

TAR 2023

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Graffham with Woolavington for the year ended 31st December 2023

Parish of Graffham with Woolavington

St Giles Church, Graffham, Petworth, GU28 0NJ

HMRC reference number X79965

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Independent Examiner: Mrs Rosalind Britton, Sandrock Cottage, Graffham, GU28 0QG

Bankers: NatWest and Barclays Bank



Parish of Graffham with Woolavington

Trustees' Annual Report for 2023

Our aims and purposes as a charity

- The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, obeying Christ's two commandments '*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength ... You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*' Mark 12.30-31a
- Our key aims are to:
 - Manage parish affairs responsibly / **Leadership**
 - Provide a hospitable welcome for worshippers and visitors / **Worship**
 - Worship reverently, inclusively and accessibly / **Worship**
 - Grow in understanding and experience / **Worship**
 - Communicate our ministry and services effectively / **Community**
 - Serve our local community / **Community**
 - Offer support beyond our parish boundary / **Community**
 - Care for St Giles Church as a place of worship, historic monument and community resource / **Fabric**
 - Increase environmental care of our parish / **Fabric**.

We also hold services at All Saints Chapel and help to maintain it in a welcoming condition as a place of worship, in conjunction with the All-Saints' Chapel Trust.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our churchwarden and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Following the strategy of the 'Four More's' at the heart of the Chichester Diocesan Strategy 'Vision for Growth 2020-25', each of our parish aims has been identified in the context of being more open, more generous, more converted, and/or more engaged.

Aims and objectives for 2023

For 2023 the following objectives and activities were identified to fulfil our Mission Action Plan, linking as applicable to objectives from the four elements of the Chichester Diocesan Strategy 'Vision for Growth 2020-25'. They are formulated in an annual five-year planning meeting considering short- and long-term goals across all four areas of leadership, worship, community, and fabric, encompassing the spectrum of charitable purposes of our charity.

Leadership

- 1 Initiate a project to develop our church vestry and interior for improved worship, hospitality and community engagement: 'more open' and 'more engaged.'
- 2 Consider succession planning for key roles within the parish to enable good continuity of service: 'more engaged'.
- 3 Continue to balance our budget: 'more generous.'

Worship

- 1 Stimulate and nurture our Sunday congregations into growth: 'more open', 'more converted.'
- 2 Continue to encourage new people to reflect on faith: 'more converted.'

Community

- 1 Continue to build relationship with local church school for mutual benefit; 'more engaged.'
- 2 Continue to strive to engage with important matters like poverty and environment; 'more engaged.'

Fabric

- 1 Continue to explore new effective ways of heating our church: 'more engaged'.
- 2 Install and provide storage for a simple, effective sound system: 'more engaged'.
- 3 Improve the churchyard area to enhance the church's surroundings: 'more engaged'.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives.

LEADERSHIP

Key Aim:

Manage parish affairs responsibly.

Aim and Objectives for 2023: See page 3.

Context

Graffham with Woolavington is an active parish in Petworth Deanery in the Diocese of Chichester. At the beginning of the year Parish priest Revd Vivien Turner had been in post four and a half years. The Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place on 26 March 2023 when the electoral roll number was 69. Churchwarden Mrs Virginia Barrett continued as churchwarden. Including the priest in charge and two deanery synod members, the new PCC elected in 2023 has a complement of fourteen members, including

co-opted members Miss Beanie Bradley, Tower Captain Mr Howard Pescott and Safeguarding Officer Mrs Sonya Gillespie, ensuring our safeguarding responsibilities are fulfilled. Alongside a small but highly supportive congregation, and community supporters generous with both time and talents, these willing volunteers make possible the benefit which our charity offers for others.

The value of producing a Trustee Annual Report to record parish activity was highlighted by people who read the 2022 edition:

'I think this reads very well so congratulations... It's amazing that so much was achieved' – 'the TAR is a triumph...how much (we) do pack into our church year.' – it is heart-warming to read and reflect on all we achieved during 2022' – 'It certainly has been a year of great achievement' – "a wonderful reflection of a very busy year' – 'the result of great teamwork and excellent leadership.'

Aim: Initiate a project to develop our church vestry and interior for improved worship, hospitality, and community engagement: 'more open' and 'more engaged.'

The PCC five-year plan to improve church facilities by the end of 2026 highlighted a desire to improve church heating, consider installing toilet facilities and provide more appropriate hospitality facilities in St Giles Church. It also resolved to implement in full the recommendations in the quinquennial and bell-tower inspections conducted in late 2021 to the timescales recommended. Because of this, a number of developmental aims were put on hold during 2022 in favour of roof repair work essential to maintain the building fabric, considered of primary importance. This is described in the Fabric section of this report.

Aim: Consider succession planning for key roles within the parish to enable good continuity of service: 'more engaged'.

The five-year plan of the PCC also set out to take every step possible to maintain Graffham with Woolavington as a standalone parish with its own priest. In 2023, the extension of our present priest in charge's licence to the summer of 2026 provided some reassurance that all being well this continues to be a realistic possibility over the next few years. The importance of succession planning continues to be recognised by our parish whose small size makes recruiting capable and willing volunteers an ongoing challenge. We have kept this in the forefront of our minds to enable the best continuity and vitality of service here.

Aim: Continue to balance our budget: 'more generous.'

Maintaining parish financial security continued an important focus of attention in 2023. The Financial Statement following this report explains how the parish worked to fulfil the aim of balancing our budget this year. Our communication network continues to prove its worth in advertising our need for financial support to the community, eliciting a generous response.



Steeplejacks carrying out roof repairs; Bishop Ruth with churchwarden Ginny; New hymn books; Magazine.

WORSHIP

Key Aims:

- Provide a hospitable welcome for worshippers and visitors.
- Worship reverently, inclusively, and accessibly.
- Grow in understanding and experience.

Aims and objectives for 2023: See page 3 and below.

Context

Our church has long valued being open daily for villagers and visitors to the South Downs National Park, made possible through the kindness of a resident living nearby. Visible expressions of worship in our church remind visitors of the liveliness of our worshipping community. A free welcome booklet explains our church history and we receive good comments in our visitors' book on how much our church is appreciated.

