2023 for children in school years 6-8. These fun sessions are well received by our young people, who are readily inviting their school friends to join in. We saw up to 13 children attending sessions, with an average of 8 each week. We have a range of sessions, both on and off-site, with trips out for meals, ten pin bowling and trampolining being highlights for many.

Youth Ministry: Sunday Night Live (SNL) for our older youth continued to meet weekly. Topics covered included 'God has a plan for you', 'Jesus' I AM statements' and 'Encounters with Jesus'. An average of 8-10 young people attended the sessions. A weekend away was organised in April at PGL Marchants Hill. 15 young people and 4 leaders had a great time of fun and fellowship. To support one of our mission partners, Yeldall Manor, a team took part in their "Everest Climbing Challenge" fundraising event. In the autumn term, a youth band was formed with regular practices taking place before the SNL sessions.

**Prayer Meetings.** Our monthly evening Encounter prayer meetings took place at St Peter's Church Centre. The evenings typically brought together around twenty people to pray for mission and ministry, the wider world and our mission partners. Throughout the year we were delighted to have been joined by some of our local and international mission partners.

**Prayer Weeks**. Three prayer weeks were held during the year with a prayer room set up at St Peter's Church. During each week individuals or groups prayed during each of the hour-long slots, from 7am-11pm Monday-Friday. All were well supported.

Alpha continued this year as a course for enquirers. The autumn course, held at St Peter's church centre was attended by 15 adults of whom 10 completed the course. The group bonded well and have continued to meet socially and have expressed a desire to provide practical support for future courses. 13 attendees have attended a church service, several are attending on a regular basis and there is interest in attending future outreach events. In total 35 church family members were involved as leaders, cooks, set-up team, administrators, prayer team etc. A youth Alpha course at Altwood CE School was also supported by church members.

Community Lunch. Our weekly Community Lunch has continued to provide a space for fellowship and friendship for anyone within the local community and our church family. We have seen it grow this year to include newcomers. Many of those who attend our twice monthly Midweek Service, enjoy staying on for a meal after the service. Transport is provided for those who require it. The lunch is attended regularly by an average of 30 guests. This year, thanks to support from Maidenhead Lions and the McCarthy and Stone Foundation we have been able to celebrate the coronation and provide the Christmas Dinner, which took place after a Daytime Carol Service, for no charge. Both events were attended by more than 40 guests.

St Mark's Hospital and Care Home. Regular monthly communion services were held at St Mark's Care Home by our Curate, Carol, providing a regular opportunity to provide spiritual care for the residents and some staff. In addition, a short Service to Remember Loved Ones was held at Christmas, in response to a perceived need amongst the residents. Our ministers regularly visited the Care Home by invitation to provide additional pastoral and spiritual support to residents and their families. There were also occasional visits to staff and patients on Henry Tudor community inpatient ward.

St Mark's Church also celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and over the course of the weekend the church was open. Over a hundred people visited the church, many of whom had never visited the church before. This was followed by a visit from the Maidenhead Civic Society.

'Sharing Lives' events. As part of our vision to share lives, we have held several events throughout the year, including a quiz, women's breakfast, pancake party, All Nations Lunch, barbecue, family picnic, Together Meal, mince pie social and monthly breakfasts.

**International Welcome ministry** As a member of the Welcome Churches network, our goal and mission are to welcome refugees and new migrants who are living in our local community. Activities include *Hong Kongers Welcoming Ministry*, *Refugee Welcoming Ministry* and *Friends Without Borders*.

Hong Kongers Welcoming Ministry. In early 2023, the UKHK Welcome Course was held to provide an opportunity for newly arrived Hong Kongers to make friends with local people and to learn about life in the UK. The course was attended by 14 adults and 9 young people and was positively received by both volunteers and participants. Friendships were built, and some newcomers expressed an interest in attending a follow-on Welcome Course. Some of the participants also joined the church barbecue and Christmas carol service and friendships continue to develop and deepen.

