



EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETINGS 2024

Sunday 28 April 2024, 10.15am in Church

A. ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Meeting open to all those whose names are entered on the electoral roll of the parish and those who reside in the parish and whose names are entered on a register of local government electors

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Election of Churchwardens

B. ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Meeting open to those whose names are entered on the roll of the parish and specified others

No	Item	Encl.	Presenter
1.	Apologies for absence	Verbal	Revd J Smith
2.	Minutes of the previous meeting	✓	Revd J Smith
3.	Report on changes to the electoral roll	✓	Revd J Smith
4.	Annual report of the PCC	✓	Revd J Smith
5.	Financial statements for year ended 31 December 2023	✓	S Lee
6.	Appointment of independent examiner for the coming year	Verbal	S Lee
7.	Annual fabric report	✓	A Grant
8.	Deanery Synod report	✓	Revd J Smith
9.	Safeguarding report	✓	Revd J Smith
10.	Elections to PCC	Verbal	Revd J Smith
12.	Questions	Verbal	Revd J Smith

**Anyone wishing to ask a question under item 12 is requested to submit it at least 48 hours in advance by email to:
admin@euxtonparishchurch.org**

EUXTON PARISH CHURCH
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PARISHIONERS HELD ON 21 MAY 2023 AT 10.15AM
IN CHURCH

Present:	Revd J Smith (Incumbent, in the Chair)	R Goodwin	G Pardoe
	M Ainscough	A Grant	M Pincock
	A Armstrong	M Griffiths	K Power
	Revd A Bland	E Heaton	M Power
	G Bolton	P Howard (Secretary)	A Reid
	L Butcher	G Ingham	M Rooney
	T Cahill	J Leap	J Thompson
	G Dalley	S Lee (Treasurer)	J Vanderpuye
	M Fielding	P Lister	H Waugh
	A Francis	R Lister	J Wilson
	C Glen	P Owen	P Wright

1. Chair and quorum

Revd Jo Smith took the chair and noted that the meeting had been convened in accordance with the provisions of ss. 4 and 5 of the Churchwardens Measure 2001.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from K Grant, L Rooney, P Rooney, M Shaw and G Steele.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 May 2022 were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.

4. Election of churchwardens

The Chair confirmed that nominations had been received, duly proposed and seconded and accompanied by the necessary statements to confirm that the nominees were willing to serve and were not disqualified from serving, for the following individuals:

- (a) Mr Andrew Grant, proposed by P Howard and seconded by S Ford; and
- (b) Ms Maureen Rooney, proposed by P Howard and seconded by M Rooney.

The candidates were duly **ELECTED UNOPPOSED**.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was declared closed.

Chair

Date:.....

EUXTON PARISH CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2023 AT 10.20AM
IN CHURCH

Present:	Revd J Smith (Incumbent, in the Chair)	R Goodwin	G Pardoe
	M Ainscough	A Grant	M Pincock
	A Armstrong	M Griffiths	K Power
	Revd A Bland	E Heaton	M Power
	G Bolton	P Howard (Secretary)	A Reid
	L Butcher	G Ingham	M Rooney
	T Cahill	J Leap	J Thompson
	G Dalley	S Lee (Treasurer)	J Vanderpuye
	M Fielding	P Lister	H Waugh
	A Francis	R Lister	J Wilson
	C Glen	P Owen	P Wright

1. Chair and quorum

Revd Jo Smith took the chair and noted that due notice of the meeting had been given. She therefore declared the meeting duly convened and constituted.

Note was made of the fact that the meeting was taking place within the framework of worship, in order to facilitate wider attendance and as a reminder that everything done within the parish is done for the glory of God. To that end, the usual review of the year had been incorporated as part of the sermon at each of the day's three services.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from K Grant, L Rooney, P Rooney, M Shaw and G Steele.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 May 2022 were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.

4. Report on changes to the electoral roll

A report had been circulated with the agenda to set out the electoral roll as at 31 December 2022. Whilst there were 184 people on the electoral roll, the Chair advised that the weekly update email is sent to over 350 people, which indicates the true reach of the church.

The meeting received the report on changes to the electoral roll and noted the content.

5. Annual report of the PCC

The Secretary presented a report which had been circulated with the agenda. There were no questions on the content of the report.

The meeting received the report and noted the content.

6. Annual report and financial statements for year ended 31 December 2021

The Treasurer presented the annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 which had been circulated with the agenda. She confirmed that these had been subject to independent examination. There were no questions raised, and the Treasurer took the opportunity to thank everyone who had given to the life of the church, either financially or through the gift of time, on behalf of the PCC.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for her dedicated work throughout the year and also highlighted the work of Sarah Ball as Gift Aid Officer and Becky Edge in managing the financial aspects of the roof project.

The meeting received and noted the annual report and financial statements for year-ended 31 December 2022.

7. Appointment of independent examiner for the coming year

The meeting **APPOINTED** Smith and Goulding as its independent examiners for the coming financial year.

8. Report on the fabric of the church

A Grant presented a report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting to outline the issues relating to the fabric of the church. A video depicting progress with the roof project was also shown, and the Chair commended the church family for raising over a third of a million pounds to complete the project. Thanks were also offered to the Churchwardens and to the grounds team for their continuing hard work.

The meeting received the report and noted the content.

9. Deanery Synod

The minutes of all Deanery Synod meetings during 2022 had been circulated with the agenda in advance of the meeting.

The meeting received the minutes and noted the content.

10. Safeguarding report

A report had been circulated with the agenda to update the meeting on matters relating to safeguarding. Thanks were offered to the Safeguarding Officer, Claire Holt, and the Safeguarding Administrator, Gail Bolton.

The meeting received the report and noted the content.

11. Elections to Deanery Synod

One nomination for appointment as a parish representative on Deanery Synod had been received. Christine Glen was proposed by A Grant and seconded by D Williams.

Christine Glen was therefore **ELECTED UNOPPOSED** as the parish's representative on Deanery Synod, with the remaining two posts being held vacant.

12. Elections to PCC

The Chair thanked those who had served on the PCC and come to the end of their term of office or otherwise stood down during the year. Thanks were offered for the work of R Goodwin, P Howard and G Steele, whose terms of office had come to an end and would therefore no longer be members of the PCC.