In this beautiful little church found some calm and compassion. Thank you. Belgian visitor - Thank you for leaving your church open for visitors and pilgrims. God bless. Curate from Wexham Slough - Wonderful to be able to walk into the church and for the pilgrims to have their last prayer stop on their two-week walk to Arundel. Diocese of Arundel Walking Pilgrimage - A bit of heaven, as you say, here. Messages in Visitors' Book 2023

Aim: Stimulate and nurture our Sunday congregations into growth: 'more open', 'more converted.'

Main Sunday Services

Including Parish Eucharist, BCP Matins, Holy Communion and Evensong.

In 2023 we have been cautiously encouraged by some improvement in numbers here. Wedding couples and their families have swelled our Sunday services on occasion, engaging in what it means to be married in a place of Christian community. We now offer a sparkling cool drink or warm mulled juice after Sunday Services, so all who attend can experience a hospitable welcome this way.

Cleaning

A dedicated group of church volunteers commit to maintaining the church in a welcoming condition. Through December, although much cleaning and tidying away of hay bales and props was necessary between school rehearsals and intervening church services, and especially following the animals' contribution to the Crib Service, it was all considered very much worth it by our church community.

Music - Little Choir, Festal Choir, Organists and New Hymn Books

We were sorry to lose our Ukrainian pianist in 2023 when she and her husband moved to a new home. We had benefitted from Tetiana's skill in playing and continue to pray for her wellbeing and for peace in her country. We received this message just before Christmas:



Presentation to Ukrainian pianist; Festal choir singing for Coronation Service; Radio Sussex interview with bellringer Mrs Vicky Chase.

Congratulations on the upcoming holiday of the Nativity of Christ! We wish you good health, peaceful skies, love, and happiness. Our congratulations and best wishes to your parishioners... We remember with great pleasure and nostalgia the time spent with you. May your Guardian Angel always be with you.

Our little choir continued to contribute to our worship in 2023 and we enjoyed bringing the larger Festal Choir together, including community members, for special services, thanks to our enthusiastic organist Brian. It's good also to have a visiting organist Martin to play for occasional services. We have been delighted too, to welcome young soloists singing for the Coronation Service and Lessons and Carols respectively. New hymn books were purchased in 2023 to extend the repertoire of hymnody, including more music by contemporary liturgical composers, which have been much appreciated. *'The more I look into this hymn book, the more I realise what a good thing it is.'* Email from choir member.

Bells

Our church bells call people to worship, voice community celebration and grief, host visiting teams and bring social benefit to a friendly and supportive band. In March 2023 our bell tower launched one bellringer's commitment to ring 50 bells in 50 towers to celebrate her 50th birthday, fundraise for the Sussex Association of Change-Ringers Bell Fund and raise enthusiasm for 'Ring for the King' ahead of the King's Coronation. Both BBC Radio Sussex and BBC TV South Today arrived to broadcast an event which caught the public imagination. Nominated by our parish, the Diocese of Chichester endorsed our valuation by awarding Mrs Vicky Chase the Order of St Richard for her contribution to bellringing in Sussex, at a special Evensong in September in the Cathedral, after which the cathedral bells responded joyfully.

What a beautiful village and church. It's been a tremendous pleasure sharing today with such fabulous people, to hear – and have a go at – the bellringing! Wonderful community spirit, just lovely. Thank you for such a warm welcome too. Visitors' book message from Krystyna O'Brian of BBC Radio Sussex, following Vicky Chase interview.

Oh my word, we heard the bells this morning and thought they sounded especially lovely! Graffham FaceBook post by village resident, March 2023

Festival, Family and Special Services

Epiphany and Ordinary Time

Family Services in early 2023 followed various themes and used creative resources, including a wilderness brought into church for John the Baptist, and a 'seed swap' following the Parable of the Sower encouraging families to share resources and get planting.



Donkeys at church on Palm Sunday; Garden of Gethsemane at Maundy Thursday Watch of Prayer; Flowers celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III

Lent and Easter and Ascension

Services took place on Ash Wednesday and each day from Maundy Thursday to Easter Day. A house built from boxes on Mothering Sunday highlighted the caring that turns a house into a home. Donkeys arrived at church on Palm Sunday. Our foot-washing service employed the Maundy bowl and pitcher made by a local potter in 2020 featuring the imprints of parishioners' feet. All remained for the Watch of Prayer with a candlelit focus prepared by two congregation members. The Good Friday service followed the Stations of the Cross through the village from All Saints' Chapel to St Giles Church. Easter fire was lit at dawn on Easter Day, the Paschal candle was carried into church and the Exsultet sung. A well-attended Family Eucharist on Easter Day included an Easter Egg hunt in church. Ascension Day was celebrated with an early morning Eucharist outside in the churchyard.

This was the most beautiful, special service I have ever experienced. And E felt so moved by it as well...Thank you so much for all the effort you go to for us. Especially the artistic element you put into all these Easter services. I shall be an attender every year from now on! Email from participant at Dawn Service April 2023

Special Occasion - Coronation Thanksgiving Service 27 May

Following a year of Platinum Jubilee celebration and national grief following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2022, Graffham stepped up to the plate once again with Coronation Celebrations for His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Alongside a village picnic with celebratory cake at the recreation ground, a Coronation Thanksgiving Service, including the singing of Parry's 'I was glad' by the Festal choir was offered in a St Giles Church adorned with exceptional flower arrangements.

What a truly stunning little church – a lovely surprise after a long walk on the Downs. Beautiful flowers to mark the Coronation. Visitors' book message by hikers.

Bell Sunday

Having rung out in celebration of the King's Coronation, a new Service of thanksgiving for ringing was offered the following Sunday, with hymns celebrating ringing and the worthy contribution of our bellringers to the parish, under new Tower Captain Howard.

Animal Blessing

Another now-regular feature of the church calendar was the animal blessing service, held in July 2023 when nine dogs and one miniature pony were blessed.



Morning Ascension Day Service in Churchyard; Parishioners and choir members celebrating Harvest in church.

Lammas, Harvest, St Luke's tide.

