

Shirley Parochial Church Council

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ending 31st December 2024

27/03/25

SHIRLEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ending 31st December 2024

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SHIRLEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ending 31st December 2024

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Shirley Parochial Church Council

Charity registration number: 1131912

Bank: Lloyds Bank, 248 Stratford Road, Shirley, B90 3AE

Independent examiner : -

Philip Beedon
54 Rothwell Drive
Solihull B91 1HG

27/03/25

2024 Trustees report

Aims and Purposes

The PCC has the responsibility, as stated in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 "To cooperate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical".

Objectives and Activities

The Parish motto is "Knowing Christ, Making Him known" and this sums up well the objectives of the PCC.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and 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; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church buildings of St James the Great, Shirley, St John the Divine Tidbury Green and Church House.

Achievements and performance

Last year we reported a number of comings and goings – this year has been no different!

In May we appointed Emily Ellis as Parish Administration Manager – a big thanks to Belinda Piasecki who held the fort for 6 months.

Ministry wise Revd Richard Haynes was priested in June; Revd Wendy Martin retired in July and Revd Rich Brooker came to join us in May to complete his curacy.

Worship and Prayer

Our worship pattern across the Parish is well established, with services each week in all three churches – apart from on the first Sunday each month when the morning service in St James is a Parish service.

The main services in each church alternate between Communion services and Morning Worship. In addition there is a monthly Celtic style Reflective Worship and a Quarterly Forest Church. There is a weekly Eucharist in St James on Thursdays.

At St James, the service on the fourth Sunday – Worship4Everyone – has proved to be very popular amongst families, with a number of Messy Church families joining us.

Messy Church continues to thrive, and we have celebrated a number of baptisms within Messy Church, which has been a great delight.

We have been aware that there are now regularly between 4 and 6 children on Sundays at St James, so in June we started Kids Church – an opportunity for the children to have their own time to learn and to celebrate. It takes place in Church House while the sermon and prayers are happening in church.

Easter Sunday was very well attended, and were our Christmas carol service, crib service and midnight Eucharist.

Live streaming of the main St James Services continues allowing those who cannot make it to church to take part in our regular worship.

Musically in St James Ewan Murray left us in the summer (to take up a post in Hereford alongside his forestry studies) but another Conservatoire student, Harry Brown, has joined us. Harry brilliantly led an ad hoc choir for our carol service. Shirley Beedon continues to faithfully play for St John's.

There have been many baptisms in the years and two weddings.

Mission and evangelism

In our Lent Conversations we looked at the Anglican Communion's 5 marks of mission, using videos produced by Bishop Anne as a starting point. These were exceptionally well attended and well received.

In the Autumn an "Open to Questions" morning gave anyone the opportunity to ask any question of a panel from our ministry team.

Both the Easter Journey and the Journey to the Stable were great successes once more. With the Journey to the Stable now been going for 25 year we reckoned that over 15,000 Shirley children have participated over the years!

Our links with St James School continue well – regular services in church, a weekly Bible Art session for about 10 children at a time, and assisting with collective worship. Open the Book continued in Widney, St James and Kingswood schools. We have also begun to work with Hazel Oak School, some of the older children coming to the Welcome Café each week for conversation. We take occasional assemblies at Woodlands Infant School, Cranmore Infant School and Widney Junior School.

The Welcome Café continues to be a great strength, with numbers increasing and a real buzz of chatter each week.

Amongst the other activities the churches are involved with are Mothers Union, Jimmy Tots, Ploughmans lunch, Nordic walking and a book club.

Pastoral care

As well as a lot of informal pastoral support amongst the congregation, the Welcome café and the monthly Sunday Lunch Club – have helped us keep in contact with many.

Richard Haynes has headed up a Pastoral Group to ensure we are aware of people's needs. This group launched an occasional afternoon Eucharist particularly for those who find mornings a problem because of carers etc. Many thanks to all who offered lifts to this service.

Regular services led by members of the congregation take place in local nursing and residential homes, including taking part in an ecumenical service organised by Shirley Churches Together at Solihull Village.

We were saddened by the deaths of long standing church members Lyn Herbert, Margaret Astley, Yvonne Baugh, Ian Cole and Janet Wilson

Community activities

We have continued to support the Sparkhill Foodbank, Narthex and ADAVU throughout the year.