The Chair noted that there were seven vacancies for lay members of the Parochial Church Council, of which five were for three-year terms and two were for two-year terms, and that seven nominations had been received. As a result, the following individuals were **APPOINTED** to serve on the PCC:

- (a) Timothy Cahill, proposed by A Grant and seconded by C Glen, for a three-year term;
- (b) Anne Howard, proposed by A Grant and seconded by M Rooney, for a three-year term;
- (c) Jenny Leap, proposed by K Power and seconded by M Power, for a three-year term;
- (d) Shona Lee, proposed by P Howard and seconded by A Grant, for a two-year term;
- (e) Martin Shaw, proposed by M Rooney and seconded by A Grant, for a three-year term;
- (f) Susan Swift, proposed by A Grant and seconded by M Rooney, for a three-year term;
and
- (g) Sue Whyte, proposed by A Reid and seconded by K Grant, for a three-year term.

13. Feedback from young people

During the meeting, a number of young people had been taking part in activities designed to focus on the things that they love about our church. They presented the following findings:

- Singing songs and shaking instruments;
- People, games, songs and the community;
- The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the friendly and welcoming people, all-age services, giving praise through singing, and the history of this church; and
- Jesus

14. Date, time and venue of next meeting

The meeting noted that the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting would take place before the end of May 2024.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 10.35am.

Chair

Date:.....

Electoral Roll as at 31 December 2023

Total on roll : 196

Resident in the parish : 154

Resident outside the parish : 42

Andy Grant

Parochial Church Council Report

The purpose of the report is to provide an annual report on the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the parish generally.

Meetings

We met as a PCC on six occasions during 2023. Each meeting was well-attended, and the attendance of each PCC member is shown in the table below.

Name	A	B	%	Name	A	B	%
Revd Jo Smith	6	6	100	Grant Ingham	4	6	67
Sarah Ball	5	6	83	Gareth Jones	5	6	83
Gail Bolton	5	6	83	Jenny Leap	6	6	100
Revd Amy Bland	4	6	67	Shona Lee	6	6	100
Tim Cahill	3	4	75	Matt Power	2	2	100
Chris Glen	5	6	83	Maureen Rooney	6	6	100
Rosie Goodwin	1	2	50	Martin Shaw	3	4	75
Andy Grant	5	6	83	Gill Steele	2	2	100
Anne Howard	5	6	83	Sue Swift	4	4	100
Paul Howard	6	6	100	Sue Whyte	5	6	83

Membership

At the Annual Parochial Church meeting on 21st May 2023, the following appointments were made:

Tim Cahill, Anne Howard, Jenny Leap, Martin Shaw and Susan Swift were elected as lay members of the PCC for three year terms of office, concluding at the APCM in 2026; Shona Lee was elected as lay member of PCC for a two year term (until APCM in 2025) and Chris Glen was elected as lay member of the Deanery Synod for a three year term of office.

At the PCC meeting on 7th June 2023, the following officers were reappointed. Andy Grant continues as Vice-Chair, Shona Lee as Treasurer, Sarah Ball as Gift Aid Secretary and Paul Howard as Secretary.

At the PCC meeting on 15th November, Paul Howard stood down as Secretary with Gail Bolton appointed.

Summary of business transacted

The table below shows the key items of business transacted by the PCC at each of its meetings during the year, in addition to the standing reports considered:

January 23	April 23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified individual for name on Church Community Centre bank account and signatories Appointed Foundation Governor for Euxton Church of England Primary School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved annual report and end of year financial accounts for Dec 22 Approved recruitment of Administrator – 10 hours per week
21 May 23	June 23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APCM – appointment of PCC members and members of deanery synod. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment of officers Discussion regarding car park with letters requesting support sent to Euxton Parish Council and Belway Homes
July 23	September 23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gail Bolton appointed as Administrator PCC agreed to submit a bid to the Diocesan Vision fund to increase the administrator's hours to 20 per week. Approved PCC Code of Conduct Discussion on the embedding of Safeguarding in all the Church does Agreed enforcement of Graveyard rules regarding decoration / memorabilia Church Community Centre - approved garden maintenance contract, approved renovation of classroom to a 'snug' incorporating sink, hot water boiler, new lighting / and removal of cupboards Review and approval of employment policies Approval of youth group summer socials risk assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new Snug has been renovated with sink installed, floor cleaned and redecorated. PCC agreed to seek a pre-emptive 2024 parish share review meeting with diocese Updated team structure – approval of 3 teams – discipleship, outreach and resources. Purchased new small screen in church for service leaders to replace broken one Approved risk assessments for pastoral visiting team and walking group Standing Committee urgent decision to commission emergency repairs to the car park potholes Approved Church Sunday services for December 23
November 23	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCC members photographs taken New safeguarding poster displayed Approved CCC 2024 budget and new prices increases for January 24 Approved commission of works for collapsed CCC drain. Terms of reference for each team were approved and team leaders assigned to new Leadership team. Paul Howard now Ordinand and therefore stands down as PCC Secretary with Gail Bolton appointed. Standing Committee updated (Susan Swift appointed). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 teams provided 1st team meeting reports introducing their aims / objectives, priorities, definitions Approved and published personnel spending limits Approval of 2024 budget Approval of Youth Group risk assessment Approval of Euxton 2024 fees Approval of Full Faculty application to make permanent the Temporary Minor Reordering Measure for the removal of the front three pews and rotating the organ console. APCM announced for Sun 28th April

Financial Position

The parish's financial position continued to be a challenge, with rising costs and maintenance fees. We are thankful for all who give to the mission and ministry of our church. The majority of our income is from individuals who give. We do encourage all our givers if possible to give via the Parish Giving Scheme. This has been supported by various fundraising activities and the promotion of the Stewardship Campaign.

Close monitoring of the financial position has taken place throughout the year, and we were pleased that we were able to pay our parish share in full.

Other matters

At the APCM we will be looking for new members to join our PCC, to replace those whose terms of office have come to an end. If you are not sure whether to stand for election, please do pray about it or, alternatively, feel free to speak to someone to find out more about what the role entails. Thank you to the members of the PCC, all volunteers and all members of the church for your support in a challenging year, as we continue to grow as a healthy church to transform the local community.

GAIL BOLTON

PCC Secretary

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

INCUMBENT

The Reverend J. Smith

Registered Charity Number: 1130598

BANKS

National Westminster Bank plc
46 Market Street Chorley
PR7 2RZ

Santander UK plc
Bridle Road Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4GB

HSBC plc
21The Grand Arcade
Wigan
WN1 1BH

CCLA Investment Management Ltd
80 Cheapside London
EC2V 6DZ

ACCOUNTANTS

Smith & Goulding Ltd
2-4 Southport Road
Chorley
PR7 1LD

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS TO THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of Euxton Parish Church for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 2 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trustees' accounts carried out under s.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 2011 Act. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed the 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 charity as required by s. 130 of the Act;
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts 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 accounts to be reached.