Lammas tide was celebrated with a traditional home-baked Lammas loaf used for communion. Services during August were inspired by the Benedictine tradition. Our Harvest Service featured contributions from the Festal Choir, including 'Oats and Peas and Barley Grow' to the congregation's delight. This was followed by an enjoyable bring and share Harvest lunch, with donations to our local Foodbank. A healing Service with anointing was offered on the Sunday in October nearest to St Luke's Day.

Special occasion – All Saints' Dedication Festival

We marked the 70th anniversary of the dedication of All Saints Chapel on 29 October 2023 by transferring our Sunday Parish Eucharist to the Chapel, including the music of Eddye Loring, one of the chapel's original patrons, in the Service. The same evening, a spooky Halloween Service followed by guardian angel hunt was appreciated by the children who attended.

Remembrance

Playing a vital role in remembering those who served and suffered in demanding times, traditional observance of Remembrance took place in church and at the War Memorial. Wreaths were laid by the Chairs of both Graffham and, for a second year, East Lavington Parish Council, alongside those of the parish church and the village children. A new Service of Vigil and Lament on the eve of Remembrance Sunday provided opportunity to pray and reflect on war in our own time, following concern for people in Gaza and Ukraine.

I thought the service of vigil and lament on Armistice Day was particularly moving.
Email from attender.

Advent and Christmas

The Seaford College Chamber choir again sang at our Advent Service, bringing our local independent school and church community together in worship. A full programme of seasonal services in church included Lessons and Carols with Festal Choir, Quiet Advent Service with remembrance of loved ones, a record 150 people including 50 children attending our Christmas Eve Crib Service with goats and miniature pony in a tower 'stable', and a Christmas Day Eucharist. The flower arrangers surpassed themselves with floral decorations throughout the Christmas festival.

Your service the other day with all the animals and families was a complete wonderment. I know they say don't act with animals and children...but weren't they all marvellous and once again your fun and energy shone through making it just the best of times for us all. K&C said it was the best ever, indeed we all thought so and agreed. Email following service.



Church decorated for Christmas; Chancel prepared for 'Strictly Come Dancing' Nativity.

School services and Christmas plays.

Weekly assemblies continued in our Infant School in 2023, providing regular opportunity for worship and to get to know children in school and nursery. Each week the service is summarised in the school's 'Friday Flyer' newssheet, to include families in our worship taking place, and on our church Facebook page to include a wider audience. Harvest, Remembrance, Easter, and Christingle Services also took place, the last two in church with families attending.

Following a tragic car accident involving the death of the mother of a school family, an informal thanksgiving took place for children and families in the grounds of the school at which prayers were offered, bringing church and school together at a time of great sadness.

Thank you for your beautiful words and prayers this afternoon. It was lovely to have you there. Email from school headteacher at memorial occasion, July 2023

For a second year, the Infant School returned to church to offer their Nativity inspired by Strictly Come Dancing, with two performances and a contribution from the new Nursery. Our now regular end of school year Service thanked teachers, staff, parents, and children for contributing to school life. Once again, each child leaving school was given a holding cross and Lord's Prayer by St Giles Church to remind them of the school's Christian foundation.

Occasional offices

Baptism and Confirmation

There were no baptisms in the parish in 2023. However, we were delighted for the third time in five years to host a Deanery Confirmation in May 2023, presided over this time by Ruth Bushyager, Bishop of Horsham. It was an inspiration to our church community for three Graffham candidates and one Sutton candidate to confirm their faith, including the mother of a teenager confirmed in Graffham in 2022, a local shepherd, and a working mother of two.

I'm so thankful for this confirmation. It was a wonderful, unique occasion which I'm recalling with a big smile. We are blessed by it and it will continue to inspire - Thank you, Vivien, for such a wonderful evening. I left the house stressed and burdened by all manner of things, and I have returned so joyful and blessed. Emails from the Bishop of Horsham

It was indeed...so special. Graffham were so welcoming, and the bluebells and the cowslips and the nightingale just added to the joy. Email from parish priest of participant from Sutton.



Some wedding couples marrying at St Giles Church in 2023; Flower arch over Church Door.

Weddings and wedding blessings

No wedding blessings took place at St Giles Church in 2023. To everyone's delight six weddings took place at St Giles however, and one at St Peter's, Seaford College Chapel. We do our very best to make each wedding personal to the couple and accommodate a range of special requests for music.

I cannot thank you enough for the most beautiful wedding service you gave for K&G. You made it the most magical wedding anyone could wish for and K&G will have such beautiful memories of their special day for ever. You really got them spot on and everyone was able to relate to your words and we all enjoyed every minute of it. Email of bride's mother, June 2023

We wanted to thank you so much for marrying us last month! The ceremony was somehow moving, personal and incredibly fun all at the same time! Email from newlyweds T&G July 2023

Funeral Services

Four funerals including three with churchyard burials, three ashes burials and two memorial Services took place this year, a valued aspect of our ministry.

Can I say how lovely the Service was. I think it struck a chord with the small congregation and your words in particular were lovely. Email from mourner at funeral service, March 2023

Summary

As highlighted above, our aim to stimulate and nurture our congregations into growth underlies all our offering of worship in church. We do so, facing the challenge of being church where the busyness of life and family commitments mean attendance is occasional rather than regular, though still includes a fair number of local people overall. We continued to engage the wider village community in special services, especially through attendance at Easter, Remembrance and Christmas; through participation in the Festal choir; through willingness to read Lessons occasionally; through provision of animals for Services; and through generous support of church events. St Giles Church and All Saints' chapel feel very much part of the whole village community, an integral feature of a rural church, and many value the church's presence here, providing confidence for the future.

I would be honoured to read 'Music on Christmas Morning' at the Carol Service... Thank you for asking me. Email from village resident.



Brass band at St Giles' wedding; Congregation awaiting arrival of pipe band after another wedding.

Study

Aim: Continue to encourage new people to reflect on faith: 'more converted.'

Following Tuesday Morning Prayer, our Pilgrim group has continued to meet, appreciating the opportunity for reflection on faith and fellowship. We continue to encourage participation and trust next year may provide an opportunity for increased membership. Members enjoyed an outing and attended the Petworth Area Churches Together Week of Christian Unity talk, led by Graffham's parish priest at the United Reformed Church, to meet, worship, reflect, and share food with fellow Christians.

