

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31 December 2024



Vicar:

The Rev'd Steve Burmester
The Vicarage
36 Sagars Road
Handforth

Banks:

The Royal Bank of Scotland Wilmslow Branch

> CAF Bank West Malling, Kent

Independent examiner:

Abigail Sheehan

Aim and purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Steve Burmester, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church buildings and equipment and for employing staff.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship and to become part of our parish community at St Chad's.

Our vision is Knowing Christ and making Him known.

The values that help us to work towards the vision of being **Authentic, Bible-based and Spirit filled, Community-focused, Disciple-making, of and for Every Generation.**

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, 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 lesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, we also consider it important that we maintain the fabric of the church and halls at St Chad's.

Achievements and Performance

The PCC has set out its aims in the objectives above. Achievements in these areas can be broken down into the three areas mentioned:

1. Worship & Prayer.

Throughout 2024 we held two Sunday services and a midweek Wednesday service. Our main Sunday morning service has grown in numbers this year with people joining us from many different countries. We have continued to broadcast on YouTube for live viewing to allow those who are housebound or unable to join us to still participate in regular worship. We were also have continued our Sunday morning children's work with Sunday Clubs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. This offers child friendly activities and teaching for children from school years Reception – Y6. We have been delighted to see some gentle growth in our children's work through the addition of families joining us from parts of East Africa who have come to the UK to secure work.

Our Sunday evening service continues with a steady number of people coming from different areas around the local area to enjoy a time of fellowship, sharing, praise and prayer together. Our midweek service is also growing with those who appreciate the BCP liturgy and more traditional forms of song and worship.

We have also been able to do adult and children's baptisms, weddings and funerals in the last year.

Our Monthly Prayer meetings have been well attended and the online weekly Zoom prayer meeting has been continued for a few people.

2. Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The Pastoral Care of individuals in church has remained a high priority to the church family. The pastoral care team have continued to meet monthly using zoom and have ensured that people have been contacted regularly by being visited in their homes or called on the telephone and that their practical needs as well as their spiritual and emotional needs have been met as far as possible.

The PCC and church have continued to work closely with two local charities. Pure Innovations who are based in Stockport are a charity that works with adults with learning difficulties in the workplace. Through their partnership with us in Café Aroma we've established a successful community café which is used by local people from the community. The café continues to open for 2 days a week (Wednesdays and Fridays) and is still proving popular.

The second charity is Hope Central which has been running since 2019 and St Chad's have been an integral part of this charity. Celebrating its 5th year Hope Central has grown and grown. It now employs 11 workers and has over 130 volunteers from various local communities. We have reported in previous years that Hope Central established a partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP), a national Christian Charity. These ministries include a Job Club, Money Management course, Debt Counselling Centre and Lifeskills courses. The charity has continued to grow in terms of outreach ministries and scope. One particular area of growth is in the Foodbank which over the last 5 years has provided over 330, 000 meals to families in the SK9 postcode. This growing work has led the Trustees to agree plans to open a 'Pantry' system for users to come and purchase their own food at a much-subsidized rate. This has opened in March 2025.

3. Missionary & Outreach Work

Our established missionary and outreach work continued as it did last year and is outlined

Much of the regular outreach work in the community has continued to be through families and school's work. In 2024 we continued our work in the schools by the vicar's appointment to become Chair of the Handforth Grange governing body in Sept 2018. In addition to this our Curate, Rev'd Richard Reeve, has been regularly involved with a midday Christian Union at Wilmslow High School that has seen a number of students come regularly for fellowship and encouragement.

In our partnership with Hope Central (mentioned above) a number of people have completed the Alpha Course, an introduction to the Christian Faith.

Over 1,500 people attended our Remembrance Day service, held outdoors at the war memorial and a similar number at our "Carols in the Paddock" service on Christmas Eve.

We have continued a strong support for home and international Missionary work and were able to invite individuals from various organisations to present and update us during our Sunday services.

During the autumn of 2024, our vicar Steve Burmester, took a 3 month Sabbatical. He and his wife travelled extensively, and he visited Churches and Ministries in 8 different countries across the world many of which were in SE Asia. He also visited some of our link Missionaries in Nepal for a two-week outreach with them into the village churches in the Terai region on the border of India.

A full list of the organisations we support financially is shown in note 3 to the financial statements.