ANDREW SIMM FCA
Chartered Accountant
SMITH & GOULDING LTD
2-4 Southport Road
CHORLEY
Lancashire PR7 1LD

Dated: 16/4/2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2(a)	76,050	-	76,050	162,432
Church activities	2(b)	10,033	-	10,033	6,367
Other trading activities	2(c)	52,442	176	52,618	41,870
Investments	2(d)	294	57	351	315
Other	2(e)	101	-	101	445
Total income and endowments		138,920	233	139,153	211,429
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3(a)	-	307	307	2,219
Church activities	3(b)	112,643	35,393	148,036	307,497
Other	3(c)	2,962	-	2,962	1,506
Total expenditure		115,605	35,700	151,305	311,222
Net gains (losses) on investments		-	1,099	1,099	(1,538)
Net income/ (expenditure)		23,315	(34,368)	(11,053)	(101,331)
Transfers between funds	8	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/ (losses):		23,315	(34,368)	(11,053)	(101,331)
Gains (losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		23,315	(34,368)	(11,053)	(101,331)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		53,853	1,359,334	1,413,187	1,514,518
Total funds carried forward		77,168	1,324,966	1,402,134	1,413,187

All amounts are derived from continuing activities. There were no incoming resources attributable to geographical markets outside the United Kingdom (2022 none). All gains and losses recognised during the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 4 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

An analysis of the comparative figures for 2022 is set out in note 4 of the accounts.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7(a)		1,309,571		1,344,965
Investments	7(b)		<u>14,520</u>		<u>13,363</u>
			1,324,091		1,358,328
Current assets					
Debtors	9	<u>5,724</u>		<u>7,099</u>	
Cash at bank and in hand:					
Community Centre account		45,125		45,128	
Church General account		32,921		5,625	
Church Deposit account		33		33	
Choir account		-		-	
Euxton Singers account		-		-	
			<u>78,079</u>	<u>50,786</u>	
			<u>83,803</u>	<u>57,885</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>5,760</u>		<u>3,026</u>	
Net current assets			<u>78,043</u>		<u>54,859</u>
Total net assets			<u>1,402,134</u>		<u>1,413,187</u>
The funds of the charity:	8				
Unrestricted income funds			77,168		53,853
Restricted income funds		(57,658)		(23,290)	
Revaluation reserve		<u>1,382,624</u>		<u>1,382,624</u>	
			<u>1,324,966</u>		<u>1,359,334</u>
Total charity funds			<u>1,402,134</u>		<u>1,413,187</u>

The notes on pages 4 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Approved by the Parochial Church Council
of Euxton Parish Church and signed on its behalf**

Dated: 14th April 2024



Mrs Shona Lee
Treasurer

Charity Registered Number: 1130598

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. **General information**

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Euxton (known as Euxton Parish Church) is a corporate body established by the Church of England and is a Registered Charity (charity number 1130598). The Church is situated on Wigan Road, Euxton and is part of the Diocese of Blackburn within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Wigan Road, Euxton, Chorley, Lancashire PR7 6JH.

2. **Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of land and buildings, which are shown at market value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the entity. The figures in the accounts are rounded to the nearest £.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Church's ability to continue as a going concern, particularly during the current Covid-19 health crisis since the annual Parish Share commitment is not a legally enforceable liability which could be postponed if circumstances require this.

The preparation of the financial statements may require the trustees to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The judgement that has had the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements relates to the estimate of the useful economic lives of the various fixed assets as set out in the accounts for the purpose of the depreciation charge.

Funds

Unrestricted income funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds that are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the Church and that have not been designated for other purposes by the Wardens of the PCC. Restricted income funds are funds subject to special conditions imposed by the donor and are not available for purposes other than those specified by the donor.

The accounts include all monetary 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.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Income

Turnover is the amount derived from ordinary activities and is stated net of VAT. All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Income from Church and trading activities

Rental income from the letting of Church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Funds raised by fairs and similar events are accounted for gross.

Sales of magazines are accounted for gross.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The parish share is accounted for when payable. Any amount unpaid at the year end is provided for in the accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96 (2) (a) & (c) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the Church premises is stated at cost less depreciation calculated on a straight-line basis over 4 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Community Centre and Annex

The property is stated at valuation. Depreciation on the property is provided for at 2.5% on a straight-line basis.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are recognised at their transaction value. The charity does not acquire equity investments, put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. All non-cash deposits are revalued at their quoted market price at 31 December. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals during the year. Cash held on deposit with the CBF Church of England Funds is invested for long term purposes and is included within fixed assets.

Current assets

Trade and other debtors owing to the PCC are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Current liabilities

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
2. Income and endowments from:				
<i>(a) Donations and legacies</i>				
Planned giving:				
- Gift Aid Donations	43,534	-	43,534	42,917
- Income tax recoverable	11,832	-	11,832	12,633
- Other Planned Giving	2,745	-	2,745	3,691
Collections (open plate) at all services	6,844	-	6,844	6,184
Sundry donations	11,095	-	11,095	47,902
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Special collections	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	49,105
	<u>76,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,050</u>	<u>162,432</u>
<i>(b) Church activities</i>				
Fees	6,200	-	6,200	2,156
Church heating	690	-	690	115
Community Centre lettings	3,035	-	3,035	3,052
Magazine sales	-	-	-	-
Remembrance plaques	108	-	108	1,044
	<u>10,033</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,033</u>	<u>6,367</u>
<i>(c) Other trading activities</i>				
Magazine adverts	-	-	-	-
Fundraising events	3,936	-	3,936	6,105
Choir fund	-	-	-	-
Flower fund	-	176	176	148
Euxton Singers	-	-	-	-
Community Centre lettings	42,999	-	42,999	30,249
Community Centre fundraising	5,507	-	5,507	5,368
	<u>52,442</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>52,618</u>	<u>41,870</u>
<i>(d) UK Investments</i>				
Dividends	294	-	294	292
Interest	-	57	57	23
	<u>294</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>351</u>	<u>315</u>
<i>(e) Other</i>				
Miscellaneous	101	-	101	445
	<u>101</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>445</u>
Total income and endowments	<u>138,920</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>139,153</u>	<u>211,429</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
3. Expenditure on:				
(a) <i>Raising funds</i>				
Choir fund	-	-	-	-
Flower fund	-	307	307	227
Euxton Singers	-	-	-	1,992
	-	307	307	2,219
(b) <i>Church activities</i>				
Parish share	49,000	-	49,000	70,000
Housing	4,439	-	4,439	4,319
Visiting clergy	-	-	-	74
Upkeep services	2,267	-	2,267	2,041
Church running expenses	2,593	-	2,593	2,345
Church maintenance	1,974	-	1,974	167,178
Insurance	1,436	-	1,436	1,731
Salaries/retainer	2,841	-	2,841	-
Car park/church yard	2,539	-	2,539	422
Remembrance plaques	-	-	-	990
Magazine costs	-	-	-	-
Inspections Church	1,440	-	1,440	-
General costs	-	-	-	109
Missionary & charitable giving	-	-	-	-
Special collections	-	-	-	-
Independent examination	2,160	-	2,160	1,488
Community Centre:				
General running costs	32,244	-	32,244	17,714
Inspections	823	-	823	993
Renovations/maintenance	8,887	-	8,887	2,700
Depreciation	-	35,393	35,393	35,393
	112,643	35,393	148,036	307,497
(c) <i>Other</i>				
Books	321	-	321	441
Administration	1,760	-	1,760	671
Miscellaneous	881	-	881	394
	2,962	-	2,962	1,506
Total expenditure	115,605	35,700	151,305	311,222