I think this is a valuable chance for at least a few of us from different congregations to get together to talk and pray and eat and generally get to know each other a bit better
Email from URC minister during Unity week January 2023

A confirmation group studied and reflected on faith in preparation for confirmation, as highlighted above. Use of the prayer app Lectio365 was recommended and found helpful.

Lovely confirmation class last night, thank you so much. Email from participant February 2023

What a calm and thoughtful aid to contemplative prayer...I love it. It's motivational and meditative for night. Email from Pilgrim group member about Lectio365 July 2023



St Giles' Church at night-time; Easter Fire at dawn; Photocall with Bishop Ruth following Confirmation in May

COMMUNITY

Key Aims:

- Communicate our ministry and services effectively.
- Serve our local community.
- Offer support beyond our parish boundary.

Aims and objectives for 2023: See page 3.

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Communications

Our parish's excellent website, Church Facebook page, Whatsapp Groups and award-winning parish magazine *Graffham Parish News* communicate our mission, magazine distributors from across the community appropriately being thanked at a summer reception in 2023. As well as 'Graffham Families' which is now well used by local families, our newest Whatsapp Group, St Giles Notices, shares church notices each Sunday for those unable to be in church that day. A good number of people are already appreciating this facility. Well-designed notices support communication across all these platforms, thanks to our talented volunteer graphic artists.

One means of expressing (ministry in context) is the extremely well produced parish magazine. This is one of the best of its kind. It is produced by the church and has cohesive community value. The Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes, commenting in the Parish Priest's ministerial development review.

Photograph below.



Community Life

All the events described below build community life in our village in various ways, growing friendships as well as providing financial benefit for the church and other important causes.

Teddy Time: This small weekly group continues to provide opportunity for contact with parents and carers and a pleasant morning for young children, courtesy of the pavilion committee which offers this to us free of charge - a good example of church and community working together for everyone's benefit.

Social activities

Coffee mornings, tea afternoons and open garden teas continue to provide opportunities for new and long-standing residents to meet and socialise. In 2023, a Lent lunch in aid of the Christian Aid DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake relief combined social engagement with serious reflection and the opportunity to donate in the wake of this tragedy. One coffee morning provided some funding for painting materials for our village school outdoor lavatory, also appreciated by our church congregation as required. Another raised funds for our church, as did an open garden in the beautiful surroundings of the South Downs. All were enjoyable occasions for everyone attending.



Tea afternoon and Coffee morning attendees enjoying social time; Re-erection of Christmas Fair tree in St Giles Churchyard.

King Charles III Coronation Celebrations May

Following on from the significant royal occasions of 2022, it was a privilege to celebrate the coronation of our new monarch King Charles and his consort Queen Camilla, the details of which are described on page 7. Planning for these occasions being masterminded by our Worship and Community committees, both subgroups of our PCC.

Petworth Festival Concert July

Petworth Festival returned to St Giles Church for a second sell-out year, this time featuring the Osaka quartet. The delightful location of St Giles, excellent performance, good church acoustic and refreshments provided by our church contributed to an enjoyable afternoon for all attending. We are pleased to extend our service to the community in this way, the success of which has led to continuing requests to hold Petworth Arts Festival concerts here.

Graffham Fete August

Once again St Giles Church offered a 'Graffham Fashion Exchange' at the Village fete, bringing unwanted clothes for others to choose and take away, free of charge or for a voluntary donation. This is intended as an environmental initiative to encourage awareness of the hidden cost of buying new clothing for those who make them and for climate change. It was a popular stall once again.

Harvest Celebrations October

A celebratory Harvest Service was followed by a bring-and-share lunch in the Empire Hall, instead of shepherds' pies and crumbles made by volunteers in recent years. This proved a great success and raised a good amount for our local Petworth Foodbank.

Well done everyone, yesterday's Harvest Lunch was so good and great fun. I eat my words...bring and share works! Email from Community group member arranging day.

Sponsored Walk October

This year's sponsored walk travelled from St Giles Church Graffham to Chichester Cathedral by a new route. A dozen walkers both from church and the wider community began in good weather and ended in rain, though it did not dampen convivial spirits and resulted in generous sponsorship being received for church funds.

'Food with Friends' November

Loneliness is a potential problem for everyone living alone. To guard against this, and for simple pleasure, a new initiative was started in 2023. A simple monthly shared lunch,

home-made soup, bread and cake, and fresh fruit is offered to village residents who live alone as an opportunity to meet and enjoy a social meal.

Really pleased people can break bread together and not always eat alone. Such a simple idea and so many people happier. Email from local bread maker after first Food with Friends occasion.

Christmas Fair December

Our traditional Christmas Fair took place again, with record results through the generosity of community members buying raffle tickets and produce etc, and donating to an extremely successful silent auction, to whom we are most thankful. After the fair, the Christmas tree was re-erected at the church to welcome everyone to Christmas Services.

White Horse Carols December

Once again, our church choir supported Carol Singing at a local public house before Christmas, with church organist accompanying and generous collection in aid of St Giles' church. Many local people attended and enjoyed the singing and delicious hospitality of the White Horse under a magnificent Christmas tree.

Aim 1: Continue to build relationship with local church schools for mutual benefit; 'more engaged'.

Lavington Park Federation Schools

In the first of two featured Community aims, our parish priest continues as Foundation Governor to our church school, leads weekly collective worship in the school hall and regularly visits the separate nursery school. The church facilitated building works at the school in 2023 by allowing builders to approach the site through our churchyard to avoid affecting the children. The location was respected, and areas of the churchyard were cleared with the workmen's help, proving a benefit to all. School events taking place in St Giles Church have been described on page 9, and we are delighted that they do so. A summary of school assemblies led by our parish priest are summarised in the weekly school newsheet for parents to read and uploaded onto our church Facebook page for a wider audience to 'like' and share.

Seaford College

We were delighted to welcome Seaford College choir once again to our Advent Service, and School children to help clean and tidy the church as part of the Seaford College Community Action Day.



