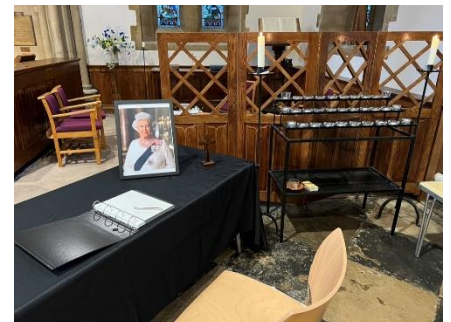




# Annual Report & Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for 2022



presented to the  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
on 30 April 2023

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St Peter & St Paul Parish Church, Buckingham  
Castle Street, Buckingham MK18 1BS  
Parish Office 01280 821509  
www.bpchurch.uk

**Charity Information**

Charity No 1128704

Incumbent: The Revd Will Pearson-Gee  
The Rectory, 8 Aris Way, Buckingham MK18 1FX

Churchwardens: Mr Mike Evans  
Foxglove House, Main Street, Tingewick, MK18 4NL

Mr Max Hailey  
53 Meadoway, Steeple Claydon, MK18 2PA

Banks: CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill,  
West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Lloyds TSB Bank  
19 Market Square, Buckingham MK18 1NP

Auditor: Upton Wilson Ltd  
3 West Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DA



## **The Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) and APCM.**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

10.30am

### **Agenda**

**Opening Hymn**— *Be Thou My Vision*.

Children go to their groups

Prayer & Confession

### **The Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP)**

1. Appointment of secretary for the meeting
2. Apologies for absence
3. Election of Church Wardens (during which any parishioner – as well as those on the Electoral Roll - may vote.)

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 24 April 2022
2. Matters Arising
3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll (ER)
4. Elections and Appointments (only those on the ER may vote)
  - a. Election of Deputy Wardens
  - b. Election of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)
  - c. *Prayers for those elected*
5. **Hymn** – *Great is Thy Faithfulness*
6. Church Attendance Reports
7. Stewardship & Finance Reports
8. Presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts
9. Appointment of the Auditor for 2023.
  - a. *Prayer for our finances and stewardship*
10. **Hymn** – *And can it be*
11. Other reports:
  - a. Children
  - b. Youth
  - c. Mission & Outreach
  - d. *Prayer for these ministries*
12. Reading: TBC
13. Rector's Report and look ahead
14. Any other Business (AOB - any items for discussion should be notified to the Rector at least 24 hours before the meeting or they may not be taken)
15. Q&A during which children are collected
16. **Hymn** - *O Lord my God /How Great Thou Art* (omit v2)
17. Closing Prayer and Thanksgiving for Food
18. At a suitable moment once everyone has their food we will break bread for an 'agape' meal.



## 2022 Minutes To Be Approved At 2023 Meeting

**MEETING OF:** Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Buckingham Parish Church  
**DATE AND TIME:** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 10.30am

### DRAFT MINUTES

Opening Hymn.

#### Vestry Meeting

**1 Appointment of Secretary for the meeting**

Sue Fox was proposed by Tracy Roskell and seconded by Susan Mileham. All voted in favour.

**2 Apologies for Absence**

Approximately 160 adults and 35 children attended the meeting, and the following apologies were recorded:

Phil and Gill Blackledge  
Mary Melliush  
Maurice and Pauline Stanton Saringer  
Ruth Newell  
Pat Cox  
Elaine Causer

**3 Election of Church Wardens**

There were two nominations for Church Warden. Mike Evans was proposed by Andrew Gibson and seconded by Harry Morten. Max Hailey was proposed by Tracy Roskell and seconded by Brian Roskell. There being no other nominations, they were duly elected. WPG noted his grateful thanks for all Mike and Max had done over the previous year.

**4 Prayers for the Church Wardens and Secretary**

Prayers were led by Cheryl Murray.

#### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**1 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

David Squibb proposed and Paul Hirons seconded that the minutes be approved as a correct record of the APCM held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021. All voted in favour. WPG signed the minutes.

**2 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**3 Presentation of the Electoral Roll.**

In Heidi Buchan's absence, WPG read out the report. At the 2021 APCM, there were 286 names on the roll, since then, 10 have been removed and 16 added. There are currently 292 on roll, as at 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022, of which 97 are non-resident of the ecclesiastical parish. WPG noted his thanks to Heidi for her report and work throughout the year.

#### **4 Elections and Appointments**

##### **Election of Deputy Wardens**

Max Hailey proposed and Margo Lohmann seconded that the following Deputy Church Wardens continue in their role:

- Paddy Collins
- Pam Fox
- Andrew Grimditch
- Paul Hirons
- Matt Lambert
- Bob Legrove
- Lynne Legrove
- Robert O'Connell
- Steven Tayfield

##### **Election of Members of the Parochial Church Council**

- Lorna Piper was proposed by Jo Hailey and seconded by Max Hailey
  - Andrew Miscampbell was proposed by Max Hailey and seconded by Mike Evans
  - Andrew Pallett was proposed by Mandy Hagon and seconded by Max Hailey
- All voted in favour.

It was noted that the approval of Sides-people has been delegated to the PCC.

Joyce Wallace prayed and gave thanks for those serving on the PCC.

#### **5 Hymn.**

#### **6 Stewardship and Finance Reports**

Harry Morten presented the Finance report.

Brian Roskell presented the Stewardship report. He thanked the congregation for their faithfulness and giving.

Lara Burt asked what percentage of giving is gift-aided. Brian Roskell with get back to Lara, but reported that gift aided donations are worth approximately 20% extra.

#### **7 Presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts**

Harry Morten proposed, and Max Hailey seconded that this meeting approve the Accounts. All voted in favour.

#### **8 Appointment of the Auditor for 2022 – Upton Wilson Ltd**

Harry Morten proposed, and David Squibb seconded that the auditors are appointment for 2022. All voted in favour.

Alan Edmundson prayed for the Finances of the Church.

#### **9 Hymn**

#### **10 Other reports**

CYFAM (Children, Youth and Families) presented their reports.

Andy Pallett prayed for these Ministries.

##### **The Mission and Outreach Report:**

##### **Highlights:**

- The Centre is getting back to full use after Covid.
- The Church is now using The Centre 60% of the time, pre Covid it was 30%
- Hot Dog Wednesdays is a highly successful outreach initiative reaching those the church would not touch, with the good news of Jesus
- CAP Life Skills Course is meeting the needs of families in need of help and support showing God's love and compassion.
- The Food Bank continued to run throughout the pandemic delivering emergency food parcels (and receiving the Pride of Bucks Award)
- The excellent feedback from our mission partners about the help our tithe distribution has meant to them.
- The beginning of the link with Bradford.
- The continued presence of The Centre in the heart of the town increasingly busy with folk dropping in.
- The appointment of Judith Wigley as Manager.