Three social events, each attended by approximately 70 people, were organised at the Lunar New Year, Mid-Autumn Festival and Christmas. These helped the Hong Kong community to make new friends and support each other.

The monthly Cantonese worship service was paused in the second half of the year, as the need for this became less urgent. This allowed Geoff time to explore other refugee welcoming opportunities. Consideration will be given to resuming the service if a need becomes apparent in the future.

Following on from the 2022 Cantonese Alpha course, a Cantonese Bible Study has taken place throughout the year for two of the participants, whose faith is growing and now regularly join our Sunday service. On average, around 10 Hong Kongers (both adults and young people) regularly attend the Sunday morning service at St Peter's.

Refugee Welcoming Ministry. After a Memorandum of Understanding was signed and accepted by Clearsprings (the service provider of the Welcome Hotel at the Holiday Inn Maidenhead), Geoff Yeung began making regular visits to the asylum seekers in June. Regular contacts have been made and relationships have been established. To serve the residents in the best way possible, we joined "Welcome Plus" (organised by the Welcome Churches network) in order to receive training and support in refugee ministry. In late August, Geoff started to recruit volunteers from the Church to team up with him for visits and support.

Geoff and the team have also been providing intensive practical support for a few individuals, including supporting them with their understanding of documents, connecting with the council, and helping to solve accommodation problems. During the Christmas period, just under 300 'Love Christmas' bags were prepared and delivered to adults, children and staff in the hotel. These were positively received by both residents and staff. A Christmas party for the asylum seekers was co-hosted with St Mary's Church. The party was attended by more than 100 adults and children.

**Friends Without Borders**, a weekly English conversation group, was started in September to help newcomers improve their English-speaking skills, to extend their vocabulary and to get to know others. Everyone is welcome whether their English speaking is limited or more proficient.

Love Christmas. St Peter's was once again the Maidenhead hub for the Love Christmas appeal, enabling us to team up with other churches across the town to give away 'bags of kindness'. This year over 750 bags were distributed to asylum seekers, the isolated elderly, recently arrived refugees, and families facing a difficult Christmas as identified through our local schools. These gifts remind our neighbours that they are seen, and loved and that the Church is there for them.

**Church Centre Utilisation**. The Church Centre continues to provide excellent facilities for community-based organisations and activities. The centre hosts a weekly toddler group, community lunch, English conversation session and youth activities. External hirers use the centre for a before school breakfast club, art classes, musical theatre-based sound and movement sessions for babies and toddlers, and exercise/Pilates/dance classes. The Centre is also used for counselling sessions and training courses/events. Additionally, community groups continue to use the venue for meetings and presentations. It remains a popular venue for social events and children's parties.

Furze Platt War Memorial Hall (FPWMH). Members of the PCC, namely the Vicar and Churchwardens, are administrative trustees of the Furze Platt War Memorial Hall, Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead. Deeds of the hall are held by the Diocese of Oxford, and state that the hall be used for 'promoting aiding and furthering the objects and work of the Church of England in the parish ... and for the benefit of the inhabitants of the said parish but not for any purpose inimical in the opinion of the Board or the administrative trustees to the Church of England.' This hall is let to a wide variety of community groups.

#### 11. Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

#### St Peter's Church and Church Centre.

Energy Efficiency: The report from the Energy Audit carried out in 2022 at St Peter's was received in 2023. We have actioned a number of these easy to implement improvements. It is also recognised that the church heating system is over 15-years old, relatively inefficient and increasingly unreliable. Therefore, over the next few years we foresee a need to develop a plan to replace the existing boiler. This is complicated by climate considerations and the difficulty in developing a viable renewable energy heating solution for a poorly insulated, listed building. A new heating system could be installed in concert with any roof project undertaken over the next 10 years, to deliver improved insulation levels. If the existing heating system does not last until roof work is undertaken it is likely that we will need to install a final natural gas fired heating solution before climate regulations are likely to prohibit continued use of natural gas boilers.