Osaka Quartet at Petworth Festival Concert at St Giles Church; 'Graffham Fashion Exchange' at Village Fete; Sponsored walkers in rain at Chichester Cathedral at end of walk.

Aim 2: Continue to strive to engage with important matters like poverty and environment; 'more engaged.'

Social and fundraising events described above show our church's engagement with many concerns, through the Lent lunch in aid of the Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal, coffee morning for the school outdoor lavatory, Fashion Exchange for environmental concern, Harvest lunch for the Petworth Foodbank and 'Food with Friends' for those who live alone. Petworth Area Churches Together to which our church belongs manages this Foodbank service, with a collection point now based at our village shop. In addition, the Seed Swap service allowed our churchwarden to raise funds for a Tanzanian orphanage, and 34 fruit crumbles were baked for the Stonepillow charity for homeless people, donated alongside food offered at our school's harvest services. The PCC has now voted to donate 10% of income, once costs have been met, to two designated charities in 2023, resulting in £400 donations each to the local Foodbank and Parish Support Work charity. Our Parish Priest Discretionary Fund continued to support school families in need amounting to almost £1000

We are glad to fulfil our mission in this parish in all these worthwhile ways, enabled through the energy and dedication of church members facilitating community life in this parish. We hope our service to others will inspire greater service and commitment to the whole of church life in this part of rural West Sussex, increasing faith and enabling ever more generous giving of time, talents, and resources in God's service.



Lent Lunch Empire Hall 2023: 'It was a delicious meal and a great opportunity to meet up.'
Email from Lent lunch attender.

FABRIC

Key Aims:

Care for St Giles Church as a place of worship, historic monument, and community resource.

Increase environmental care of our parish.

Aims and objectives for 2023: See page 3.

As mentioned in the leadership section, the 2023 Aim to *'Initiate a project to develop our church vestry and interior for improved worship, hospitality, and community engagement'* has been put on hold in favour of necessary roof work on St Giles Church. The first two Fabric aims and objectives for 2023 concerning heating and sound technology improvements have also been curtailed and transferred to the coming year.



Members of the team supporting the installation of the Queen Elizabeth II bench; Foundryman Ben responsible for its design and construction; Flag being raised on new flagpole in churchyard.

Context

St Giles Church is situated within an open churchyard in the shelter of the South Downs with delightful views across the countryside and an open churchyard extension. The core of the church is medieval, though much rebuilt in the later nineteenth century in memory of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce. The main construction of the church is Fittleworth stone with walls faced in flint. The steepled church has a nineteenth century tower, containing six working bells.

Maintenance

Our practical maintenance schedule continues to prove its worth. Some who may not attend church services regularly show their willingness to support the church in this community, with village work-parties managing hedge-cutting and churchyard extension clearing and tidying. Maintenance issues completed in 2023 also include lychgate repairs, minor electrical works, and regular weeding and planting as part of our duty of care for those who use our building and churchyard.

Environment

With the guidance of Sussex Wildlife Trust, our mowing regime allows three areas to develop into wildflower meadows, providing havens for invertebrates and vertebrates. Our churchwarden also continues to regularly share environmental articles on the 'Greener Graffham' FaceBook page. She emphatically highlights urgency to bring about greater care of our planet, for which we continue to pray each Sunday.

Aims 1 & 2: Transferred to 2024.

Aim 3: Improve the churchyard area to enhance the church's surroundings: 'more engaged'.

Flagpole and Elizabeth II bench

Despite the limitations imposed by necessary roof work, progress was made in achieving this aim. Through the generosity of Mrs Bumble Findlay, a flagpole was erected in our churchyard in memory of her husband Gordon, complete with Union and Chichester Diocesan flags. A bench was also gifted to the church from the David Laing Foundation, in memory of Queen Elizabeth II and the donor's grandfather Sir John Laing. Queen Elizabeth's faithful service and Sir John's commitment to faith and prayer in a time of trial makes this bench particularly valuable to our church. We thank both donors for enhancing our churchyard in these ways.

Aims and objectives for 2024

For 2024 the following objectives and activities have been identified to fulfil our Mission Action Plan, linking to objectives from the four elements of the Chichester Diocesan Strategy 'Vision for Growth 2020-25' as applicable. These are formulated in an annual five-year planning meeting considering short- and long-term goals across all four areas of leadership, worship, community, and fabric, encompassing the spectrum of charitable purposes of our charity.

Leadership

- 1 Affirm and promote single parish ministry as a valuable model of ministry for the future of the Church of England: 'more open.'
- 2 Develop succession plans for key roles in the parish for good continuity of service: 'more engaged.'
- 3 Continue to balance our budget: 'more generous.'

Worship

- 1 Enhance worship by including an accessible service for newcomers and families: 'more converted.'
- 2 Consider a survey to discover how best to serve our community in worship and outreach: 'more open; more engaged.'
- 3 Highlight welcome and hospitality as features of our parish ethos: 'more open; more engaged.'

Community

- 1 Build relationships with local church school and other churches for mutual benefit; 'more engaged.'
- 2 Engage with important social concerns like poverty, environment, and loneliness: 'more engaged.'
- 3 Wholeheartedly support Graffham Arts Festival to build community life: 'more open; more engaged.'

Fabric

- 1 Progress maintenance on our church exterior and interior including roof and plasterwork: 'more open.'
- 1 Progress a project developing our church interior for worship, hospitality & community engagement: 'more open and more engaged.'



Graffham bellringers ringing for the Coronation, May 2023

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The PCC is a charity but is excepted from registering with the Charity Commission within the meaning of the section 30 of the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Vivien Turner	Chair
Wardens:	Mrs Virginia Barrett	+Church Music

Elected Members

Mrs Diane Bellis	+ Deanery Synod
Mrs Ann Brown	+ Deanery Synod
Mrs Yvonne Churchward	+Treasurer
Mr Stuart Lewis	
Mr Michael Blunt	+PCC Secretary
Mr Matthew Pitteway	to March 2023
Mrs Fiona Mackie	
Mrs Marie Bracey	
Mrs Barbara Edge	
Mrs Nettie Lanaghan	from March 2023

Co-opted members

Miss Beanie Bradley	from March 2023
Mr Howard Pescott	from March 2023
Mrs Sonya Gillespie	from March 2023

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and six (if up to 50 on electoral roll) or nine (if over 50 on electoral roll) members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Revd Vivien Turner, Chair

..... Date.....