WPG thanked Christine Barrell for the work she has done with the Kit Cat club over the past nine years and presented her with flowers.

WPG thanked Mark Chapman for the work he has done behind the scenes within the Production Team and presented him with a gift.

WPG thanked the LLM's and retired clergy for all their hard work and presented them with a gift after the meeting.

**11 Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-6,**

Read by David Squibb

**12 Rector's report and look ahead.**

The Rector reflected on 12 happy and fruitful years in Buckingham. He then thanked the church family for sticking with us through difficult times. He also thanked the amazing team of volunteers, the generous givers and the staff team.

He highlighted a few things that made 2021 such a rewarding year:

- The Centre's increasing activities,
- Hot Dog Wednesday growing
- Numbers climbing at services
- The new service timings (he thanked the 9am for their grace)
- and Alpha leading people to faith.

He went on to say that we were living in uncertain times with the cost of living increases that will cause real hardship and international uncertainty.

Referring to the passage he described it as the "Jesus Manifesto" which should cause us to:

- Proclaim good news – so our preaching needs to remain consistent and biblical.
- That we also needed to proclaim to those who do not yet know Jesus.
- Which will set the captives free and release people who are stumbling around in a spiritual darkness into the light of Christ.
- And we must bind up the broken-hearted, and comfort those who mourn.

It matters not what obstacles there are – these tasks are a given. All that we do must be built to meet those objectives. This is our "Why?".

As we gather people in, grow them in faith and send them out into the world as Christ's ambassadors, in other words as we:

Gather – Grow – Go.

But what of 2022?

- Easter saw nearly 400 in church.
- We look forward to the Jubilee civic service.
- Holiday Club
- The Parish w/e in September
- Recruiting Jayde's replacement
- And welcoming a 2<sup>nd</sup> curate Ope Ayileye in the summer.

We face challenges:

The spiritual challenges are evangelism and sharing the good news.

The practical challenges flow out of our finances – squeezed by cost of living:

- Boiler – the finance for this has already been met – thank the Lord
- The subsidence which could cost a lot.
- Recruiting a new Families Worker – sadly postponed 'til 2023 unless funds allow.
- Extending the outreach post

And looking further ahead the Rector reiterated the vision to:

1. start a new Christian or church school – possibly in partnership with Prof James Tooley and
2. create the post of Associate minister which will probably require housing and of course a salary.

He concluded by saying that this was an exciting vision and creating a new school will especially be a massive challenge but like Nehemiah – we say:

*“Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today”*

Prayer was the key.

**13 Any other Business**

There was no other business.

**14 Questions and answers:**

- David Squibb, President of the Rotary Club, thanked Jo Wigley and Keith Croxton for all they are doing in operating the food bank.
- Simon Morrell asked WPG how the congregation can pray for him. WPG required energy and wisdom as we navigate the new few years. He also asked for prayers for the staff team and key volunteers. WPG thanked his wife for her support and gave thanks for their strong marriage.
- Professor James Tooley, Vice Chancellor of Buckingham University would love to see a Christian school built in Buckingham and is currently looking for a suitable site.
- Ben Waine asked about how the different dioceses can engage more broadly with each other. WPG stated that Oxford Diocese had agreed to financially support another struggling diocese but that generally each diocese aimed to be self-reliant.

**15 Hymn**

**16 Closing Prayer and thanksgiving for food.**

**END OF 2022 MINUTES.**

## The Annual Report – 2022

### Background and Statement of Facts

Buckingham Parish Church is part of the Buckingham Benefice along with the Parish of St John the Evangelist, Radclive cum Chackmore.

The Rector and the Parochial Church Council (PCC) consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish. The PCC co-operates with the Rector in promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical in order to implement its vision “To Worship God, Make Friends and Change the World”. The PCC also considers and discusses matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious and public interest (but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question) and raises such matters as the Council considers appropriate with the Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod.

### The Parochial Church Council

The following served as members of the PCC during the year 2022:

Incumbent	The Revd Will Pearson-Gee
Curate	The Revd Kate Pellereau
Churchwardens	Mr Mike Evans Mr Max Hailey
Deputy Churchwardens	Mrs Pam Fox (from ACM 2013) (Treasurer) Mr Paul Hirons (from ACM 2014) Mr Paddy Collins Mr Bob Legrove Mrs Lynn Legrove Mr Robert O’Connell Mr Andrew Grimditch Mr Steven Tayfield Mr Matt Lambert
Diocesan Synod Rep	Mr Paul Hirons until July 2024 (and ex-officio on Deanery Synod)
Deanery Synod Reps (Until ACM 2023)	Ms Ruth Newell Mrs Pauline Stanton-Saringer Mr Gerry Causer Dr Andrew Gibson Ms Beth Jeremy
Elected Members:	There can be up to 15 elected members on the PCC, 4 being elected each year to serve for 3 years.)
Until ACM 2025	Mrs Lorna Piper
Until ACM 2024	Mr Harry Morten (Head of Finance) Mr Nigel Collison (Head of Fabric)
Until ACM 2023	Mr Andrew Miscampbell Mrs Vicky Hughes (HR Lead)

Mr David Squibb  
Mr J Grinyer  
Ms Pam Fox (Treasurer)  
Mr Brian Roskell (Head of Stewardship)  
Mr Mike Roskell (Head of Production)

The PCC also has the responsibility for the care and maintenance of the Parish Church (SS Peter & Paul), the lavatory block on Church Hill, 5 Chandos Close (the Curate's house) and The Centre in Verney Close.

### **Parish / Benefice Staff**

- Revd Will Pearson-Gee has now been in post as Rector for 13 years
- Revd Kate Pellereau serves as curate (since 2020)
- Revd Ope Ayileye joined us as a Curate (Self-Supporting) in July 2022.
- Robert Tucker serves as Organist and Choir Master
- Ray Mitchell serves as Assistant Organist
- Ali Burt serves as a Contemporary Worship Team Leader (since 2019)
- Sam Graham serves as Youth Minister (from August 2021)
- Abi Graham serves as Children's' Minister from June 2022.
- Jan Ballantyne serves as the Parish Manager (since 2013)
- Sue Fox serves as PA to the Rector (since 2014)
- Jo Wigley serves as Pastoral Team Leader (since January 2017)
- Olly Holland served as Outreach Pastor (from 2018) to August 2022
- Lara Burt serves as Office Administrator, Communications Lead, Caretaker since 2021
- Judith Wigley serves as the caretaker of The Centre.
- Paul Wallace, Pauline Stanton-Saringer and Paul Mileham officiated as LLMs
- Keith Croxton has a preaching licence.
- Revd Maurice Stanton-Saringer, Canon Dr Peter Williams, Revd Ron Bundock, Revd Chris Murray and Canon Max Wigley assisted as retired clergy
- Andrew Walmsley joined us on a 2-year student placement in September 2021.
- Sarah Harrison Potts joined as Families Worker in August 2022.