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4. Statement of Financial Activities analysis of comparative figures

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	161,882	550	162,432
Church activities	4,119	2,248	6,367
Other trading activities	10,192	31,678	41,870
Investments	292	23	315
Other	445	-	445
Total income and endowments	176,930	34,499	211,429
Resources expended			
Raising funds	-	2,219	2,219
Church activities	253,676	53,821	307,497
Other	1,506	-	1,506
Total expenditure	255,182	56,040	311,222
Net gains (losses) on investments	-	(1,538)	(1,538)
Net income/ (expenditure)	(78,252)	(23,079)	(101,331)
Transfers between funds	43,110	(43,110)	-
	(35,142)	(66,189)	(101,331)
Other recognised gains/ (losses):			
Gains (losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	(35,142)	(66,189)	(101,331)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	88,995	1,425,523	1,514,518
Total funds carried forward	53,853	1,359,334	1,413,187

5. Staff costs and numbers

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	2,842	-
Social Security costs	-	-
	2,842	-

The Church has benefited from the services of unpaid general volunteers each year, the value of which is not recognised in the accounts. Further information, regarding the contribution made by volunteers to the Church's activities, is set out in the Trustees' Report.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The incumbent Revd. Joanne Smith and the curate Revd. Amy Bland who are members of the PCC received working expenses of £907 and £679 (2022: £1,006 and £659) during the year. Gail Bolton who is a member of the PCC received a salary of £2,842 (2022: £Nil). No other payments or expenses were made to any other PCC member or related parties.

Donations were made in total by members of the PCC to the Church during the year £18,136 (2022: £27,636). Apart from this there were no other related party transactions during the year that require disclosure.

7. Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	Freehold land & buildings £	Freehold Annex £	Furniture & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
(a) Tangible fixed assets					
Cost or valuation					
At 01.01.23	1,330,806	84,945	20,821	15,777	1,452,349
Added in year	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation in year	-	-	-	-	-
At 31.12.23	<u>1,330,806</u>	<u>84,945</u>	<u>20,821</u>	<u>15,777</u>	<u>1,452,349</u>
Depreciation					
At 01.01.23	66,540	4,248	20,820	15,776	107,384
Charge for year	33,270	2,124	-	-	35,394
Revaluation in year	-	-	-	-	-
At 31.12.23	<u>99,810</u>	<u>6,372</u>	<u>20,820</u>	<u>15,776</u>	<u>142,778</u>
Net book values					
At 31.12.23	<u>1,230,996</u>	<u>78,573</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1,309,571</u>
At 31.12.22	<u>1,264,266</u>	<u>80,697</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1,344,965</u>

Freehold land and buildings comprise the Community Centre and land. The Community Centre property and the annex were revalued for insurance purposes by the insurance company in 2021 on a cost to rebuild basis and are included in these accounts at the revised valuation. This basis has been used as the best estimate of the fair value of the property since there is no market-based evidence available due to the specialised nature of the item. The Trustees have reviewed this valuation and consider it to be a fair value in use for the asset within the organisation. No original cost figure is available for these properties. Other fixed assets are shown at cost. All tangible fixed assets are used for or to support charitable purposes.

(b) Investment fixed assets	2023 £	2022 £
Church deposit fund – cost	1,835	1,778
Church investment fund – valuation	<u>12,685</u>	<u>11,585</u>
	<u>14,520</u>	<u>13,363</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Investment fixed assets (continued)

All of the above are UK investments, held to provide an investment return for the Church and are not programme related investments made primarily as part of the Church's charitable activities. The movement in the Church deposit fund consists of the annual interest receivable and the movement in the Church investment fund consists of the annual surplus on revaluation, which reflects the quoted market price. The restricted funds' investments consist of £1,835 (2022 £1,778) in the Church deposit fund and the total of £12,684 (2022 £11,585) in the Church investment fund.

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
8. Analysis of net assets by fund				
Fixed assets for Church use	1	1,309,570	1,309,571	1,344,965
Investment fixed assets	-	14,520	14,520	13,363
Current assets	82,915	888	83,803	57,885
Current liabilities	(5,748)	(12)	(5,760)	(3,026)
Fund balance	<u>77,168</u>	<u>1,324,966</u>	<u>1,402,134</u>	<u>1,413,187</u>

Unrestricted funds

	General Fund	Designated Fund	Total
Balance b/fwd at 01.01.23	<u>43,183</u>	<u>10,670</u>	<u>53,853</u>
Income	133,201	5,719	138,920
Expenditure	<u>(113,631)</u>	<u>(1,974)</u>	<u>(115,605)</u>
	19,570	3,745	23,315
Transfer to designated funds	-	-	-
Transfer between funds	-	-	-
Balance c/fwd at 31.12.23	<u>62,753</u>	<u>14,415</u>	<u>77,168</u>

The designated funds have been earmarked for use in connection with the ongoing roof works.