Annual Financial Report for the year ended December 31st, 2023.

The Financial Review

Summary

The Church's total income across all funds in 2023 was £68,356 (2022: £84,277), with costs of £55,164 (2022: £67,932). Unrestricted income totaled £64,652 (2022: £64,210) and expenditure totaled £50,194 (2022: £50,329). Included in the income is the net proceeds from the 2023 Christmas Fair of £9,138 (2022: £5,416) which has been retained in the general fund. The surplus for the general fund, which covers all day to day running expenses of the Church, was £14,458 (2022: £13,881).

Throughout 2023, the PCC has continued to successfully focus on the need to increase unrestricted income to enable all its day-to-day expenditure to be met, as well as to allow provision for identified maintenance and repair costs. In 2021 a designated fund was established which has been increased following the surplus in income again this year. During 2024 the aim is for general fund income to at least match general fund expenditure with specific fund raising for any identified planned specific projects and purposes.

The value of the investment funds has increased by £4,008 (2022: loss £5,741). Overall funds have increased by £17,200 (2022: £10,604) to £119,967 (2022: £102,767).

A full breakdown is provided in the financial statements.

Rectory Costs

The running costs of the Rectory attributable to the Parish amounted to £3,984 (2022: £3,780) which included council tax and water charges. There was no expenditure incurred by the PCC on maintenance of the building.

Giving

Unrestricted giving received by the PCC (excluding Gift Aid reclaimed and legacies) this year was £31,257 (2022: £33,745). Restricted funds received £1,036 (2022: £19,567) plus the LPOW grant of £2,089 (2022: charitable grant £5,000).

The facility to give online via the Give a Little facility was launched in the second half of 2020. It has proved to be a useful and helpful avenue to aid one-off giving for those who prefer not to donate on a regular basis. Promotion is via the website and information "post cards" distributed during church services and local events.

In the last quarter of 2021, the PCC signed up with the EasyFundraising initiative. There has been a reasonable increase in take up amongst the community, and it is planned to "re-launch" this initiative in the community in 2024 to encourage more parishioners to engage with this initiative. The total received during the year is £217 (2022: £229).

Regrettably the Goodbox facility has been out of use for most of the year as a replacement device has been unavailable. Various other options for card giving have been explored but these have shown to be expensive and inoperable in the church due to the weak mobile signal and lack of adequate internet connectivity. The Goodbox option will be explored again in 2024.

A very few parishioners prefer to continue their regular giving by standing order and while every effort has been made to encourage these folk to switch to giving via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), the PCC recognize their preferences. Ongoing efforts and regular communications via the Parish Magazine, at church services and local parish events aim to seek new donors to contribute through the scheme. The total for the year was £15,895 (2022 £15,678).

During most of the year we have run a variety of fundraising events and are pleased to report total income from these sources of £2,410 (2022: £ 3,038) for the general fund.

Bank accounts

The Nat West account remains open for the collection of donations from those people who, for a variety of reasons, have chosen not to transfer to the Parish Giving Scheme. The Barclays account receives all other income and is used for all expenditure.

Diocesan Contribution

The largest item of expenditure was the parish contribution to the Diocese of Chichester of £26,656 (2022: £30,724) being fulfilment of a 100% pledge, representing full contribution of our costs. In 2024 the PCC expects to honor its pledge to contribute once again 100% of its parish ministry costs.

Insurance

The PCC's insurance provider is Trinitas. There have been no claims during the period and the PCC have agreed to renew the policy with this company when it falls due in January 2024.

Quinquennial Report

The inspection took place in December 2021 and the full report was provided to the PCC in January 2022.

Whilst the rate of deterioration in a building such as St Giles is unpredictable the 2021 Quinquennial Inspection Report did not identify any major problems. It did however note that a proper inspection of the Chancel roof had not taken place. There has also been some ingress of water on stormy days. At the end of the year repair work began and remains ongoing as does further investigative work. The roof is to be made watertight as a priority for 2024.

All the other comments within the report and which relate to annual maintenance have been addressed. The PCC anticipates being able to meet ongoing scheduled repair and maintenance costs associated with the Report over the next five years, from its Fabric fund or if necessary, the Designated Fund reserves.

The bell bearings are some 40 years old and will need replacing within three to five years at an approximate cost of £6,500 plus VAT. Additionally the wheels to the largest four bells will need to be rebuilt within the next five years at an estimated cost of £11,000 plus VAT.

Charitable Giving

During the year the PCC made donations totaling £2,831, including £560 to the Petworth Food Bank, £612 for the Turkey Syria Earthquake Appeal, £170 to the British Legion, £667 to the Deanery's Family Support Work, and a total of £1,027 from the Parish Priest's Discretionary Fund to help families in need within the parish.

Donations via the PPDF

We are pleased to report the continuation of this restricted fund. The purpose of the fund is to assist local families in need, as recommended to the Parish Priest. The PCC have been able to gift £1,027 during the year in support of families within the parish with further support identified to be made early in 2024.

Reserves Policy

The restricted Fabric fund remains to cover the cost of works which are required following the quinquennial inspection and additionally from time to time as may be identified. At year end the balance held in the restricted fabric fund was £6,409 (2022: £8,942). There has been £2,583 of expenditure incurred during the year from this fund.

The PCC's financial policy makes allowance for the general fund balance to be of the order of £20,000 which covers almost six months expenditure (based on 2023 costs). As such a surplus of £19,000 from the general fund has been transferred to the designated fund. At year end the General Fund contained a sum of £22,233. The Designated Fund balance is £59,000.