### **Review of PCC discussions in 2022**

During the year the PCC met for 4 scheduled meetings and had an average attendance of 62.5%.

Main items discussed were:

Alpha; car parking at BPC; distribution of Holy Communion post-pandemic; employment of a new Families Pastor; plans for The Jubilee Celebration on 5<sup>th</sup> June; the replacement of our condemned boiler; building subsidence; organisation of Holiday Club in August and the Parish Weekend Away.

### **Standing Committee**

The Standing Committee (SC) is a statutory requirement. It meets to prepare the agenda for the PCC and has power to transact business of the PCC in emergencies between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The PCC has delegated to the SC responsibility for Human Resources (HR) matters concerning non-clergy paid members of staff. The Curate, Churchwardens, Head of the Finance and Stewardship Committee, Treasurer, PCC Secretary and up to two other members of the PCC serve on the SC which is chaired by the Rector. It meets in every month that the PCC does not and meets via Zoom.

### **Safeguarding**

### **Policy**

Buckingham Parish Church places the highest priority on safeguarding the welfare of the children, young people and vulnerable adults in its care, and as is required by the Church of England and by law, it has effective arrangements in place to protect them. These are set out in the parish Safeguarding Policy which was reviewed and approved for 2022 by the PCC in December 2021. This document is on display in church and is available on the Safeguarding page of the church website. The parish safeguarding procedures and volunteer recruitment processes are also available on the website. The church is registered on the Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard, which enables the PCC and the

Safeguarding Officers to monitor the implementation of safeguarding measures. Jane Wardale and Glynnis Eastwood have been appointed by the PCC as the Parish Safeguarding Officers.

## **OTHER COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

The PCC operates through a number of sub-committees and working groups, which are responsible for areas of activity. They meet between PCC meetings giving reports and, where appropriate, making recommendations to the PCC and implementing decisions by the PCC when asked to do so. These sub-groups are The Mission and Outreach Group (MOG), Discipleship Group, Pastoral Group and the Stewardship & Finance and are listed below.

### **Finance & Stewardship Committee**

This committee oversees the finances of Buckingham Parish Church by monitoring the income and expenditure, preparing an annual budget and coordinating the promotion of the Christian stewardship of money through planned and regular giving. The Finance and Stewardship Committee was chaired by Harry Morten (Head of Finance) and Pam Fox was Church Treasurer. Stewardship Coordinators are Brian and Tracy Roskell. (For the accounts see Finance reports on page 22.

### **BPC Children & Families**

#### **Kate Pellereau, Abi Graham and Sarah Harrison Potts**

Reaching out to children, youth and families is seen as a key area of mission activity. A wide variety of groups and activities are organised by a growing number of volunteers resulting in many new children, youth and families attending.

#### **Children**

BPC Kids Groups cater for children under 11 years of age during the 11am Family Service in appropriate age groups – Bubbles, 0-3 year olds, Splash (3-Reception), Streams (Years 1-3), and Wave (Years 4-6). Trail Blazers continues to run; this is a group that caters for children in school Years 3 to 6 at the 6pm service.

When Sarah began as Families Worker she worked hard to build the vision for the All Age Worship services. These now have a simpler structure but always include a game, worship, prayers, a talk and craft tables down the side. After the service we gather for a meal together. We have seen real growth in those attending these services and they have been a huge success this year.

#### **Annual Events**

Our Light Party happened inside this year, as an alternative to last year's outdoor Light Trail. This event is open to families with children and young people of all ages, and still comes under the Buckingham Churches Together banner, involving a team from the Holiday Club volunteers list.

The Crib Service went ahead and involved the dressing up and narrating aspect from previous years. It was great to see the families and young children joining in with up-front service activities.

The Christingle services were attended by about 700 people and we are very grateful to Rod Tate for the drama he wrote for us. Thanks also to all the volunteers who took part in the dramas and helped the services to both run smoothly.

#### **Families**

In August Sarah Harrison Potts joined the team to work with families. She led the Family Fun Fest at the end of August on behalf of all the churches in Buckingham and we had many families who came along, had fun and learnt about the Christian faith.

The Ark continued to meet, at a new time of 9.30-11:00am, (to suit volunteer needs). The morning consists of craft time, free play with the Ark cupboard toys, story time and a time of singing to end. The Ark team has grown in number and there are faithful weekly attendees who are on the team. The attendance from families has also grown, and we have begun to reuse the Ark Facebook page to reach as many people as possible (which has proven successful).

Sarah pioneered a new event to replace Hot Dog Wednesdays and Messy Church. This is called Energise and runs on Wednesday afternoons in the church. After a little while working out how this could best be structured, we have settled on offering a time for fun, craft and game and then we offer a hot meal for all the families. There has been good attendance and a few of the families have also come along to All Age Worship services at the 11am.

Schools Ministry continued with work across the primary schools for Christmas Unwrapped and Easter Cracked. It was wonderful to gather in person in December, despite the ice and have so many children in year 4 come through and hear the exciting news of Jesus being born in Bethlehem. Abi worked with Wendy Edworthy to plan and organise these events and the links with schools remain strong.

Kate attends Chackmore village school every week for an assembly and is currently building up a relationship with them. She has been in numerous times to help with RE lessons and has spoken at their Harvest, Christingle and Nativity Services. She is currently building up a relationship with Lace Hill Academy and has been to speak at an assembly about RE as a job and been invited back to help with RE lessons in each of the year groups.

## **MISSION & OUTREACH**

***Keith Croxton***

Mission and Outreach is a subgroup of the PCC mandated to discern and respond to the spiritual and social needs in the community: reaching out to share God's love and compassion with others as well as supporting the wider mission of the church. It oversees the following:

- The Centre
- Distribution of the Tithe supporting our Mission Partners
- CAP Life Skills
- Bradford Link
- SOS Room
- Men's Ministry
- Women's Ministry
- Buckingham Food Bank
- Tuesday Community Lunch
- Saturday Morning Coffee Service
- Energise

The Centre seeks to provide is a sacred place in the heart of the town where the church seeks to reach out and support the community. The following Church groups have used The Centre during 2022:

- Coffee and Company
- Tea and Chat
- Alpha Courses
- Hot Dog Wednesdays (until the summer)
- Youth Cafe
- Sew Lovely
- Greek/Hebrew sessions
- CAP Life Skills course
- 9 am congregational lunches

In addition a variety of community groups who are serving the community use The Centre, the full list is on The Centre web site.