There was no Christmas Tree festival this year, but a successful Christmas Fair was held in the build up to Christmas. We also held a skittles evening, a Quingo evening, a Harvest supper and barn dance and several coffee mornings and book and jigsaw sales.

The Friends of St James ran many successful fund raising events through the year. We are extremely grateful for all their hard work in support of the maintenance and development of the St James building..

Ecumenical relations

Shirley Churches Together organised a very popular Good Friday Walk of Witness which started at Our Lady of the Wayside, with stops outside St James, at the entrance to Shirley park and outside ASDA.

In addition in December there was carol singing in the Parkgate Shopping Centre.

Local ministers continue to meet regularly for prayer.

The buildings

The Pod project – to install a kitchen and toilet in the St James building – encountered a couple of issues resulting in a partial redesign which has led to a far better final solution. The ensuing delays have meant that work did not commence in the year but will be done on early 2025.

The heating project – to replace the gas fired central heating in St James with electric chandelier heating - has been adopted by the Church of England as a demonstrator project. This brings additional funding as well as publicity (and a lot of paperwork!). Hopefully the new system will be installed in 2025.

The lighting in St James Church was upgraded to LED lighting with the help of a Diocesan "quick wins" grant – this has made a considerable difference.

On behalf of the Church can I give thanks to Kate Crocker for her tireless work on both these projects.

There has been work to redecorate the St Johns building and to re-lay the outside paths, giving safer access to the church from the car park.

Eco Church

The eco group continue their work to bring matters to the congregation's attention and to ensure all our developments are as green as possible. Both St James Churchyard and the St John's garden are managed with wildlife in mind.

Financial Review

Total receipts in the year were £169,200, with unrestricted receipts of £138,800 and £30,400 of restricted donations. The unrestricted receipts can be further broken down into £76,100 of voluntary donations, £18,400 relating to church activities and activities for generating funds, £16,800 of Gift Aid received and £7,500 of investment income. A further £20,000 was received from the sale of roughly 40% of the parish holding in the CBF Church of England Global Equity Fund.

Planned giving stewardship income at £60,500 was broadly in line with 2023. In total unrestricted voluntary donations were £6,000 lower than the previous year, the main cause being the £4,000 drop in fees received. In addition in 2023 £2,500 of donations were raised for the maintenance of trees in the St James churchyard, for which there were no comparative donations in 2024. Gift Aid receipts, which totalled £17,900 were up from £12,200 in 2023 but in 2023 the Gift Aid receipts outside the Parish Giving Scheme only covered six months due to administrative issues, whereas 2024 covered twelve months, so

this is due to timing. The catch up will be completed in 2025 when an additional six months of Gift Aid will be reclaimed.

Donations, grants and Gift Aid recovered, totalling £28,000 were received for the Pod project, this included a donation of £3,600 from St James school, an £8,000 grant from Garfield Weston, £5,000 from the Solihull CIL fund, other donations/grants from the Benefact Trust, Edward Cadbury ECCT and the Beatrice Laing Trust. In addition to which a further £3,000 of donations were received from the congregation.

We received one legacy in the year, from the estate of David Cox for £1,000. This legacy had no stipulation as to what the legacy should be used for other than it should not be used to fund day-to-day running costs and so it has been added to the Consolidated Legacy Fund and will be spent at the discretion of the PCC.

The value of the PCC investment in the CBF Global Equity Fund increased by £2,700. In May shares with a value of £20,000 were sold, representing roughly 40% of the parish holding in the CBF Church of England Global Equity Fund, in part to fund the major repairs and improvements. In addition, the parish received £2,700 of interest and investment activity and £4,900 for rent paid by the nursery behind St Johns.

Total payments in the year were £169,300, with unrestricted payments of £144,900 and £24,400 of payments from restricted funds. Unrestricted payments break down into £53,400 for the Diocesan parish share contribution, £21,500 clergy and staffing costs and running expenses including Church House totalling £70,000.

The parish contributed £53,400 for the diocesan parish share for the provision of clergy, clergy housing and other services, £3,600 less than in 2023. However, the parish contributes £4,500 directly for curate housing costs for the curate, making the real contribution just under £58,000.

Payments from restricted funds included £900 for the installation of a new ladder to improve maintenance access to the St James clock. In addition, a further £23,100 was spent on architect fees and drainage works for the pod project, a breakdown of which is detailed on page 17.