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted				Total	Total
	Unrestricted				Total	Total
	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	All Funds 2023	All Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	38,209	-	3,125	-	41,334	61,182
Charitable activities	4,771	-	-	-	4,771	4,914
Other trading activities	19,748	-	-	-	19,748	16,748
Investments	1,924	-	579	-	2,503	1,433
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Income	64,652	-	3,704	-	68,356	84,277
Payments						
Cost of raising funds	419	-	-	-	419	527
Charitable costs	43,131	-	4,970	-	48,101	61,613
Trading costs	6,644	-	-	-	6,644	5,415
Other payments	-	-	-	-	-	377
Total expenditure	50,194	-	4,970	-	55,164	67,932
Net Income/(expenditure) resources before transfer	14,458	-	(1,266)	-	13,192	16,345
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	19,000	-	-	19,000	10,610
Gross transfers between funds -out	(19,000)	-	-	-	(19,000)	(10,610)
Other recognised gains/losses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gains/losses on investment assets	2,253	-	-	1,755	4,008	(5,741)
Net movement in funds	(2,289)	19,000	(1,266)	1,755	17,200	10,604
Total Funds brought forward	24,522	40,000	18,807	19,438	102,767	92,163
Total funds carried forward	22,233	59,000	17,541	21,193	119,967	102,767

Statement of assets and liabilities

	<i>Unrestricted</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Endowed</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>All</i>
	<i>Fund</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Fund/s</i>	<i>Fund/s</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>
Current Assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
NatWest Current Account	920	-	-	-	920	3,629
Barclays Current Account	15,377	-	17,395	-	32,772	38,167
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Account	3,683	35,053	146	-	38,882	17,586
Totals	19,980	35,053	17,541	-	72,574	59,382
Debtors						
Gift Aid due from HMRC	619	-	-	-	619	724
Totals	619	-	-	-	619	724
Current Assets - Investments						
CCLA (CBF) Investment Fund 610072S	2,253	23,947	-	-	26,200	23,947
CCLA Fund (CBF) - Nudd Fund 110001731S	-	-	-	16,177	16,177	14,836
CCLA Fund (CBF) - Brandt Fund 110001739S	-	-	-	5,016	5,016	4,602
Totals	2,253	23,947	-	21,193	47,393	43,385
Liabilities						
Unpaid Diocesan fees for weddings/funerals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid Advertising	3,480	-	-	-	3,480	5,607
Totals	3,480	-	-	-	3,480	5,607
Grand Totals	19,372	59,000	17,541	21,193	117,106	97,884

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2023 including the notes following, was approved by the PCC, and signed on its behalf by The Revd. Vivien Turner, PCC Chairman:

.....

..... Date

Analysis of receipts and payments – see over.

Receipts

	Unrestricted		Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
	General Fund	Designated Funds				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies						
Gift Aided Donations S/Os & CAF	2,894	-	-	-	2,894	3,088
Parish Giving Scheme (Gift Aided)	15,232	-	-	-	15,232	15,043
Parish Giving Scheme (Not Gift Aided)	663	-	-	-	663	635
Collections	7,684	-	16	-	7,700	8,220
One off Gift Aided Gifts	2,141	-	-	-	2,141	11,563
Other Donations	2,426	-	970	-	3,396	6,523
Tax Recoverable on Gift Aid	6,952	-	50	-	7,002	9,968
LPOW VAT Grant	-	-	2,089	-	2,089	913
Other Funds Generated	217	-	-	-	217	229
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Total	38,209	-	3,125	-	41,334	61,182
Charitable activities						
Fees for weddings & funerals	4,771	-	-	-	4,771	4,914
Total	4,771	-	-	-	4,771	4,914
Other trading activities						
Christmas Fair	9,557	-	-	-	9,557	5,679
Other fundraising events	2,410	-	-	-	2,410	3,038
Parish Magazine Advertising current year	4,301	-	-	-	4,301	2,424
Parish Magazine Advertising Advances	3,480	-	-	-	3,480	5,607
Total	19,748	-	-	-	19,748	16,748
Investments						
CBF Fund Interest	1,924	-	579	-	2,503	1,433
Total	1,924	-	579	-	2,503	1,433
Other Receipts						
Agency Fees & Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income Total	64,652	-	3,704	-	68,356	84,277

Payments

	Unrestricted		Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
	General Fund	Designated Funds				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising activities/events					-	
Cost of Christmas Fair	419	-	-	-	419	263
Cost of Other Events	-	-	-	-	-	264
Total	419	-	-	-	419	527
Cost of Charitable Activities						
Gifts to Charities	2,831	-	1,026	-	3,857	2,097
Diocese Contribution and Deanery Costs	26,656	-	-	-	26,656	30,274
Incumbents Expenses	962	-	-	-	962	844
Rectory - council tax and water	3,984	-	-	-	3,984	3,780
Parish Training and Mission	206	-	-	-	206	-
Organ Repair	-	-	76	-	76	-
Routine repairs and maintenance	447	-	1,580	-	2,027	2,535
Upkeep of services	854	-	101	-	955	662
Church Flowers	77	-	-	-	77	374
Churchyard and cemetery maintenance	1,152	-	308	-	1,460	2,788
Bells - repairs and maintenance	-	-	14	-	14	225
Administration/Other	2,018	-	-	-	2,018	1,667
Visiting Priests	67	-	-	-	67	53
Church Utility Bills	1,748	-	-	-	1,748	1,156
Church Insurance	2,129	-	-	-	2,129	1,899
Major Church Repairs	-	-	695	-	695	-
Organ Repair	-	-	-	-	-	926
New Major Building Work	-	-	1,170	-	1,170	12,333
Other						377
Total	43,131	-	4,970	-	48,101	61,990
Trading costs						
Parish Magazine Costs	6,644	-	-	-	6,644	5,415
Total	6,644	-	-	-	6,644	5,415
Total of Payments	50,194	-	4,970	-	55,164	67,932
Balance of Receipts over Payments	14,458	-	(1,266)	-	13,192	16,345

Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.

The following assets are recognized but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, which require a faculty for disposal.

Investments

In addition to the bank accounts held with Barclays and Nat West, there are four further accounts.

The CCLA deposit account balance at 31st December was £38,882 (2022: £17,586) and interest of £1,295 was received and applied to the general fund.

The CCLA Investment fund holds 1159.02 shares whose value at 31st December was £26,200 (2022: £23,947). The income received is applied to the general fund.

The Nudd fund, an endowment fund, holds 715.39 shares whose value on 31st December was £16,177 (2022: £14,836). Income received from this fund was £442 and is restricted to the garden fund. This fund is held on behalf of the PCC by the Diocese of Chichester.