## **Outreach**

The Hot Dog Wednesday ministry ran from January until the summer break. Held at The Centre, it offered a great opportunity to attract people passing by. Many families attended weekly and good relationships were built with mainly completely unchurched families. Most families attended every week and we were able to offer them food, a safe space and a listening ear. The children enjoyed playing inside and out and there were many opportunities for good conversations. A short story time was introduced in which Olly read a bible story in a quiet corner to any children who wanted to join in.

## **Alpha**

An online Alpha Course was run from February to April 2022 and then carried on until September.

## **Pastoral**

Much of the pastoral work is responding to individual needs and supporting those in difficult circumstances. In the spring a Pastoral Steering Group was created, a small group who meet every other month. In August they hosted a

Listening Day led by Margaret Whipp which was very well attended and helpful. We have provided meals to people who have needed them and organised for hospital visits and home communion. A team have provided support to asylum seekers housed in Buckingham and we have collected for and distributed to the asylum seekers at the Best Western as well as running an Alpha Course for them. We have a strong presence at the Community Lunch each week. We worked alongside the Salvation Army in running the Toy Event in December. In September we suffered the huge loss of Michael Greig who had very much been involved with the Pastoral Care at BPC for many years

## **2022 Fabric Report – Nigel Collison**

**West corner subsidence** – Standing water within an underground chamber to the old rainwater drain was identified as a possible cause of foundation subsidence. The drain was replaced in May and a twelve month period of monitoring of further crack movements by the structural engineers is underway. A review of the current foundation support design will then take place mid-2023. The Church architect and the Oxford DAC are being kept informed.

**Main heating boiler** – The heating boiler to the church was found to be defective during the annual service visit in February. A small working group was convened to look into the boiler replacement options for efficiency and environmental technology. Through kind donations, twin 50KW gas-fed condensing boilers were installed in June.

**Underfloor heating** – No sooner had the main church boiler been replaced, than the small boiler that feeds the underfloor heating to the rear areas of the church also failed. This was replaced in September.

**Lightning conductor** – A second earth rod was installed on the lightning conductor system to meet the requirements of BS 6651 in November.

**Church clock** – The clock chimes and a driveshaft to the south-facing clockface were repaired during the year.

## **Electoral Roll Report**

The electoral roll for the 2022 APCM had 292 names entered.

15 people have been removed from the list since then.

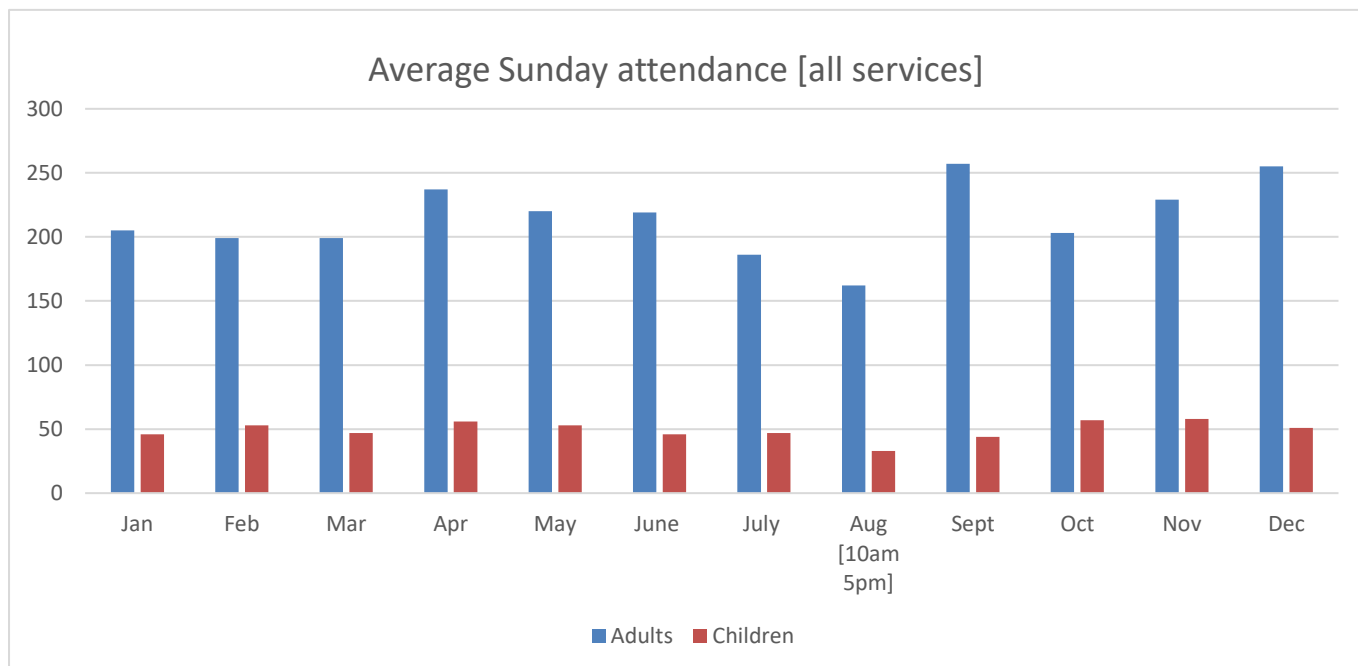
25 people have been added to the list since then.

**THERE ARE NOW 302 NAMES ON THE ROLL AS AT 10 APRIL 2023 (of which 113 are non-resident in the Ecclesiastical Parish)**

## 2022 church attendance

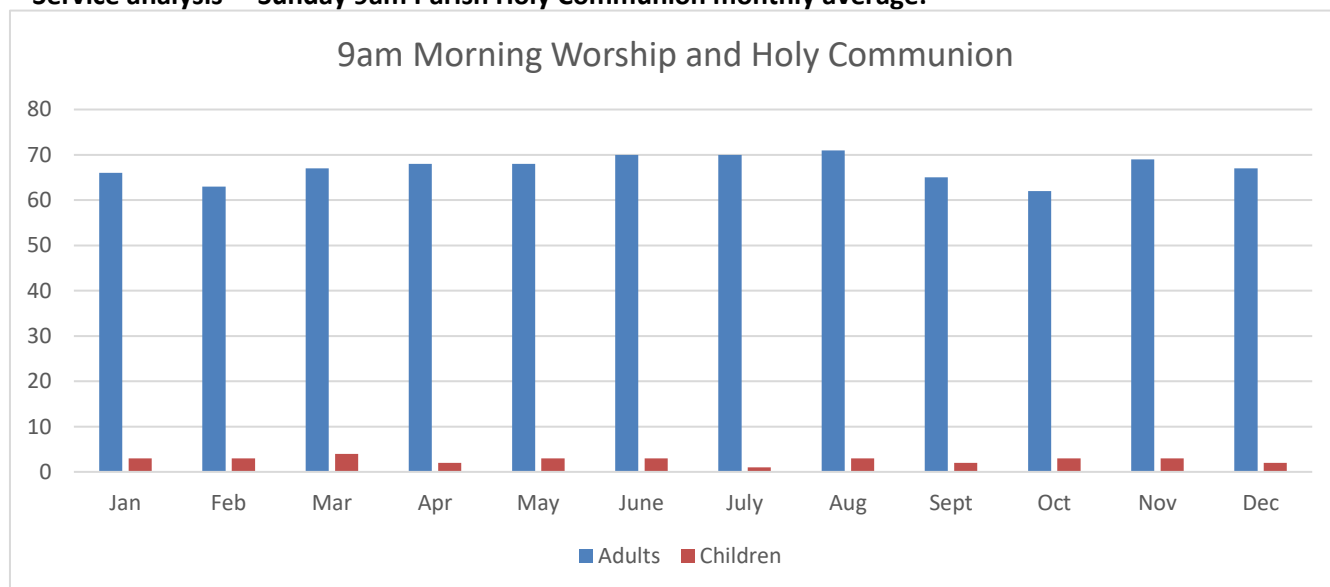
This report is provided to give a clearer picture of the pattern of attendance across the year.