Restricted funds

	Community Centre fund	Other restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd at 01.01.23	<u>1,344,964</u>	<u>14,370</u>	<u>1,359,334</u>
Income	-	233	233
Expenditure	<u>(35,393)</u>	<u>(307)</u>	<u>(35,700)</u>
	<u>(35,393)</u>	<u>(74)</u>	<u>(35,467)</u>
Transfer between funds	-	-	-
Surplus (deficit) on revaluation of investments	-	1,099	1,099
	-	-	-
Balance c/fwd at 31.12.23	<u>1,309,571</u>	<u>15,395</u>	<u>1,324,966</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Restricted funds (continued)

The unrestricted funds represent general Church funds. The restricted funds comprised the Euxton Parish Church Community Centre Fund and other minor restricted funds set up for various purposes as specified by the donors. The movements on the funds during the year are as set out above. The Community Centre Fund was set up for the building of the Community Centre in the early 2000's and specific grants and other funding were received for this purpose. The income and expenditure generated since the completion of the building has also been included in the restricted fund but there was no specific requirement for this and therefore the net income to date has been transferred to the general unrestricted fund, after the position was agreed by the PCC during the year.

The PCC consider that the resources of each fund are held in the appropriate form to meet the particular fund's requirements.

		2023	2022
		£	£
9.	Debtors		
	Income tax recoverable	4,293	5,963
	Prepayments and accrued income	710	652
	Other debtors	721	484
		<u>5,724</u>	<u>7,099</u>
		2023	2022
		£	£
10.	Creditors		
	Accountancy fees (including VAT)	1,620	1,080
	Other accruals and deferred income	4,140	1,946
	Roof works creditors	-	-
		<u>5,760</u>	<u>3,026</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. AIMS AND PURPOSES

- 1.1. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Euxton (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical – across the parish. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Community Centre on School Lane, Euxton.

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- 2.1. The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship and to become part of our church family. The PCC also continues to ensure that the fabric of the church and surroundings are well-maintained.
- 2.2. When planning activities for the year, the PCC is mindful of the Charity Commission's guidelines with respect to public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable everyone to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
- (a) Worship and prayer, encouraging growth as disciples of Christ, recognising and using their God-given gifts;
 - (b) Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish; and
 - (c) Missionary and outreach work.
- 2.3. Our primary focus during 2023 was to continue creating new disciples as well as encouraging all members of our church family here in Euxton to explore and deepen their own faith as they grow to be deeper disciples of Jesus Christ.

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- 3.1. During 2023, our focus was on ensuring the long-term sustainability and growth of the church in Euxton, with a focus on enabling the spiritual growth of those who are already members of our church family and on enabling others to know God and to develop a lasting relationship with Him. Our approach had three key themes, and these will remain our focus over the coming years:
- Promoting individual and corporate discipleship, with the aim of bringing us all closer to Jesus and fostering a bible-centred culture of continuous learning;
 - Facilitating outreach activities, so that we can be a key part of the local community and share the gospel more widely; and
 - Ensuring that we have the right resources to provide a church for today as well as building a healthy church for tomorrow.
- 3.2. To ensure a keen focus on these areas was maintained, the PCC has established dedicated teams which are made up of PCC members and other members of the church family and whose role it is to lead on their area of focus and to provide regular updates back to the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Achievements and Performance (continued)

- 3.3. **Discipleship:** This year, we promoted discipleship in different ways. One key method of doing so was through the establishment of small groups which came together on a regular basis to better understand the Bible. This included a group that met once a month to explore the Psalms, and we also completed the Christianity Explored and Life Explored courses as well as a short in-house series looking at some of the key female characters in the Old Testament. We also had a corporate approach to growing discipleship, and we launched a 10-week discipleship challenge to encourage people to invest and grow in their own discipleship. On Maundy Thursday, we combined an agape meal with worship to allow people to experience the Easter story in a multisensory way.
- 3.4. **Outreach:** In addition to our usual outreach activities, such as having a presence at Euxton Gala and through pastoral visiting, we also arranged a number of events which we advertised to the local community, such as a Coronation Quiz and a Coronation Big Lunch as well as a pastoral team afternoon tea.
- 3.5. **Resources:** We recognise the importance of having the right resources available and we have worked hard this year to further improve our oversight of this key area. Our quinquennial inspection at the start of the year gave us a good baseline to begin with, and the repairs we made to the car park addressed a long-standing issue of concern. A significant step in the development of our resources was the appointment of a dedicated part-time administrator for the parish and this post not only provides a coordinating function but also ensures that clergy are able to better focus on matters that require their attention.
- 3.6. In addition to these three key areas of focus, we have continued to develop in other ways too. We supported the wider community, both pastorally through the provision of a dedicated baby loss service and practically through various fundraising events, and we were delighted that one of our lay leaders began the process of training for ordination.
- 3.7. During 2023 we conducted 28 baptisms and 1 wedding. Each of these occasional offices is an event for both the family concerned and the community; a milestone in a person's life and we are delighted that we were able to provide these and prepare those involved.
- 3.8. During the year we conducted 30 funerals. Pastoral care is provided in all cases so that the joys and sorrows of life are marked and people are supported, loved and welcomed into the church with respect and sensitivity. We believe, and have seen it to be true in experience, that the Christian hope of resurrection is transformative. Accordingly, we issue Jesus's invitation to walk with Him through life to all people.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Church and schools

- 3.9. We continue to enjoy strong links with our own school, Euxton Church of England Primary School, through the involvement of clergy, governors and parents. We also have a link with Trinity Buckshaw Primary School which is a joint Church of England and Methodist foundation school in the parish, having a presence on the governing body. We also provide a Foundation Governor for St Michael's Church of England High School in Chorley. This year, we particularly supported the process to appoint a new Headteacher at Euxton Church of England Primary School and also supported the SIAMS and Ofsted inspections that took place in the school during the year, which were both outstanding.
- 3.10. In addition to these church schools, we have relationships with the other three schools in our parish. Many of our village schools normally visit us and use our church building for their Christmas celebrations. The effect of worshipping together at Christmas with those who do not usually attend church, as well as doing so in an historic and beautiful church rather than in a school hall, is immeasurable.

Volunteers

- 3.11 Many people give their time and talents to make the church family a warm and vibrant community. The church would not function without them and we are grateful to all of them.

Deanery Synod

- 3.12 The PCC is represented on the Deanery Synod. This provides the church with important communication between the parish and the wider church.