Unrestricted payments for major repairs and improvements totalled £16,400, of which £13,200 was spent on the drive and path way works at St Johns together with quinquennial repairs and maintenance to the interior and exterior of the building. At St James LED lighting was installed at a net cost to the parish of £3,200, the cost of which will be recouped in time through lower energy consumption.

Utility and broadband costs incurred across the parish including Church House in 2024 totalled £16,000, up £300 from 2023. All the parish energy contracts have now been renewed since the gas and electric price increases from the start of 2022, so no future significant price increases are expected.

The net result for the year was unrestricted payments of £144,900 and unrestricted receipts of £138,800, resulting in a total excess of unrestricted payments over receipts of £6,100, a similar deficit to the previous year and so the need for close monitoring by the trustees going forward remains. Added together bank and deposit balances amount to £67,800 with restricted funds of £19,200, designated funds of £10,800 leaving a balance of £37,800 for day-to-day running costs.

Volunteers

The trustees wish to express their thanks to all parishioners for their continued support. Thanks are also due to committee members, treasurers, readers, wardens, deputy wardens, the employees and others who have all worked hard to maintain church fellowship, working arrangements, and parish activities.

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. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), or co-opted at its members' discretion in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend the churches within the parish are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, making them eligible for election to the PCC.

In accordance with the regulations governing a single benefice with three centres of worship, the governance of the parish is the overall responsibility of the Incumbent and PCC.

The PCC delegates certain parish responsibilities to a Buildings and Finance Committee, a Mission, Ministry and Pastoral Committee, an Events Committee and the Eco Church Committee. Each of these committees operates in accordance with agreed terms of reference.

The PCC met four times in 2024. Other task groups operate on an *ad hoc* basis and report, through the main committees, to the PCC.

Ministry

As mentioned earlier Revd Wendy Martin retired in July – we will miss her gentle way of leading and encouraging. Revd Rich Brooker joined us in May to complete his curacy. Revd Richard Haynes was ordained priest in June.

In addition Rev Paul Day, the incumbent, has been supported well by Rev Theresa Jones and Rev Wendy Carter. Readers Gill Gough, Sarah Penfold, Denise Smith and Kate Day complete the ministry team.

SHIRLEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

LIST OF PCC MEMBERS (TRUSTEES)

The following people served as members of the PCC

For the year ending 31st December 2024

Clergy

Revd Paul Day

Revd Richard Haynes

Revd Wendy Martin (until July)

Revd Rich Brooker (from May)

Parish Wardens

Linda Pitt

Gill Hanton

Ex Officio

Kate Crocker (Deanery Synod)

Gill Gough (Deanery Synod)

Sarah Penfold (Reader)

Elected Members

St James

David Paice

Belinda Piasecki (Secretary)

Margaret Foresheew

Ian Longbottom (Treasurer)

Mark Strenz

Chris Terry

Kate Day

Christ the King

Jan Gardner

Denise Smith

St John the Divine

Jean Wall

Linda Alford

SHIRLEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of SHIRLEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year to 31 December 2023, which are set out on the attached pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the s145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act')

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirements under section 144(2) of the Act do not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- * examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act:
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act: and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or 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. Please note I have not carried out an examination of the individual accounts for St John the Divine and Christ the King but have relied on the confirmations provided by the examiners of these 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 2011 Act: and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act have 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.

Phylip Beedon
Solihull


27/3/2025

PCC 2024 Annual Accounts - Payments and overall position

Payments	Note	Parish Office	St James	St John	Christ the King	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds*	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
Parish activities									
Diocesan parish share contribution		-2,500	38,848	7,489	9,521	53,357		53,357	57,000
Clergy and staffing costs	5e	20,466	900	0	0	21,366		21,366	19,792
Running expenses	5f	42,943	23,621	15,779	1,923	59,848	24,417	84,265	63,420
Church House running costs	5g	10,311				10,311		10,311	7,539
Mission giving and donations	5h	0		0		0		0	0
Investments	5i					0		0	0
Total payments		71,220	63,368	23,267	11,444	144,882	24,417	169,299	147,751
Total receipts		63,761	72,102	20,114	13,184	138,783	30,377	169,160	137,952
Excess of receipts over payments		-7,459	8,733	-3,154	1,740			-139	-9,800
Office funding - internal transfers		18,000	-11,600	-3,500	-2,900			0	0
Other Transfers									
Transfer between funds								0	0
		10,541	-2,867	-6,654	-1,160			-139	-9,800
Cash at banks at 1 January		39,864	10,054	11,366	6,671			67,955	77,754
Cash at banks at 31 December		50,405	7,187	4,712	5,512			67,816	67,955
		0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0