### Monthly average of the total Sunday attendances:



- April saw attendances increase compared to 2020 [before covid-19] for the first time
- In July and August families were away on holiday and extreme heat may have kept people at home
- October averages affected by half-term and a smaller than usual 9am congregation on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday
- November and December numbers returned to match those of early 2020 pre-covid

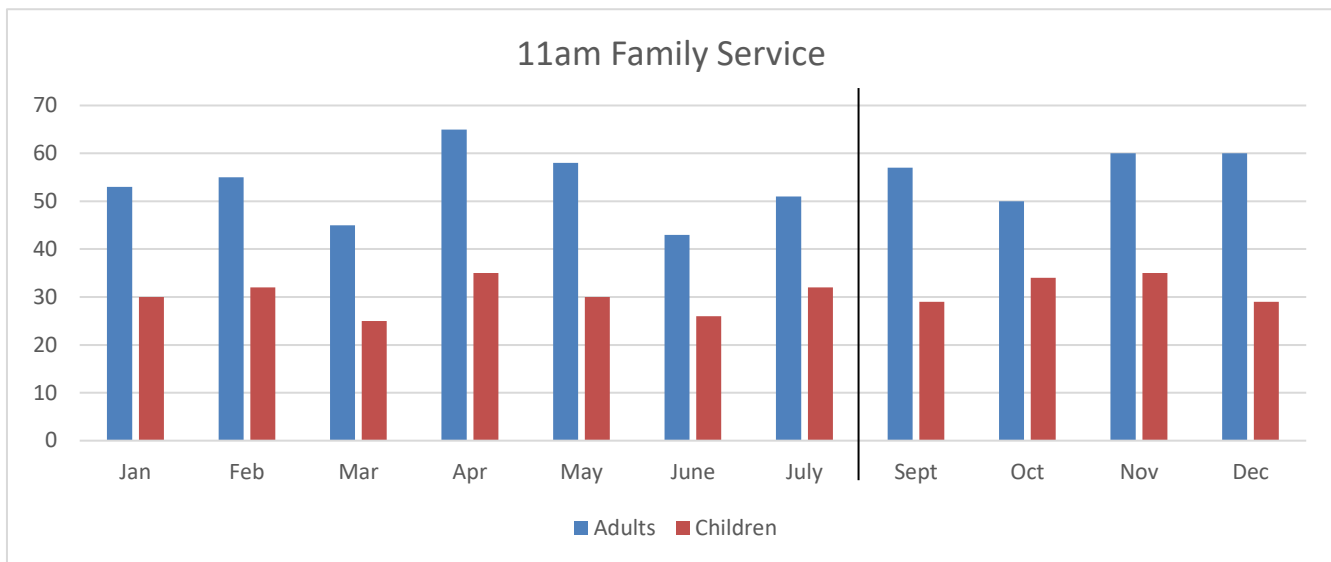
### Service analysis – Sunday 9am Parish Holy Communion monthly average:



- Attendance at this service is very stable and for the first time, in June, reached pre-COVID numbers
- There were only two 'normal' 9am services in September so I cannot draw any conclusions
- The first Sunday in October had a congregation thirty fewer than usual which lowered the average.
- In November numbers bounced back even though the numbers on Remembrance Sunday were twenty lower than other weeks

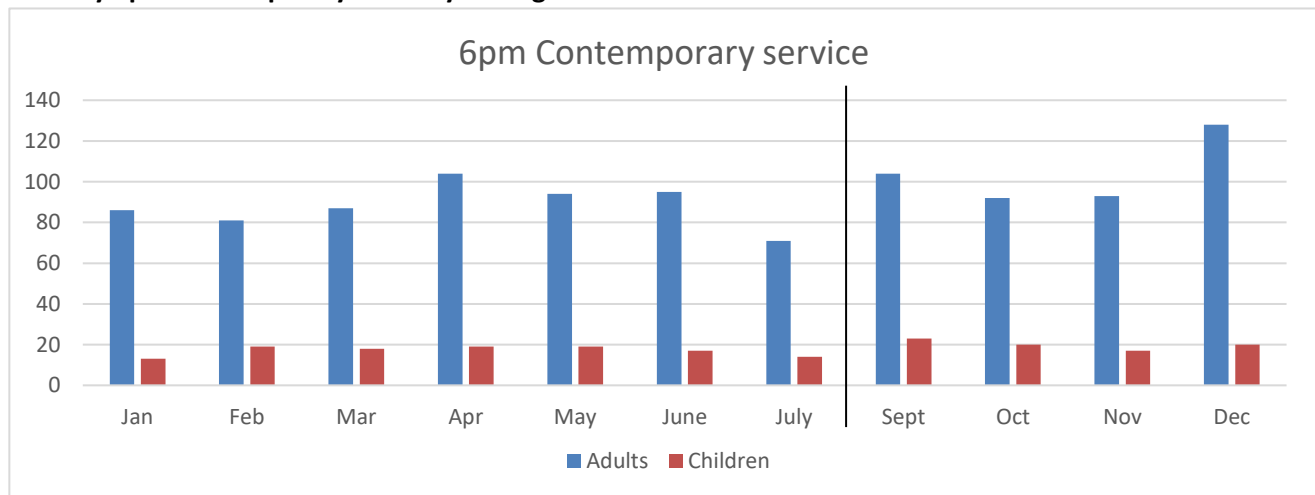
### Sunday 11am All age worship monthly average:

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- Early indications are that the new 'All Age Worship' services in October and November have become the best attended in the month turning around the previous trend.
- The average attendance in November is the highest of the year in a 'normal' month.
- At the end of November the fourth children's group started to better meet the different needs of younger children.