The Brandt fund, an endowment fund, holds 221.93 shares whose value on 30th December 2023 was £5,016 (2022: £4,602). Income received from this fund was £137 and is restricted to the garden fund. This fund is held on behalf of the PCC by the Diocese of Chichester.

Statement of Funds

Unrestricted General Fund:

This fund is unrestricted and is used to record both unrestricted income and expenditure.

Designated Fund:

The PCC established a designated fund at the end of 2021 by transfer of £30,000 from the general fund. The PCC wishes to adopt a prudent approach by ensuring sufficient liquidity is available to meet planned and unforeseen costs and has agreed to increase the designated fund by £19,000 from surplus income during 2023.

The early January 2023 a five-year plan was put in place which included ensuring funds were available to meet urgent and immediate expenses and costs as identified in the quinquennial report for the bells and the works to the graveyard extension to facilitate additional burial spaces. During the year, these works have been undertaken with the cost met from the various restricted funds. Repairs to the organ have been covered following generous donations from a parishioner which meant a small level of expenditure from the general fund.

The five-year plan will be reviewed and updated in January 2024. The main focus during the early part of the year will be to complete the repairs to the roof. A budget for this work has been agreed at £32,000, which includes both VAT and a contingency. A number of grant applications to obtain half of this sum are in course and the VAT should be recovered under the LPOW scheme. Against this forecast the PCC conclude adequate funds will be available to cover the roof repairs and once these have been completed an assessment can be made to undertake additional renovations to the inside of the church (including repair to plaster and redecoration).

Additionally, there is a desire to improve lighting and paths to the Church, repair the boundary wall, install a sound system, and commission a survey to identify the possibility of installing a WC. There is also a desire to supplement the Pew Cushion Heating systems with a sustainable heat source.

On this basis the PCC consider a good portion of the available money within the designated fund and the fabric fund will be fully utilized at some point in the near future; it is considered suitable to maintain a sufficient amount to cover any unforeseen expenditure.

Restricted Funds:

The Pew Cushion Heating (PCH) Fund: This fund was established in 2022 following very generous donations from parishioners totaling just over £ 7,000 (plus gift aid where applicable) to contribute towards the cost of the installation of PCH. Following a successful application, the PCC also benefited from a grant of £5,000 from a registered charity to assist with this project. The heating system was installed in November 2022 and is proving both effective and cost efficient. A LPOW grant application was made in 2023 to recover the VAT element of £2,089. This was received and this will be applied to the PCH fund to assist with energy costs for the future. The total cost of the Pew Cushion Installation (ex VAT) was £ 10,445 which was totally funded from donations and grants. The balance at 31 December 2024 is £1,385.

The Garden Fund: This fund receives the income from the Nudd (Endowment) Fund, and the Brandt (Endowment Fund), along with any other donations to gardening and cemetery maintenance. The fund contains a balance of £1,724 on 31st December.

The Bell Fund: This fund received donations during the year amounted to £627 and we carry a total at the end of the year of £5,106 after costs of £14 for maintenance during the year. It is anticipated this fund will increase during 2024 as fundraising initiatives help to build resources to cover future major works. The balance at 31 December 2024 is £5,106.

The Organ Fund: During the year, the Organ Fund received donations of £360 which covered the expenditure on repairs and maintenance. The balance at 31 December 2024 is £422.

Fabric Fund: Expenditure from this fund was £2,583 and the closing balance is £6,409. This fund will be used to cover ongoing repair and maintenance costs as well as the program of works as identified in the quinquennial report. The balance at 31 December 2024 is £6,409.

Parish Priest Discretionary Fund: Established in July 2020. Gifts in support of local families in need totaled £1,026 during the year. The closing balance is £2,495.

Endowment Funds:

The Nudd Fund (a restricted capital fund) is invested in the CBF C of E Investment Fund and held by the Diocese on our behalf. The income continues to be paid to the Garden Fund which is used for the maintenance of the graveyard extension.

The Brandt Fund (a restricted capital fund) is invested in the CBF C of E Investment Fund and held by the Diocese on our behalf. The income is attributed to the Garden Fund which is used for the maintenance of the graveyard extension.

Fund movement by type

	Opening Balance	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/(Losses)	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
General fund	24,522	64,652	(50,194)	(19,000)	2,253	22,233
Designated Funds						-
St Giles Designated Fund	40,000	-	-	19,000	-	59,000
Restricted Funds						-
Garden and Cemetery	1,146	578				1,724
Bell	4,493	627	(14)			5,106
Organ	239	360	(177)			422
Fabric	8,942	50	(2,583)			6,409
Parish Priest Discretionary	3,521		(1,026)			2,495
Pew Cushion Heating	466	2,089	(1,170)			1,385
Agency Payments	-					-
Total of all restricted funds	18,807	3,704	(4,970)	-	-	17,541
Endowment Funds						
Nudd	14,836	442	(442)		1,341	16,177
Brandt	4,602	137	(137)		414	5,016
Total of all endowment funds	19,438	579	(579)	-	1,755	21,193
Total all funds	£102,767	£68,935	£ (55,743)	-	£4,008	£119,967

Payments to PCC Members and Related Parties

Payments were made to PCC members for reimbursements or expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC as follows:

Reverend Vivien Turner	£504
Yvonne Churchward, Treasurer	£20
Michael Blunt	£296
Marie Bracey	£76
Stuart Lewis	£61
Diane Bellis	£24

No payments were made to relatives of PCC members during the year.

Related Charities

The collection from evening services held at All Saints Chapel is transferred to St Giles. The Graffham PCC pays for the electricity and any costs of services at All Saints Chapel. The All-Saints Chapel and attached cottages are the responsibility of a separate trust, The All-Saints Charitable Trust.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Giles Church, Graffham for the year ended December 31st, 2023.

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Giles Church, Graffham, on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members 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:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
2. 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
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 (other than that disclosed below in Section B below *) 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 accounting records.

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.

Examiner's Signature

Examiner's Name Rosalind Britton

Date

Relevant professional qualification(s)

Examiner's address Sandrock Cottage, Norwood Lane, Graffham, GU28 0QG