PCC 2024 Annual Accounts - Further Analysis of Payments

Note	Parish Office	St James	St John	Christ the King	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds *	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
5e Clergy and staffing costs								
Clergy and vicarage costs	8,042	0	0	0	8,042		8,042	7,923
Parish administrators' salaries	12,424	0	0	0	12,424		12,424	10,799
Organists - salary and fees	0	900	0	0	900		900	965
Baptism vergers' & other fees	0	0	0	0	0		0	105
	20,466	900	0	0	21,366		21,366	19,792
5f Running expenses								
Utility costs and broadband	0	8,754	975	0	9,729	0	9,729	11,849
School hall rent	-532	0	0	1,923	1,391	0	1,391	1,451
Printing and stationery	5,204	0	0	0	5,204	0	5,204	3,082
Church consumables	1,190	0	0	0	1,190	0	1,190	1,777
Repairs and maintenance	1,840	3,208	0	0	4,658	389	5,047	5,926
Major repairs and all improvements	25,888	1,292	13,205	0	16,357	24,028	40,385	13,293
Insurance and fire protection	810	4,626	605	0	6,042	0	6,042	7,065
Churchyard / church grounds upkeep	-1,524	5,504	800	0	4,780	0	4,780	9,770
Administration expenses	3,059	178	0	0	3,238	0	3,238	3,978
Other expenses	2,519	58	194	0	2,771	0	2,771	580
Sunday Lunch Club	2,656	0	0	0	2,656	0	2,656	3,121
Music Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parish magazine printing & distribution	720	0	0	0	720	0	720	648
Children's activities	1,112	0	0	0	1,112	0	1,112	880
	42,943	23,621	15,779	1,923	59,848	24,417	84,265	63,420
5g Church House running costs								
Utility costs	6,227				6,227		6,227	3,853
Cleaner	2,070				2,070		2,070	2,160
Other costs	2,014				2,014		2,014	1,526
	10,311	0			10,311	0	10,311	7,539
5h Mission giving and donations								
Parish mission	0					0	0	0
Various						0	0	0
	0		0			0	0	0
5i Investments								
CBF Global Equity Fund						0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

PCC 2024 Annual Accounts - Receipts

RECEIPTS	Note	Parish Office	St James	St John	Christ the King	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
Voluntary receipts									
Planned giving - stewardship		0	47,980	5,727	6,812	60,519		60,519	60,641
Collections at services		252	8,787	1,828	1,530	12,397		12,397	13,296
All other giving/voluntary receipt	5a	29,710	2,062	600	0	3,168	29,204	32,372	25,113
Gift Aid recovered		1,173	13,273	1,752	1,743	16,768	1,173	17,941	12,233
Activities for generating funds	5b	0		887	3,093	3,980		3,980	3,301
Investment income	5c	18,706		8,870	6	27,582		27,582	6,983
Church activities	5d	13,920	0	450		14,370	0	14,370	16,385
Total receipts		63,761	72,102	20,114	13,184	138,783	30,377	169,160	137,952

PCC 2024 Annual Accounts - Further Analysis of Receipts

Note	Parish Office	St James	St John	Christ the King	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
5a All other giving/voluntary receipts:								
Miscellaneous income								
Donations	1,668	900	600	0	3,168	0	3,168	4,407
Consolidated Legacy Fund	1,000	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,500
St James Churchyard Fund	0	250	0	0	0	250	250	250
Heating Project	90	0	0	0	0	90	90	0
Church House Garden Fund	25	0	0	0	0	25	25	463
Church House Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pod Project	25,927	912	0	0	0	26,839	26,839	15,944
St James Churchyard Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,550
Clock Fund	1,000	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	0
BDBF Energy grant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	29,710	2,062	600	0	3,168	29,204	32,372	25,113
5b Activities for generating funds:								
Fundraising events	0	0	887	3,093	3,980		3,980	3,301
	0	0	887	3,093	3,980		3,980	3,301
5c Investment income:								
Interest and investment income	18,706	0	4,000	6	22,712		22,712	2,213
Rent paid by nursery	0	0	4,870	0	4,870		4,870	4,770
Nursery contribution - water			inc. in 5f		0		0	0
	18,706	0	8,870	6	27,582		27,582	6,983
5d Church activities:								
Fees from weddings & funerals	2,811	0	0	0	2,811		2,811	6,346
Parish magazine income	1,430	0	0	0	1,430		1,430	1,602
Church House/ Hall lettings	5,584	0	450	0	6,034		6,034	4,463
Sunday lunch club	2,701	0	0	0	2,701		2,701	3,397
Refreshment donations	1,225	0	0	0	1,225		1,225	
Children's Activities	168	0	0	0	168		168	578
	13,920	0	450	0	14,370	0	14,370	16,385