#### Sunday 6pm contemporary monthly average:



- The 6pm is continuing to grow back to pre-pandemic numbers and since the start of April all services had over 100 attending
- A Key Stage 2 children's group and a Youth group are offered with a creche as well as the introduction of an activity pack for younger children
- July numbers dipped as people went on holiday but numbers in September returned to pre-pandemic numbers. In October the Sunday, at the start of half-term, was about 30 fewer than the others
- December numbers were very positive.

#### Wednesday 10am Holy Communion monthly average

This service had increased its attendance from before the pandemic but has now settled to just above the 2021 average.

## Easter Sunday

Service	2022			2021			% increase on 2021
	Adults	Children	Total	Adults	Children	Total	
9am	94	7	101	72	5	77	31.2% more
11am	91	38	129	50	24	74	74.3% more
6pm	131	20	151	81	17	98	54.1% more
Overall	316	65	381	208*	46	254	50% more

\*column adds to 203, the 'overall' includes 5 people who attended the 8am

Easter 2022 attendances are encouraging; particularly the Family Service. It is not surprising that the Traditional service increased the least as more of the congregation had already returned to regular worship by Easter 2021.

## Christmas [2021 in brackets]

Attendance at special Christmas services	Adults [2021]	Children [2021]	Total [2021]	Change
Contemporary Carols	150 [100]	16 [11]	166 [111]	Up 50%
Crib Service	60 [36]	44 [27]	104 [63]	Up 65%
9 lessons and carols	259 [180]	27 [16]	286 [196]	Up 46%
Christingle 1	270 [125]	111 [61]	381 [186]	Up 105%
Christingle 2	211 [141]	93 [53]	304 [194]	Up 57%
Midnight	121 [115]	8 [1]	129 [116]	Up 7%
Christmas Day Family service	149 [103]	37 [44]	186 [147]	Up 27%
Holy Communion [subset of above]	51 [43]	7 [12]	58 [55]	Up 5%

All these services have increased attendance compared to 2021; particularly those aimed at families. This is really good news but we haven't yet got back to 2019 numbers.

## 2022 service attendance (2021 in brackets)

Average numbers attending at:	Adults	Children	online average
Morning Worship and Parish Communion [9am]	67 (55)	3 (3)	89 (140)
Morning Contemporary Family Service [11am]	54 (35)	31 (22)	29 (24)
6pm Contemporary Service	92 (63)	18 (9)	103 (156)
Wednesday 10am Holy Communion	26 (25)	0 (0)	32 (57)

Electoral roll: 292

Baptisms: 17 + 2 thanksgiving (20)

Weddings: 7 and one blessing (7)

Funerals: see below

Number of deceased for whom a <b>funeral service was held at your church</b>	10 (21)
Number of deceased for whom a full <b>funeral service</b> was conducted by a member of your ministry team <b>at a crematorium, cemetery</b> , or other non-church location, excluding committal only & burial of ashes only	8 (6)
Number of deceased for whom a committal only or a burial of ashes only was conducted by a member of your ministry team	2 (3)

## **Rector's Report for the 2023 APCM Covering 2022**

2022 was a very productive and fruitful year. Leaving the pandemic firmly in the rear-view mirror we built upon the momentum that we had gained by keep all our services in full swing despite the challenges. Throughout the year we saw all three main services grow steadily as new people joined and confidence grew. Our church is now one of the largest in the Diocese and this is testament to everyone's faithfulness, spirit and energy. A consequence of this growth has been that our finances have held up well allowing us to further invest in staff appointments and ministries.

The year started well with a Marriage Course being run by Brian and Tracy Roskell and also an Alpha course being led by our placement student and ordinand Andrew Walmsley. February saw me leading an annual 2-week evangelistic ministry in Switzerland and then returning in time for General Synod. With several contentious issues before Synod, a significant amount of my time was spent dealing with Synod business. We ran a Living in Love and Faith course at The Centre and around 15 people attended this with mixed reactions.

Russia invaded Ukraine on 24<sup>th</sup> February, and as the conflict progressed became heavily involved in collecting clothing for refugees.

A CAP 'Life Skills' course was started run by Brian and Ann Hubbard down at The Centre.

In March we held a 'Prayer for Ukraine' event on Ash Wednesday, started a series of Lent lunches, held a staff away day at High Leigh (which doubled as a recce for the weekend away) and did a spring clean of the church.

Our Easter services were well attended and signalled that attendance figures were on the rise.



*Baptising Jayden King at the 6pm Easter Alive service.*



As the Queen grew more and more frail it was a relief to celebrate her platinum jubilee on 2nd June. As part of a nationwide chain of beacon-lighting events we lit a beacon on the church roof and invited the community to celebrate with free drinks. It was a great success.

We celebrated the Jubilee at The Tuesday Community Lunch



In July our new Curate – Revd Ope Alileye - was ordained deacon and joined the BPC team.

One of our very precious home-grown staff members – Jayde Crouch – got married in the summer and left us for pastures new. She was replaced by Abi Graham, our youth worker's wife. We appointed a new Families' Pastor – Sarah Harrison Potts – who did a magnificent job running a scaled-back Holiday Club that we called a Family Fun Fest. Sarah oversaw the transition of Olly Holland's 'Hot Dog Wednesday' ministry from The Centre into church where it absorbed Messy Church. 'Energise' (as the new ministry is called) became a well-established part of our outreach offering.

In July a small group headed off to HTB Focus, now located at the Newark Showground, but I caught covid for the first time and spent the entire event in my tent. I did a tandem freefall parachute jump in August in order to raise funds for a new church minibus and many responded very generously. Olly Holland left us in August after 2 very productive years on the staff team running the men's ministry and Outreach.

Holiday Club ran (as mentioned above) in a very different guise appealing to people more as a festival. It required far fewer team to run and opportunities to get to know parents were vastly improved as parents had to stay with their children. This advantage came at the cost of less time teaching the children in small groups.

The planning for the parish weekend away at High Leigh Conference Centre occupied a lot of time and we were readying ourselves to depart when our Head of Discipleship, Revd Michael Greig died after a battle with pancreatic cancer. His death was followed shortly afterwards by HM The Queen's death. We had planned for Operation London Bridge and within 2 hours of the news breaking we had set up the side chapel with a book of condolence that was signed by hundreds of the community. The church was kept open for extended hours to allow people to pay their respects to Her Majesty.

It was therefore with heavy hearts that we set off for Hoddesdon on 9<sup>th</sup> September. The High Leigh Conference Centre had been booked three year's previously for full occupancy meaning that we needed to take a significant number of people to cover our costs. It was a big risk but in the end we were blessed with almost 200 people attending. We enjoyed great weather in the excellent venue under the teaching of Canon John Bavington the Rector of St John's, Great Horton, Bradford.