4 FINANCIAL REVIEW

- 4.1 Financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2023 is summarised on page 2 in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- 4.2 2023 was another challenging year financially as expenditure continued to exceed income. The total income and endowments from all activities for the year amounted to £139,153 a reduction of £72,276 (34.19%) in comparison to the previous year. This can be largely attributed to a reduction in grants and donations relating to the roof works that were largely completed in 2021.
- 4.3 The total expenditure for the year was £151,305 a reduction of £159,917 (51.39%) compared to 2022. This was largely due to the completion of the repair works resulting in a spend of £167,178 on the works to the church building in 2022 compared with just £1,974 in 2023.
- 4.4 The resulting loss of £12,152 before investment gains for the year shows a significant difference from the prior year loss of £99,793. However, this is due to the significant cost of roof repair works that were paid out in 2022. Financial performance and position remain an area of great importance and is discussed in detail at every PCC and standing committee meeting. The PCC is aware of the position and remains committed to achieving financial balance by reducing expenditure, promoting different ways of giving and continuing to seek support from the diocese.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial review (continued)

- 4.5 The balance sheet on page 3 shows total net assets of £1,402,134 (2022: £1,413,187). Of these amounts cash balances across all organisations amount to £78,079 (2022: £50,786), with accrued income of £5,724 and expenditure of £5,760 paid post year end. Although the cash at bank and in hand has increased in year, it is important to note that £876 (1.14%) is held in restricted funds as detailed below in the reserves policy. This compares to £914 (1.80%) in the previous year. A further £14,415 relating to the roof appeal is held in a designated fund which is shown in the unrestricted balances. A total of £15,302 (19.60%) of the cash balances relate to restricted or designated funds.
- 4.6 Planned giving (through gift aid donations, plate collections, standing orders and stewardship envelopes) and open plate collections in 2023 amounted to £53,123 – an increase of £331 (0.62%) from the prior year. Sundry donations fell by £36,807 (76.84%) compared to the prior year. However, this mostly relates to donations designated for the roof works received in 2022 which were not repeated in 2023 as the majority of the works had been completed in 2022. The PCC remain keen to boost this level of giving and continue to review and revise ways that giving can be received by the church. A stewardship campaign was launched in October 2023 which we hope will result in increased planned giving in 2024.
- 4.7 The church continues to play an active part in the community and were able to hold various fundraising activities throughout 2023 including Gala day, 2 quiz nights, a tropic coffee morning and the Christmas memory tree raising £2,000, a net £152, £410 and £319 respectively.
- 4.8 The activities of the Community Centre continue to make up a substantial part of these financial statements. Income from external general hire in the year increased by £12,750 (42.15%) to £42,999 following a thorough review of the pricing and booking systems in place carried out in 2022. Fundraising events for the community centre contributed a further income of £5,507 an increase of £139 over the prior year.
- 4.9 We continue to reclaim income tax on gift aid donations; this has contributed £11,832 to church funds in 2023. This is a highly important source of income and without which the cash position would be significantly worse. All who can are encouraged to increase their donation through the Gift Aid scheme. We are promoting the use of the Parish Giving scheme which not only eases some of the administrative burden of the gift aid claims process but also aids cashflow as the gift aid is paid out in the same month as the eligible donations. Included in the amount above are claims made under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) which allows eligible charities to claim top up payments on any small cash donations they receive, up to a maximum of £8,000 in donations per year equating up to a further £2,000 in a tax year.
- 4.10 Our annual parish share payable to Blackburn Diocese remains the most significant part of our overall expenditure. The total payable in 2023 amounted to £73,000 (2022: £70,000). This was reduced from £88,365 following conversation with the diocese. A further £6,889 remains outstanding for prior years (2020 and 2021), leaving a total of £79,889. This equates to more than 100% of unrestricted, undesignated donations and legacies (including income tax recoverable). It is worth noting that the calculation for the parish share changed from 2020 onwards so that the payment no longer includes diocesan fees, these are now paid over separately which totalled a further £5,657 in 2023.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial review (continued)

- 4.11 We were able to pay £49,000 of the parish share request in 2023 with plans to pay the outstanding balance of £24,000 following a PCC decision to utilise Community Centre funds to meet the shortfall after the final gift aid claim for 2023 was received. This payment was eventually made in March 2024. The underpayment of £6,888.55 for prior years remains outstanding. As the parish share is not a legally enforceable debt the underpayment is not shown as a liability on the balance sheet. However, the PCC are aware of the balance and remain committed to making future payments should our financial position allow us to. The fact that such a high proportion of income is already accounted for in the form of parish share means if any exceptional costs are encountered in the year, the PCC would be faced with a significant financial challenge.
- 4.12 Members of the PCC are acutely aware of their responsibilities to the church in respect of managing the finances which are discussed at every meeting. The majority of the church's income is from donors and the PCC is grateful to the congregation and the wider community for their continued financial support.
- 4.13 PCC as a whole continue to seek all opportunities to reduce all areas of expenditure and recognise the need to increase incoming resources ensuring we are able to meet liabilities as they fall due. Expenditure on maintenance and repair will always be required on the structure and fabric of our beautiful old church building and the surrounding grounds. Significant investment to the Church building was completed in 2022 however, efforts continued into 2023 to ensure the costs of this work was covered and to rebuild reserves to ensure we remain able to maintain it going forwards ensuring that it remains fit for purpose and meets the needs of our growing congregation.

5 RESERVES POLICY

- 5.1 Reserves are held in short-term deposits and investments to ensure that they are readily available to meet the financial requirements of the Church's activities. Total charity funds equate to £1,402,134 as at 31 December 2023, of which £77,168 is held in unrestricted funds; an increase of £23,315 compared to the previous year, including £14,415 of designated funds for the roof works. The balance of £1,324,966 is retained in various restricted funds as follows:

Community Centre Land & Buildings	£1,309,571
Legacies	£14,520
Church Organisations	£875

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF EUXTON PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- 6.1 The key priority for the trustees in 2024 is to be a healthy church which transforms our community.
- 6.2 We are also committed to ensuring the long-term financial viability of the ministry of the church in Euxton. All expenditure is scrutinised and strategies to increase income continue to be considered.

7 STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 At Euxton Parish Church, membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent and curate, churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church and who attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. All those who attend services or who have a connection with the parish are encouraged to register on the electoral roll.
- 7.2 The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The PCC continues to meet regularly. All members of the PCC are active members of the church, not only in committee but also as individuals. The Standing Committee meets between meetings where needed and the results of the deliberations are reported to the PCC.