PCC ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL ASSETS	2024	2023
	31-Dec	31-Dec
Current account balances	31,678	34,574
Bank deposit accounts	2,567	2,535
CBF Deposit Fund balances	33,150	30,470
Cash in hand	421	376
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	67,816	67,955
CBF Global Equity Income Fund bid market values	33,902	51,191
Other Assets: Freehold land and buildings	3,170	3,170
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total financial assets	104,888	122,316
Other Outstanding Balances		
Gift aid recoverable - via Parish Office to 31st Dec	8,400	8,400
- via Parish Giving for December	740	674
	1,730	1,730
Tenancy Deposit - 37 Delrene Road	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,870	10,804
LIABILITIES		
N/A		

27/03/25

PCC Accounts 2024 - Fund transfers

	Ref.	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Gift Aid Recovered	Payments	Investments	Adjust.	Bal c/fwd
Restricted Funds								
Church House Garden Fund		636	25					661
Heating Project		0	90					90
St James Churchyard Fund		711	250					961
Pod Project		12,639	26,839	1,173	-23,128			17,523
Total Restricted Funds		13,985	27,204	1,173	-23,128	0	0	19,235
Designated Funds								
St James Alter Linen		482	0					482
Consolidated Legacy Fund		5,716	1,000					6,716
Music		3,641	0		-389			3,252
Clock Fund		248	1,000		-900			348
Total Designated Funds		10,087	2,000	0	-1,289	0	0	10,798
Unrestricted Funds								
Christ the King General Fund		9,572	13,184		-11,444			11,312
St James Fabric Unrestricted Fund		50,484						50,484
St James General Fund		2,242	72,102		-63,368			10,975
St John General Fund		18,030	20,114		-23,267			14,876
St John Reserve Fund	(a)	11,405				-4,000	814	8,219
Parish Office fund		-13,894	34,557	-1,173	-46,804			-27,314
PCC Reserve Fund	(a)	20,406				-16,000	1,897	6,303
Total Unrestricted Funds		98,244	139,956	-1,173	-144,883	-20,000	2,711	74,855
TOTALS		122,317	169,160	0	-169,299	-20,000	2,711	104,888

Ref. (a) Adjustment.

This is the change in capital value of the Global Equity Income Fund investment. The St John Reserve Fund includes its share of the income received from this investment as well as the change in capital value

PCC 2024 ACCOUNTS - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS

Repairs and maintenance *	£	
Parish Office		
Church House - toilet/washroom repairs	653	
Church House - roof repairs	300	
Church House - kitchen equipment	347	
Piano Tuning	85	
Miscellaneous items	454	
	<u>1,839</u>	1,839
St James		
Roof repairs	1,360	
Repair to Churchyard sink hole	624	
Boiler works	510	
Replacement microphone	266	
Organ tuning	304	
Other	144	
	<u>3,208</u>	3,208
Churchyard / church grounds upkeep		
Parish Office & St James		
Tree care	2,180	
Grounds Upkeep	1,800	
Parish Office & St James	<u>3,980</u>	3,980
St John		
Grounds Upkeep	800	
	<u>800</u>	800
Total Repairs and maintenance *		9,827
Major repairs & all improvements		
Parish Office & St James		
St James Church - lighting	3,152	
Repairs to St James Clock	900	
Pod Project		
Drainage works	18,409	
Architect Fees	5,878	
VAT reclaim on invoiced activity	-1,159	
Pod Project	<u>23,128</u>	<u>23,128</u>
	<u>27,180</u>	27,180
St John		
Exterior repairs and painting	2,560	
Interior decorating costs	2,833	
Roofing repairs	975	
Drive way and path way works	5,800	
Fencing Repairs	1,405	
Other	119	
Less Nursery contribution	-488	
	<u>13,205</u>	13,205
Total Major repairs & all improvements		40,385
Grand total		<u><u>50,212</u></u>

Note *

Repairs and maintenance also includes items shown under Churchyard / church grounds upkeep