*Canon John Bavington*

A team from Bradford came to help us run some of the children's groups which included three of the youth team who also helped in the band. Apart from the excellent teaching and worship, there were many highlights but the quiz and karaoke on the Saturday night were the most talked about. We were joined by a small group from the wider Deanery and they fitted in seamlessly and had a great time. It was a greater success than we could have imagined and everyone agreed that we should repeat it biannually.



*Our Parish Weekend Attendees*

Remembrance Sunday was blessed with good weather and even more people attending.

Revd Dr Ian Paul came to speak to the church on issues of human sexuality and also the Book of Revelation and many were deeply encouraged by his very engaging talks.

Our Christmas services ran as usual with good attendance at Contemporary Carols, Nine Lessons and Carols, the two Christingle services, Midnight Communion and the Christmas morning service.



*The Contemporary Carol Service*

Finally Sarah Harrison Potts organised a successful New Year's Eve party that was enjoyed by a large group in church.



*New Year's Eve Party*

It was a year of many blessings but with two notable losses: Bob Legrove and Michael Greig whose losses we grieve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Pearson-Gee', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

**Revd Will Pearson-Gee**

Rector

## **ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S CHURCH, BUCKINGHAM**

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The accounts have been prepared under the 2011 Charities Act. The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England has produced its own financial regulations and associated Guidance in response to the Act. These have been adopted by the PCC and followed in producing these accounts.

The Guidance recommends the analysis and presentation of information under a standard set of headings, which can also be used for the annual financial return to the Diocese or the Central Board of Finance. These headings have been used in these accounts. Funds are shown as unrestricted, designated or restricted. Designated means that the funds are allocated by the PCC from the General fund; and Restricted means that the funds are normally only available for purposes specified by the donor. The PCC has one General Fund, seven designated funds and six restricted funds. Full details of these are in the Additional Notes on pages 29-30.

The total Incoming Resources from Donors was £482,010 (up 34% from £359,475 in 2021). Other Income from Charitable Resources was £21,655, while Investment Income was £8,387.

Expenditure on Activities directly related to Church Work (£440,699) has increased from £366,244 in 2021 reflecting a rise in the running costs for the church since the Covid-19 lockdowns.

The Church's charitable giving was £33,662 (2021: £31,106) which is now based on 10% of all budgeted income received in 2022. The Mission & Outreach team has been very conscientious in making sure the whole "tithe" is spent within the year, but sometimes requests for items don't fit in neat financial years.

Our community hub at The Centre has grown from strength to strength, being occupied most of the time. The original 2-year lease on the building has already been extended by Bucks County Council to 5 years. It is noted that The Centre is totally self-sufficient financially and running at no cost to the church. At the end of 2022 The Centre's bank balance stood at £14,637 (2021: £32,507).

The auditors received £250 + VAT for carrying out the audit of the church accounts. This fee is very modest and I would like to thank Upton Wilson Ltd for their continued support in examining and approving these accounts.

I would like to especially thank Pam Fox for maintaining the church accounts for so long and now to Tracy Roskell for taking on the role of Treasurer, in addition to looking after The Centre accounts. Thanks too to Anne Exelby for banking the weekly collections and Daphne Browne and Lara Burt providing additional treasurer support. I would also like to thank Brian & Tracy Roskell for their work in the Stewardship role, moving the whole process online, via ChurchSuite.

Harry Morten  
Head of Finance

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST PETER'S AND ST PAUL'S, BUCKINGHAM**

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This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the Regulations) and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

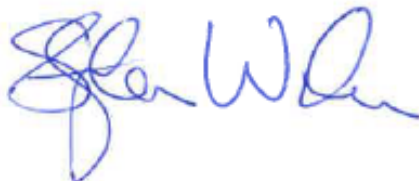
### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) 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 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Stephen J Wilson**  
Upton Wilson Ltd

Chartered Certified Accountants

20th March 2023

3 West Street  
Leighton Buzzard  
Bedfordshire  
LU7 1DA

# Buckingham Parish Church

## Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	411,309	70,701	482,010	359,475
Income from charitable activities	21,655	-	21,655	16,086
Investments	8,336	50	8,387	7,823
<b>Total income</b>	<b>441,300</b>	<b>70,751</b>	<b>512,052</b>	<b>383,384</b>
Expenditure on:				
Activities Directly related to Church Work	403,263	37,436	440,699	366,244
Other expenditure	11,889	254	12,143	31,744
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>415,152</b>	<b>37,690</b>	<b>452,842</b>	<b>397,988</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>26,149</b>	<b>33,062</b>	<b>59,210</b>	<b>-14,604</b>
Transfers:				
Gross transfers between funds - in	19,528	3,702	23,230	18,947
Gross transfers between funds - out	-23,230	-	-23,230	-18,947
Gains/losses on investment assets		-15,272	-15,272	38,741
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>22,446</b>	<b>21,492</b>	<b>43,939</b>	<b>24,137</b>
Reconciliation of funds				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>169,951</b>	<b>492,290</b>	<b>662,241</b>	<b>638,104</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>192,397</b>	<b>513,783</b>	<b>706,180</b>	<b>662,241</b>

**Balance Sheet  
detailed**

	<b>As at 31/12/2022</b>	<b>As at 31/12/2021</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
6401: Curates House	150,000	150,000
<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
6402: Philip Box CBF	1,219	1,382
6403: Harrison Bequest	313,462	328,113
6404: Harrison Loan	-21,000	-22,500
6405: CBF Investment	4,503	4,960
6406: Philip Box Charity	1,096	1,046
6501: PCC Current Lloyds	75,228	81,400
6502: CAF Current	2,080	-3,087
6503: Caf Gold	69,477	26,998
6504: Caf Gold Organ Fund	3	3
6505: Lloyds Restoration Account	9,155	9,155
6506: Assistant Curates Current	6,051	47,576
6507: Assistant Curates Deposit	40,293	282
6509: Centre	55,816	31,628
6510: Assistant Curate NS	5,158	5,153
6590: Cash in hand	132	132
Z05: Accounts Receivable	1,211	-
<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>563,884</b>	<b>512,241</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
6601: Loans received	-	-
Z04: Accounts Payable	7,704	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>7,704</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Asset surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>706,180</b>	<b>662,241</b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Excess/(deficit) to date	59,210	-14,604
Z01: Starting balances	662,241	638,104
Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	-15,272	38,741
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>706,180</b>	<b>662,241</b>

**Represented by Funds**

General (Unrestricted)	55,078	51,108
Designated	137,319	118,843
Restricted	513,783	492,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>706,180</b>	<b>662,241</b>