Audio-Visual: Mike Weatherley and David Robinson have replaced our analogue sound desk with a digital unit as the first phase of a program to upgrade our audiovisual system in St Peters church. Further work will follow over the next 12 months as the team move on to phase 2 of the program, which the PCC are overseeing. Many thanks to Mike and David for their work and the significant improvements we have already seen and to those who gave one off gifts to fund this work during the 2023 Stewardship campaign.

Kitchen: As the kitchen is now 10-years old we are seeing an increased number of issues with some of the equipment items. These are being fixed as they arise, following investigation of the most cost-effective repair/replacement options.

#### Plans for the coming year

Safety: Work is needed to make access through the tower roof hatch at St Peter's easier by addressing the weight of the hatch to facilitate safer access from the internal ladder. This work is a priority for the PCC in 2024.

Church Centre: A longstanding, troublesome and intermittent roof leak remains to be fixed in the Church Centre. The general problem area has been identified and work is in hand to try and identify the specific joint or weak area that is allowing water to penetrate. We would welcome hearing from anyone with personal (or family connections) with experience/knowledge of troubleshooting PVC roof membrane (Sarnafil) joints.

#### **Quinquennial Report**

This inspection by a Diocese Approved Conservation Architect is required every 5 years and is due in 2024. Associated with this, a number of repairs are also now necessary including maintenance of internal doors, replacement of the South Aisle Gutter run and maintenance to the north aisle gutter system together with areas of masonry repointing and internal decoration – the Wardens and PCC will mobilise Church Family members to assist with these tasks in 2024, as appropriate.

#### St Mark's Church

This building is owned and maintained by the NHS, which has the benefit of removing several responsibilities from the PCC, but also slows the pace at which opportunities can be progressed. During 2023 the overhead gas fired heaters failed, requiring the church to meet in a Seminar room in the hospital. This issue is being overseen by the NHS Estates Team. Investigations and potential solutions are being worked up by the Estates Team. We continue to apply pressure to work towards a long-term heating solution.

Anyone within the church community with an interest in building maintenance, who would like to be involved in progressing any of the above, are encouraged to speak to David Short or Ian Knight.

#### 12. Financial Review of the Year

Total funds received in 2023 were £320,965 of which £283,137 were unrestricted, £34,070 were restricted and £3,758 were St Mark's. The increase in total funds received between 2022 and 2023 was £115,180. This increase was partly due to a generous response to the stewardship appeal, along with an increase in grants, gift-aid and a substantial legacy received in December 2023.

Total expenditure in 2023 was £218,404; an increase of £616 (0.3%) compared to 2022. This was less than anticipated as the PCC were not able to recruit for the ministry roles associated with the stewardship appeal, and the AV upgrade continues into 2024.

The net movement in unrestricted funds was an increase of £102,215 during the year, which results in an unrestricted fund balance of £209,766 carried forward into 2024.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The PCC policy is to hold in reserve the equivalent of a step reduction in income of 20% for 6 months and to cover any contractual obligations whilst action is taken to reduce outgoings and appeals are made for increasing voluntary income. It is also our policy to hold an amount to meet urgent and unexpected building works and to fund essential building improvements. The current level of reserves is higher than that required by the Reserves Policy. The PCC has plans to use reserves for funding further mission and ministry projects over the period 2024 to 2026, building on those undertaken in 2023.

#### Going Concern

The Trustees have considered the financial position at the year end and consider that the financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S WITH ST MARK'S CHURCH

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on the following pages.

#### Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given 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 matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Charweevan Williams FCCA Verdant Accountants 167 Clarence Avenue

( Wells

New Malden KT3 3TX

11 · 3 · 20 24 (Date)

### THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S WITH ST MARK'S CHURCH STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated St Mark's Funds £	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income Activities for generating funds Income from Investments Church Activities	2(a) 2(b) 2(c) 2(d)	241,533 1,656 3,292 36,656	3,390 - 368 -	34,070 - - -	278,993 1,656 3,660 36,656	171,836 1,295 2,522 30,132
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	8	283,137	3,758	34,070	320,965	205,785
RESOURCES USED Church Activities Grants payable Governance costs	3(a) 3(b) 3(c)	164,770 21,274 672	2,550 339	28,799	196,119 21,613 672	201,410 15,690 688
	-(0)					
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDE	D	186,716	2,889	28,799	218,404	217,788
NET INCOMING RESOURCES/ (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHE RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES		96,421	869	5,271	102,561	(12,003)
GAINS AND LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS Unrealised	4(b)	-	-	7,709	7,709	(9,714)
NET INCOMING RESOURCES/(EXPENDITURE)		96,421	869	12,980	110,270	(21,717)
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		5,794	-	(5,794)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		102,215	869	7,186	110,270	(21,717)
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2023		107,551	53,963	76,778	238,292	260,009
Balances carried forward at 31st December 2023		209,766	54,832	83,964	348,562	238,292

The Notes on pages 16 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

### THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S WITH ST MARK'S CHURCH BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		202	23	202	22
	Notes	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible	4(a)	6,673		2,495	
Investment	4(b)	76,937		69,228	
			83,610		71,723
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	5,564		14,979	
Cash at bank and in hand		284,810		171,460	
		290,374		186,439	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors falling due within one year	6	25,422		19,870	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			264,952		166,569
TOTAL NET ASSETS		_	348,562	_	238,292
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted	7(a)		209,766		107,551
Designated	7(b)		54,832		53,963
Restricted	7(c)		83,964		76,778
TOTAL PARISH FUNDS			348,562		238,292

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

Dend Sund Dik Short Vicar

B Giddings Treasurer

6 - 3 - 24 (Date)

The Notes on pages 16 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS102" 2015, and applicable Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The accounts 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.

#### **FUNDS**

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds represent donations and grants and the income thereon received for a specific objective or invited by the PCC for a specific objective. The funds may only be expended on the specific objective 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.

#### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

#### Voluntary income and capital sources

- Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.
- Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.
- Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
- Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.
- Funds raised by fetes and similar events are accounted for gross.
- Sales of books and magazines from the Church bookstalls are accounted for gross.

#### Income from investments

- Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable.
- Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

... continued ...

#### ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued) RESOURCES USED

#### Gains and losses on investments

- Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.
- Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

#### Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

#### Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The Diocesan quota is accounted for when payable. Any quota unpaid at 31 December which the PCC intends to pay is accrued in the accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

#### **FIXED ASSETS**

#### Consecrated land and buildings and movable Church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities and separately disclosed.

#### Office fixtures, fittings and other equipment

Office fixtures, fittings and equipment in use with a cost of £1,000 or more are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset less any estimated residual value over its estimated useful life as follows:

- Office equipment including computers 3 years
- Fixtures and fittings 10 years
- Audio visual equipment 5 years
- Musical instruments 3 years

Office fixtures, fittings and equipment costing less than £1,000 are written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities upon purchase.

#### Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

#### **CURRENT ASSETS**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

...continued...

#### 2. INCOMING RESOURCES

		Unrestricted funds	Designated St Mark's funds £	Restricted funds	Total Funds 2023 £
(a)	Voluntary Income: Gifts and Donations Tax recoverable - gift aid Grants	202,241 39,292 -	2,950 440 -	18,060 2,610 13,400	223,251 42,342 13,400
		241,533	3,390	34,070	278,993
(b)	Activities for generating Funds: Fetes, concerts, fund raising events	1,656			1,656
(c)	Interest and Dividends: Bank deposit interest	3,292	368	-	3,660
(d)	Income from Church Activities: Weddings and funerals Room hire Other	1,836 20,400 14,420	· :	: :	1,836 20,400 14,420
		36,656	-		36,656
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	283,137	3,758	34,070	320,965

Gifts and donations in unrestricted funds includes a legacy of £27,741

...continued...