8 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- 8.1 The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Euxton is situated on Wigan Road, Euxton. It is part of the Diocese of Blackburn within the Church of England. Its correspondence address is The Vicarage, Wigan Road, Euxton, Chorley, PR7 6JH.
- 8.2 The PCC 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 under registration number 1130598.
- 8.3 The method of appointing members of the PCC is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The members of the PCC during 2023 were:
- Revd Jo Smith, Incumbent (Chair)
 - Sarah Ball
 - Revd Amy Bland
 - Gail Bolton
 - Tim Cahill, from 21 May 2023
 - Rosemary Goodwin, to 21 May 2023
 - Christine Glen
 - Andrew Grant
 - Anne Howard
 - Paul Howard, to 21 May 2023
 - Grant Ingham
 - Gareth Jones
 - Jenny Leap
 - Shona Lee

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- Matthew Power, to 21 May 2023
- Maureen Rooney
- Martin Shaw, from 21 May 2023
- Susan Swift, from 21 May 2023
- Gill Steele, to 21 May 2023
- Sue Whyte, from 21 May 2023

This report was approved by the PCC on 14th April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Shona Lee

.....
Mrs Shona Lee
Treasurer

Euxton Parish Church - Fabric Report 2023

This report covers the period from January to December 2023.

We have now been back in the building for over a year. The project has not yet been signed off as there are still some items of work to be completed. These include such things as re-painting some areas in the chancel that are not quite up to standard. The architect has a complete list of the outstanding tasks and when they have been completed to her satisfaction she will sign the project off and the final payment will become due. Just by way of reassurance, the funds for this payment are available, no additional fund raising will be necessary.

Prior to our return to the church building we obtained a temporary re-ordering measure to allow us to remove three pews from the front of church so that we could find out whether we would benefit from the extra space. The extra space did indeed prove to be beneficial, restoring dignity at funerals, giving Early Birds a great space to work, play and worship. Children from our local schools have much more room when they visit for events such as their Christmas celebrations. This temporary measure expired during the year and we applied for a faculty (i.e. permission from the church authorities) to permanently remove the pews. The faculty was granted and we are now in the process of trying to sell the pews. In case anyone was wondering, the pews are late Victorian and made of solid oak. They are simple benches, as befits the simple nature of the building, and of no particular special interest.

A drain inspection access in the carpark suddenly collapsed during the year requiring emergency repair work to be carried out. We managed to do this safely in spite of entitled drivers at school drop off and pick up times moving the barriers that had been put in place to prevent anyone falling into the drain. The cost was significant and unexpected but we managed to find the funds. There are more potholes in the carpark that would, in an ideal world, be repaired. Sadly there are simply no funds available to carry out repairs at this time.

Part of the footpath from the carpark to church has been damaged by tree roots and now floods regularly. Some slabs are broken and one has a really dirty trick of shooting cold water up your trouser leg without warning. The process of repair has started and the PCC is awaiting some further quotes before giving the authority to go ahead and make the repairs.

Unfortunately the band of volunteers who keep the grass in the churchyard under control has now dwindled to such a low level that it is not possible to create a mowing rota. Some of the mowers have said that they will come when weather permits and do what they can which is wonderful but we badly need more volunteers. The PCC is looking at various different options with the exception of paying a contractor because that is a luxury that we cannot afford.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped us, not just the mowers, the cleaners, the bible readers, the AV assistants but everyone who has helped in any way for their continuing, much valued and much needed help and support.

Andy Grant

Churchwarden

Chorley Deanery Synod Meeting
Chorley St Laurance
21st February 2023



1. Pancakes were enjoyed by all prior to the meeting.
2. The Area Dean welcomed everyone to the "Shrove Tuesday Pancake Bonanza". He also welcomed Bishop Philip as the guest speaker.
3. Deanery Mission - this will now take place in May 2024. We are all encouraged to do something that is Mission based on Coronation Weekend.
4. Chapter - The next full Chapter will be at St. Wifrids, Standish on 24 March 2023.
5. General Synod Report - a full written report is added to the end of the minutes. Rosemary gave some insight into the debates held at Synod around the Cost of Living Crisis and Welcoming the LBQT community.
6. Bishop Philip - After leading us in prayer, he reflected in the announcement of his appointment and what he should say at the event. Advised by the Dean to speak about what he was passionate about. He focussed on three things and he spoke to all three.

1. Building Joyful Communities

He told us about what was happening at Stoops in Blackburn where 70 to 90 people gather weekly at a "Fun Church". This is a growing church because we love Jesus. The Joy comes from knowing Jesus Christ. This is needed in all corners of Lancashire. He spoke of the financial challenges but pledged to keep clergy numbers up to grow churches. This is evidenced by 126 new local congregations. There will be support and training for local church leaders and for struggling parishes. He cited the Parish Renewal Programme. The Joy of the Gospel is the foundation of growing the church in the community.

2. Justice of God's Kingdom

We have a strong sense of justice from the Bible. We must try to live God's Kingdom now. A phenomenal number of parishes are responding to today's world with projects to help people in these tough times. Communities need to see us living out the Gospel. A church that serves is a church that grows

3. Reaching the young

We do staggering work with children and schools in the Diocese. We confirm more children than anywhere else in the country. However, it all seems to stop after Year 7. We need a step change in working with this generation, who are more open to the Gospel than many before them.

Don't make youth groups too complicated. Youth residential are great opportunities. Thinking about exploring vocations through Young Leaders Academies for 14 to 21 year olds.

Bishop Philip fielded a number of questions through which a number of points were raised:

- Be more flexible in timings
- Getting volunteers is difficult. Think about people's gifts rather than hoping they will volunteer.
- Prioritise, don't try to do everything
- Mortification - let something's die to free up time and talent.
- What makes our church schools is not Values but the person of Jesus Christ. Children are comfortable with Christian language not the values.
- Congregations come round and accept if they see things working.

The Area Dean thanked Bishop Philip.

The meeting closed with worship - Pancakes, Penitence and Prayer.

Andrew Stokes 8.03.2023

GENERAL SYNOD REPORT FEBRUARY 2023

The main debate which took place on the Wednesday afternoon and part of the Thursday morning dealt with the proposals for **Prayers of Love and Faith** proposed by the House of Bishops. Synod members had had an opportunity to listen to a presentation as well as engage in group work about these prayers and the wider implications on the Tuesday afternoon. The group work was, in general, carefully structured and led, so that all views could be heard. It also included an opportunity for everyone to contribute written feedback on the Prayers of Love and Faith, and input into what the revised pastoral guidance should contain. There was also an opportunity to watch a video, which is now on the Cof E website.