Buckingham Parish Church

Fund Analysis 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	General	Designated Curate	Designated Projects	Designated Centre	Designated Foodbank	Designated Anchor	Designated Restoration	Designated Rector
<b>Income</b>								
Donations and Legacies	372,150			6,166	32,163		790	
Income from Charitable Activities	10,909							
Income from Investments	269	8,068						
Income from Charity and Ancillary Trading				10,746				
Other Ordinary Incoming Resources						480		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>383,328</b>	<b>8,068</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,912</b>	<b>32,163</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>								
Activities Directly Relating to Church Work	377,335	2,048		15,254	14,129			200
Other Expenditure	2,023							
Repairs to Building			1,010					
Fund Raising & Publicity								
Church Management & Administration		5,796						
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>379,358</b>	<b>7,844</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>15,254</b>	<b>14,129</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Excess of Income Over Expenditure</b>	<b>3,970</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>18,034</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>-</b>
Balance brought forward	51,108	14,146	60,811	32,507			10,893	486
Assets Introduced	3,970	224	-	1,658	18,034	480	790	-
Gains/Loss on Investments				-				
Transfer to Harrison Fund	-	1,500						
Transfer from Centre to Foodbank Fund			-	19,528	19,528			
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>55,078</b>	<b>12,870</b>	<b>59,801</b>	<b>14,637</b>	<b>37,562</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>11,684</b>	<b>286</b>

Continued.....	Restricted Restoration	Restricted Funeral	Restricted Special	Restricted Harrison	Restricted Curates House	Restricted Philip Box	TOTAL	Unrest	Restricted
<b>Income</b>									
Donations and Legacies		1,116	69,585				481,180	410,479	70,701
Income from Charitable Activities							11,700	11,700	-
Income from Investments						50	8,386	8,336	50
Income from Charity and Ancillary Trading							10,746	10,746	-
Other Ordinary Incoming Resources							480	480	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>69,585</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>512,492</b>	<b>441,741</b>	<b>70,751</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>									
Activities Directly Relating to Church Work		1,116	34,371				444,453	408,966	35,487
Other Expenditure							2,023	2,023	-
Repairs to Building							1,010	1,010	-
Fund Raising & Publicity							-	-	-
Church Management & Administration							5,796	5,796	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>34,371</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>453,282</b>	<b>417,795</b>	<b>35,487</b>
<b>Excess of Income Over Expenditure</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,214</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>59,210</b>	<b>23,946</b>	<b>35,264</b>
Balance brought forward	24,835		9,414	305,613	150,000	2,427	662,241	169,951	492,290
Assets Introduced			35,214			50	59,210	23,946	35,264
Gains/Loss on Investments	-	457		14,651		162	15,270	-	15,270
Transfer to Harrison Fund				1,500			-	1,500	1,500
Transfer from Centre to Foodbank Fund								0	-
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>24,378</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,628</b>	<b>292,462</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>2,315</b>	<b>706,180</b>	<b>192,397</b>	<b>513,784</b>

£1,500 has been transferred from the Curates Fund to the Harrison Bequest to repay the capital borrowed from this Fund for the Open Door Project

## **BUCKINGHAM PARISH CHURCH**

### **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

#### **Staff**

The PCC employed, a Contemporary Worship Leader, an Organist & Assistant Organist, Pastoral Care Worker, Children's Worker, Families Worker, Youth Worker, Parish Manager, Office Administrator, the Rector's PA, Minister Trainee, Cleaner and a Caretaker for The Centre.

#### **Fixed Assets**

The PCC owns the house in Chandos Close (known as the Curate's House) which remains in the accounts at a value of £150,000. It has not been re-valued in the accounts this year however, the insurance on this house is based on a more realistic figure.

#### **Trust Funds**

Gains on investments recorded relate to variations in share prices of investments held by the Central Board of Finance (CBF).

##### Philip Box Organist Charity

Is a trust whose Custodian is the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance. This trust was established to provide income to or for the benefit of the organist of the Parish Church of Buckingham.

The Capital is not available to the PCC and the interest has been reinvested in a CBF Deposit Account. The fund consists of a deposit and an investment fund. The value of the fund is £2,315 (2021: £2,427)

##### The Harrison Bequest

Is a Trust fund held by the Oxford Diocesan Board of Trustees for the provision of a curate. The income from the trust can be used 'for providing the stipend of a curate in the parish and subject thereto for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish as the PCC shall decide'.

The capital is not expendable by the PCC, but the interest is paid into the Assistant Curate's Fund. The Charity Commissioners and the Diocese agreed in 2001 that the sum of £50,000 could be advanced from the capital of this fund to the Open Door (Redevelopment) Project, subject to the recoupment of £1,500 annually until 2036 from the interest of the residual capital of the fund, to be reinvested as a permanent endowment of the charity (as above).

At the year end the amount to be recouped stood at £21,000 and the investment is valued in the accounts at £292,462 (2021: £305,614). During the year the trust fund made a loss of £14,651 (2021: £37,849).

### **DETAILS OF FUNDS HELD BY THE PCC**

#### **General Fund**

The General Fund is where our everyday income and expenditure goes through and represents the "current account" for the church. The closing balance on the fund stands at £55,078 (2021: £51,107).

## **BUCKINGHAM PARISH CHURCH ADDITIONAL NOTES (continued)**

### **Designated Funds**

#### **Curates Fund**

This fund is for the maintenance and repair of the Curates House and also provides funds for the curate's expenses. At the end of the year the fund stood at £12,870 (2021: £14,146).

#### **Projects Fund**

This fund was set up to provide a specific fund for PCC Projects. No legacy money was added in 2022. During the year £1,010 has been used by projects designated by the PCC. At the end of the year the fund stood at £59,801 (2021: £60,812)

#### **The Centre**

This fund was set up to hold funds for the ongoing missionary work in The Centre, which is currently running a surplus. The fund made a transfer into a new fund for the Food Bank of £19,528. The fund stands at £14,637 (2021: £32,506).

#### **Food Bank**

This fund was set up to hold funds for the ongoing missionary work at the Food Bank, based in the Centre. The fund stands at £37,562 (2021: £0).

#### **Anchor Community**

This fund was set up to hold funds for the older & lonely in our community. The fund stands at £480 (2021: £0).

#### **Restoration**

This part of the restoration fund is unrestricted. The fund stands at £11,684 (2021: £10,894).

#### **Rector's Discretionary**

This fund has received specific donations from members of the congregation which the rector has used to help members of the parish at his discretion.

### **Restricted Funds**

#### **Restoration Restricted**

The Restoration fund stood at £24,378 (2021: £24,835).

#### **Funeral**

This fund is used to collect money from funerals where the families have specifically requested donations for charities of their choice. These are held by the PCC and then paid out as requested. The fund had a closing balance of £0, as we hold money for charities [prior to transferring monies to the charities.]

#### **Special**

This fund is used for special collections, like the Christingle, Christian Aid, Bishops Outreach etc where the money is then distributed to the relevant charities. It is also used where money has been donated for specific causes, for example money donated for the kitchen, boiler and mini-bus. The balances amounted to £44,628 (2021: £9,414).