The PCC continues to be very grateful for all the hard work of many church members throughout the year in a variety of ways —cafe, resource teams, homegroup leaders, pastoral care, sides persons, musicians and technical support, cleaners and church office administration. Many have quietly and faithfully served in the life and witness of God's church here in many ways which are not mentioned. But it is important to specifically thank our wardens, Rob Moore and Sue Sanders in the first half of the year and then Avril Allen and Rachel McDowell in the second half of the year. Also, a special mention to our treasurer, Chris Birch, who has served willingly throughout the year. So, thank you to everyone who has served at St Chad's this year.

Financial Review

There was an overall financial deficit for the year of £29,507 (2023: £10,807).

There has been a general decline in planned giving over the past few years which has given rise to this deficit situation. Attempts will be made to address this situation in early 2025 with teaching on Christian Giving during Lent.

£11,100 was spent during the year on upgrading the audio-visual system and replacing the piano/keyboard.

Reserves at the end of 2024 amounted to £438,483 of which £340,000 relates to the property at Pickmere Road.

The budget for 2025 shows a further deficit on ordinary activities of £22,000 with additional expenditure of £4,300 to replace computers and the photocopier.

Reserves Policy

It is the PCC policy to maintain a balance on the unrestricted funds, to ensure that there are sufficient funds to maintain the current level of non-discretionary expenditure for at least 2 months and to provide for future maintenance and development to the church and other property.

There are several large projects, noted in the quinquennial review, which will need attention in the near future and will involve substantial cost. These include replacement of the church heating system, refurbishment of the roof and chimney, and refurbishment of the church windows.

It is the policy of the PCC to invest funds with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

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

6 in person PCC meetings were held during the year.

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of sub-committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, Mission, Worship & Pastoral, Resources and Children and Young People, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary. During 2024 the Pastoral & Worship, Mission and Resources committees have met. Children and Youth discussions were handled by the full PCC.

Administrative information

St Chad's Church is situated in Handforth Cheshire. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Wilmslow Road, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 3ES.

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (no 1149381).

PCC members at the end of the year

Chairman	Rev'd Steve Burmester		
Church Wardens	Avril Allen	Rachel McDowell	
Deanery Synod Representative	Avril Allen		
Members	John Barnes	Chris Birch	Tracy Brown
	David Gilbert	Val Gilbert	Pat Grange
	Simon Heal	Jim Lethbridge	Rachel McDowell
	Sue Morrison	Richard Reeve	

Rob Moore and Sue Sanders retired as Church Wardens at the APCM on 19 May 2024. Avril Allen and Rachel McDowell were appointed in their place.

Simon Heal was appointed to the PCC at the APCM on 19 May 2024 and Pam Whitney retired from PCC at the APCM.

Vicki Mobbs was appointed on 10 September 2024 but resigned on 15 November 2024.

Approved by the PCC on 11 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Rev'd Steve Burmester

Chairman

ST CHAD'S HANDFORTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the year ending 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestr'd Funds	Restr'd Funds	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
Income		£	£	£	£
Voluntary income	2a	102,769	2,283	105,052	131,431
Income from church activities	2b	21,705	-	21,705	21,716
Activities for generating funds	2c	-	215	215	135
Income from investments	2d	4,039	-	4,039	5,400
Total Income	-	128,513	2,498	131,011	158,682
Expenditure					
Church activities	3	154,469	6,049	160,518	169,489
Fund raising costs	_	-			
Total Expenditure	-	154,469	6,049	160,518	169,489
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(25,956)	(3,551)	(29,507)	(10,807)
Gains on revaluation of property for the charity's own use		-	-	-	-
Net movement of funds	_	(25,956)	(3,551)	(29,507)	(10,807)
Balance brought forward 1 January 2024		463,900	4,077	467,977	
Balance carried forward 31 December 20)24 	437,944	526	438,470	

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

ST CHAD'S HANDFORTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL BALANCE SHEET At 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets		-	L
Tangible fixed assets	5	349,933	342,533
Current Assets			
Debtors	6	4,302	4,259
Investments		69,730	85,384
Cash at bank and in hand		15,801	38,351
		89,833	127,994
Creditors falling due within one year	7	(1,296)	(2,550)
Net current assets		88,537	125,444
Net assets		438,470	467,977
Funds of the charity			
Unrestricted	8/9		
General		157,944	183,900
Revaluation		280,000	280,000
Restricted	8/9	526	4,077
		438,470	467,977