#### 2. INCOMING RESOURCES - COMPARATIVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

(a)	Voluntary Income: Gifts and donations Tax recoverable - gift aid Grants	Unrestricted funds  £  125,743 29,450 823	Designated St Mark's funds  £  1,361 353 1,200	Restricted funds  \$\frac{\mathbb{E}}{9,224} \\ 932 \\ 2,750	Total Funds 2022 <u>£</u> 136,328 30,735 4,773
		156,016	2,914	12,906	171,836
(b)	Activities for generating Funds: Fetes, concerts, fund raising events	1,295	-	_	1,295
(c)	Interest and Dividends: Bank deposit interest	2,306	216	-	2,522
(d)	Income from Church Activities: Weddings and funerals Room hire Other	3,699 18,034 8,399 ———————————————————————————————————	-		3,699 18,034 8,399 ———————————————————————————————————
	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	189,749	3,130	12,906	205,785

...continued...

#### 3. RESOURCES USED

Church Activities Diocesan quota Employment costs Weddings and funerals	Unrestricted funds £ 71,900 40,460	St Mark's funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023 £
Diocesan quota Employment costs	<u>£</u> 71,900			
Diocesan quota Employment costs	71,900	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Diocesan quota Employment costs		_		
Employment costs		_		
	40.460		-	71,900
Weddings and funerals	40,400	-	13,728	54,188
9	490	-	-	490
Rent and rates	288	-	-	288
Heat and light	9,348	_	-	9,348
Building and maintenance	12,403	276	21	12,700
Insurances	2,627	479	-	3,106
Telephone and IT	4,550	7=	_	4,550
Printing and stationery	1,590	536	161	2,287
Travel	411	-	_	411
Depreciation	522	1,094	_	1,616
Other	20,181	165	14,889	35,235
	164,770	2,550	28,799	196,119
Grants Payable	21,274	339	-	21,613
Governance Costs Examiner's fee	672	_		672
TOTAL RESOUCES USED	186.716	2.889	28.799	218,404
	Heat and light Building and maintenance Insurances Telephone and IT Printing and stationery Travel Depreciation Other  Grants Payable  Governance Costs	Heat and light Building and maintenance Insurances Insurance Ins	Heat and light       9,348       -         Building and maintenance       12,403       276         Insurances       2,627       479         Telephone and IT       4,550       -         Printing and stationery       1,590       536         Travel       411       -         Depreciation       522       1,094         Other       20,181       165    Grants Payable          21,274       339         Governance Costs       Examiner's fee       672       -	Heat and light       9,348       -       -         Building and maintenance       12,403       276       21         Insurances       2,627       479       -         Telephone and IT       4,550       -       -         Printing and stationery       1,590       536       161         Travel       411       -       -         Depreciation       522       1,094       -         Other       20,181       165       14,889     Governance Costs  Examiner's fee  672

Further information on the use of restricted funds is given in note 7(c).

...continued...

#### 3. RESOURCES USED - COMPARATIVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Designated St Mark's funds £	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022
(a)	Church Activities				
,	Diocesan quota	77,560		- I	77,560
	Employment costs	51,137	200	6,162	57,499
	Weddings and funerals	970		-	970
	Rent and rates	902	-	-	902
	Heat and light	9,085		r <del>-</del> cc	9,085
	Building and maintenance	7,262	7,727	288	15,277
	Insurances	3,117	510		3,627
	Telephone and IT	4,243	_	-	4,243
	Printing and stationery	957	170		1,127
	Travel	782	) <b>-</b>	-	782
	Depreciation	351	1,847	-	2,198
	Other	16,299	839	11,002	28,140
		172,665	11,293	17,452	201,410
(b)	Grants Payable	15,519	171	-	15,690
(c)	Governance Costs Examiner's fee	688	-		688
	TOTAL RESOUCES USED	188,872	11,464	17,452	217,788

### THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S WITH ST MARK'S CHURCH STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

...continued...