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 11 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:-

Rev'd Steve Burmester (Chairman)

Mr Chris Birch (Hon Treasurer)

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value except for freehold land and buildings, which are shown at their valuation. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Going concern

After reviewing the forecasts and projections of the PCC trustees have a reasonable expectation that there are adequate funds to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and have therefore adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Funds

Restricted funds represent income from donations received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming recognition

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income to which it relates is recognised. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement to the amount due. Rental income from the letting of the church rooms is recognised when the rent is due. Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Expenditure recognition

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over or awarded, if that creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Volunteers

The church benefits greatly from the involvement and support of its volunteers, details are given in the annual report. In accordance with SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10 of the Charities Act 2011. The PCC consider that the church halls, built on church property and integrated into the church buildings, have no separate commercial value.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). No value is therefore attributed to this property.

All expenditure incurred on consecrated or benefice property, church halls or moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement is written off in the Statement of Financial Activities. Other equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight- line basis over 2 to 5 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Current asset investments

This is cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year.

2	INCOME	Unrestr'd	Restricted	Total	Funds
		Funds	Funds	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
2 a	Voluntary income				
	Planned Giving – gift aid	55,893	-	55,893	57,762
	Planned Giving - other	18,047	-	18,047	22,620
	Tax recoverable	15,119	357	15,476	17,336
	Collections	2,567	-	2,567	1,416
	Sundry donations	11,143	1,926	13,069	19,797
	Legacy	-	-	-	12,500
		102,769	2,283	105,052	131,431
2b	Church activities				
	Magazines, books and printing	60	_	60	423
	Church Rooms Lettings	11,361	_	11,361	10,292
	Fees	5,122	_	5,122	5,062
	Café Aroma and other Catering	4,737	-	4,737	4,915
	Activities	425	_	425	255
	Insurance claims and similar income	-	_	-	769
	modification claims and similar meeting	21,705		21,705	21,716
		<u> </u>			
2 c	Activities for generating funds				
	Quiz event	-	215	215	135
2d	Income from investments				
	Rent	-	-	-	-
	Interest and dividends	4,039		4,039	5,400
		4,039	-	4,039	5,400
	Total Income	128,513	2,498	131,011	158,682
	Total income	120,313	2,430	131,011	130,002

In 2023 £6,481 of voluntary income, and £179 of other income was for restricted funds.

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestr'd	Restricted	Total I	unds
Charitable activities	Funds £	Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
The expenditure relates to one activity promoting, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.	_	_	· -	_
Grants				
Missionary & charitable giving				
Overseas mission	9,975	1,845	11,820	9,220
Home missions & church societies	11,000	-	11,000	13,850
Relief and development	3,500	215	3,715	6,234
	24,475	2,060	26,535	29,304
Church activity				
Ministry				
Diocesan Parish Share	75,344	-	75,344	71,757
Clergy & Lay expenses	1,530	-	1,530	1,753
Clergy house expenses	9,786	-	9,786	7,014
Other ministry expenses	3,989	24	4,013	3,203
Church running expenses	20,143	-	20,143	21,967
Church maintenance	1,950	265	2,215	16,618
Youth and children's work	-	-	-	-
Magazines, leaflets and books	264	-	264	452
Café Aroma running costs	2,491	-	2,491	2,975
Church hall maintenance	1,510	-	1,510	125
Depreciation - equipment		3,700	3,700	2,123
	117,007	3,989	120,996	127,365
Church administration				
Administrator	9,090	_	9,090	8,568
Printing, stationery, telephone etc	3,897	-	3,897	3,630
	12,987		12,987	12,198
Total expenditure	154,469	6,049	160,518	169,489

In 2023 £6,013 of grants and £2,420 of the church activity expenditure was made from restricted funds.

		2024	2023
Grants analysis			
		£	£
Institutions	Website		
Christians in Schools	www.cist.org.uk	4,750	4,500
Open Doors	www.opendoorsuk.org	1,500	1,000
Barnabas Aid	www.barnabasaid.org	1,500	1,000
Tearfund	www.tearfund.org	2,215	2,135
Hope for Justice	www.hopeforjustice.org	1,500	3,000
True Freedom Trust	www.truefreedomtrust.org.uk	750	750
GFA World	www.gfauk.org	1,500	1,000
Hope Central	www.hopecentral.org.uk	5,500	8,600
		19,215	21,985
Individuals		7,320	7,319
		26,535	29,304
4 STAFF COSTS		2024	2023
		£	£
Salaries, Social Security and pension costs		13,112	12,318

Staff costs include the salary of the Church administrator, Pat Grange £9,089 (2023: £8,568)

Pat Grange is a member of PCC and her appointment was in accordance with the provisions of Clause 7A Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measures 1956.