#### 4. FIXED ASSETS

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment			<u>nent</u>		
				Designated	
(a)	Tangible		Unrestricted	St Mark's	Total
			<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	Cost	at 1 January 2023	1,630	10,749	12,379
		Additions	5,794		5,794
	Cost	at 31 December 2023	7,424	10,749	18,173
	Depreciation	at 1 January 2023	1,492	8,392	9,884
		Charge for the year	522	1,094	1,616
	Depreciation	at 31 December 2023	2,014	9,486	11,500
	Net book value	At 31 December 2023	5,410	1,263	6,673
		At 31 December 2022	138	2,357	2,495
(b)	Investments		<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>£</u>	
	Restricted fun			_	
		nt fund - Camley Gardens	33,370	38,180	
	Market value at Revaluations fo	r year - unrealised	3,608	(4,810)	
	Market value at	: 31 December	36,978	33,370	
	C R F Investme	ent fund - 8a Furze Road			
	Market value at		35,858	40,762	
		r year - unrealised	4,101	(4,904)	
	Market value a	t 31 December	39,959	35,858	
	Total		76,937	69,228	

#### THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S WITH ST MARK'S CHURCH

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

... continued...

5.	<u>DEBTORS</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>£</u>
	Unrestricted funds		
	Tax recoverable - gift aid	3,609	7,918
	Prepayments	1,219	3,482
	Funeral	-	504
	Grants	-	-
	Room Hire	736	2,456
		5,564	14,360
	Designated funds - St Mark's funds		
	Tax recoverable - gift aid	<u>-</u>	73
	Restricted funds		
	Tax recoverable - gift aid		546
	Total	5,564	14,979
6.	CREDITORS Amounts falling due within or	ne year	
		<u>2023</u>	2022
		£	£
	Unrestricted funds		
	Governance costs	700	688
	NI and pension	216	284
	Parochical Fees due to Diocese	126	1,326
	Mission giving accruals	21,155	15,435
	Other	2,886	1,966
	Total	25,083	19,699
	Designated funds - St Mark's Funds		
	Mission giving accrual	339	171
		07.400	40.070
	Total	25,422	19,870

... continued...

7. FUND DETAILS	Funds <u>31 Dec 23</u> £	Funds <u>31 Dec 22</u> <u>£</u>
(a) Unrestricted funds General Funds - St Peter's	209,766	107,551
(b) Designated funds St Mark's	54,832	53,963

(c) The restricted funds comprise:-

	Funds 1 Jan 23	Incoming Resources	Gain on Investment	Resources used	Funds 31 Dec 23
	£	<u>£</u>	£	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Camley Gardens	33,370	-	3,608	-	36,978
8a Furze Road	35,858	-	4,101	-	39,959
Mission in Maidenhead	3,838	-	-	(3,838)	-
AV Equipment	-	6,440	_	(5,815)	625
Love Your Neighbour / Love Christmas	733	14,467	-	(15,040)	160
Younger Generation / Youth Pastoral	2,979	3,263	-	1 2	6,242
Diocese of Oxford Development Grant	-	9,900	-	(9,900)	-
	76,778	34,070	7,709	(34,593)	83,964

Of the £5,815 resources used from the AV equipment fund, £5,794 was capitalised to fixed assets in the unrestricted fund as shown in note 4(a).

... continued...

#### 8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

#### 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated St Mark's Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Tangible fixed assets	5,410	1,263		6,673
Investment fixed assets	- III -		76,937	76,937
Current assets	229,439	53,908	7,027	290,374
Current liabilities	(25,083)	(339)		(25,422)
	209,766	54,832	83,964	348,562

#### 9. STAFF COSTS

During the year, the PCC employed a church centre manager, a church administrator, a children's minister and a ministry assistant, none of whom earned £60,000 p.a. or more. One member of staff is full time.

St Mark's paid honoraria to organists in 2022.

The average full time equivalent number of employees was 2 (2022: 2).

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
The employment costs were:	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Salaries, national insurance and pension	54,188	57,299
St Mark's honoraria	<u></u>	200
	54,188	57,499

#### 10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There was no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year to 31 December 2023, nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year to 31 December 2023, nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.