5 FIXED ASSETS

Church Buildings and Vicarage

The Church Buildings and the Vicarage are consecrated / benefice properties and are excluded from these financial statements by s.10 of the Charities Act 2011.

The Diocese insures the Vicarage, but the Church Building, halls and their contents are insured by the PCC for the sum of £5,800,000.

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets			
Cost or valuation			
At 1 Jan 2024	340,000	48,586	388,586
Additions	-	11,100	11,100
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 Dec 2024	340,000	59,686	399,686
Depreciation			
At 1 Jan 2024	-	46,053	46,053
Disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	3,700	3,700
At 31 Dec 2024		49,753	49,753
Net book value			
At 31 Dec 2024	340,000	9,933	349,933

The freehold land and buildings consists of a curates house at Pickmere Road, Handforth, which was revalued in February 2021 by Jordan Fishwick at £340,000.

It is considered that the estimated residual value of the land and buildings is not lower than the above value and hence depreciation would be immaterial.

Additions to fixed assets were a piano keyboard, and upgrades to the audio-visual equipment.

During 2023 £15,503 was spent on replacing the main beam in the West Gable of the church which was rotten in parts.

6	DEBTORS	2024 £	2023 £
	Tax recoverable	1,087	1,493
	Interest receivable	840	1,170
	Prepayments	2,375	1,596
		4,302	4,259
7	CREDITORS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2024 £	2023 £
	Creditors for goods & services	1,296	1,446
	Other creditors		1,104
		1,296	2,550

8 FUNDS

Analysis of movement in the funds

Current year	At 1/1/24 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	At 31/12/24 £
Unrestricted					
General	183,900	128,513	154,469	-	157,944
Revaluation	280,000	-	-	-	280,000
Restricted	4,077	2,498	6,049	-	526
Total	467,977	131,011	160,518		438,470

Prior year	At 1/1/23	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	At 31/12/23
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted					
General	196,011	154,223	166,757	423	183,900
Revaluation	280,000	-	-	-	280,000
Restricted	2,350	4,459	2,732	-	4,077
Endowment	423			(423)	
Total	478,784	158,682	169,489	-	467,977

The Restricted Funds at the year - end represent unspent donations for:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Food for events/ flowers	-	24
Replacement piano/keyboard - depreciation	526	1,502
Vicar's Discretion- Replacement audio visual system	-	2,286
Maintaining of the church grounds	<u> </u>	265
	526	4,077

The Endowment Funds were the Ashcroft Legacy of £200 and the Leyland Legacy of £223 and were wound up in the year, receiving accumulated dividend income of £1,221.

The PCC has designated £6,000 (**2023**: £7,606) of general funds for the general development of the café, including kitchen and lounge.

The PCC has also designated £133,219 the net proceeds of the sale of the property at Blackden Walk in 2017 to be used for improvement of the Church and Church Hall buildings, and the property at Pickmere Road.

£13,000 was utilised on the refurbishment of the kitchen, £18,000 on the refurbishment of the lounge, £70,686 on the refurbishment of Pickmere Road and £15,503 on replacing the rotten West Gable main beam leaving £16,030 (**2023**: £18,376) to carry forward.

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

Current year	Unrestr'd Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets Current Assets	349,933 89,307	- 526	349,933 89,833
Creditors falling due < 1 year Fund Balance	(1,296) 437,944	526	(1,296) 438,470
Prior year	Unrestr'd Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	344,656	-	344,656
Current Assets	133,812	2,350	136,585
Creditors falling due < 1 year Fund Balance	(2,467)		(2,467)
	476,011	2,350	478,784

10 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Other than the remuneration of an employee disclosed in note 4, there were no fees, remuneration or other expenses paid to Trustees.

Donations were received from some trustees or persons connected with the trustees, but none had any restrictions attached to them.

ST CHAD'S HANDFORTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT For the year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) on my examination of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024, set out on pages 6 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Abigail Sheehan BA Hons CPFA

43 Hampson Crescent Handforth Wilmslow

11 March 2025