After seven hours of debate and consideration of twenty-seven amendments, the Synod passed the following motion (as amended):

'That this Synod, recognising the commitment to learning and deep listening to God and to each other of the Living in Love and Faith process, and desiring with God's help to journey together while acknowledging the different deeply held convictions within the Church:

- a) lament and repent of the failure of the Church to be welcoming to LGBTQI+ people and the harm that LGBTQI+ people have experienced and continue to experience in the life of the Church;*
- b) Recommit to our shared witness to God's love for and acceptance of every person by continuing to embed the Pastoral Principles in our life together locally and nationally;*
- c) Commend the continued learning together enabled by the Living in Love and Faith process and resources in relation to identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage;*
- d) Welcome the decision of the House of Bishops to replace Issues in Human Sexuality with new pastoral guidance;*
- e) Welcome the response from the College of Bishops and look forward to the House of Bishops further refining, commending and issuing the Prayers of Love and Faith described in GS 2289 and its Annexes;*
- f) Invite the House of Bishops to monitor the Church's use of and response to the Prayers of Love and Faith, once they have been commended and published, and to report back to Synod in 5 years' time.*
- g) Endorse the decision of the College and House of Bishops not to propose any change to the doctrine of marriage, and their intention that the final version of the Prayers of Love and Faith should not be contrary to or indicative of a departure from the doctrine of the Church of England.*

Voting (by Houses) was as follows:

FOR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN Bishops **36/4/2** ; Clergy **111/85/3** ; Laity **103/92/5**.

Other debates included a debate on the **Cost of Living crisis**. The Synod called on HMG to recognise that the resilience of the nation is limited and to bring forward policies to offer generous support to struggling people including clergy. Many speeches vividly described real poverty in parishes.

The Synod passed a motion arising from the Lincoln Diocese calling upon on HMG to exempt charities, including churches, from **liability for Insurance Premium Tax**.

Parochial fees—for the rest of 2023 the fees will increase by no more than 5per cent rounded up to the nearest pound rather than in line with CPI which stood at 9.9per cent likewise fees for 2024 should go up by no more than 5per cent e.g. the current fee for a marriage service would be £505 rather than £528. The Synod discussed various legislative housekeeping under the **Draft Miscellaneous Provisions Measure**. One key item was successfully altered by an Amendment. The original clause allowed for a Bishop, in the absence of an Incumbent the right to dispose of land without any reference to a PCC or even a priest-in charge. The Synod voted to ensure that the PCC has a say in the absence of an incumbent.

The **Electronic Services Register** was approved with the intention of giving churches the option of keeping their service registers in an electronic format should they **choose** to do so. This allows a parish the benefit of quick and efficient access to the data, increased security, and the ability to automatically collate and export the data for parish returns.

A debate on **simplifying the governance of the National Church Institutions** was adjourned until July 2023.

The Synod heard from the new national director of **safeguarding**. He answered a number of questions about the pace of progress of the redress scheme for victims and survivors of church-related abuse. The Bishop of Rochester, safeguarding lead bishop, in his last Synod meeting in this role, acknowledged that the changes brought in as a result of the IICSA report had brought about greater burdens for parish clergy and Safeguarding Officers. He encouraged all to keep working for “a safer, healthier culture for all.”

Rosemary J. Lyon 25.02.2023

Chorley Deanery Synod Meeting
St Peter's, Chorley
12th October 2023



Refreshments served on arrival

1. Thanks to Rebecca and the Team at St Peter's for organising the venue, refreshments and serving with a smile.
2. Attendance 30
 Apologies 20
 Absences 16
3. Welcome back the to regulars and to those coming for the first time.
4. Neil pointed out that ensuring reports and requirements are met is our shared responsibility, and introduced Fr Alan to lead the next session.

Alan introduced himself as a retired clergyman residing at St Peter's, and helping out from time to time. He is an Accredited Independent Examiner, and therefore has extensive experience of PCC accounts with turnovers in the £100,000s brackets which legally require such specialist supervision.

Please refer to the document 'Chapter PP study Student' which was sent out with the notice of meeting, and which was referred to throughout.

Reminded of legal status and responsibility of PCC, which should be set out at start of the annual report.

Explained difference between 'registered charity' and 'excepted charity' status. As capacity for processing charities by the Charities Commission increases, all churches will be required to become registered charities.

Talked about the reluctance of people to join PCCs because of the possibility of liability. This was addressed later in discussion, in response to a question of whether there is there a means to offset liability? In response, the key is good practice, for example ensuring the Fit and Proper Persons forms are routinely filled. There are many helpful sources to draw on. See [Church Representation Rules online - contents | The Church of England](#). With these minutes you will have received the following:

GovernanceChecklist
 TN111 - A church policies checklist
 CofE_TrusteeBooklet-v4
 PCC & Trustee

(PCC Guidebook and Church Representation should be accessible in each parish.)

Alan pointed out that here is no requirement for the incumbent to write up or produce the annual report, but has a managerial responsibility for seeing that it is done. It is not meant to be a pastoral report. Activities should be separate reports, submitted to the APCM, but not the annual report itself. The annual report is the PCCs account of its work that year. All members of PCC are responsible for ensuring it is true and accurate, even if they haven't written it. It should have basic contents listed – most require a sentence or paragraph only.

In discussing Accounting, he explained the difference between Receipts & Payments and Accruals presentations. Accruals are required for PCCs where income exceeds £250,000, which comply with SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) as authorized by Charity Commission. This enables an accurate record of the current state of the account at any time, but is much more onerous to complete. Alan had earlier commended small parishes to use a Balance Sheet – written accounts – which were perfectly adequate.

Alan concluded by setting out who can be an independent examiner – it is a person with a good nose! The ability to ask pertinent questions.

Neil thanked Alan for generously sharing his insight, and commended his wisdom to Synod to be put into practice.

5. Appointment of Officers:
 - a) Lay Chair – Andrew Stokes
 - b) Deanery Secretary – Stef Dnistrianskyj
 - c) Deanery Treasurer – Lorraine Smith
 - d) Standing Committee – Elizabeth Radford, Pat Davies, Lorraine Smith, Jordan Bentliff, Neil Kelley, Andrew Stokes, Stef Dnistrianskyj.

Additional members can be added – please be in touch with Neil Kelley.

6. Synod wished Michael Woods, attending his last Synod, a long and happy retirement.
7. Welcomed Dan Freeman, new vicar at Chorley St James, to his first Synod in his new post.
8. Synod and Standing Committee dates to be published once Standing Committee have finalised them.

Neil welcomes suggestions for topics for future meetings.

Reminded that we will be hosting the Deanery Mission next year, May17-19th It is hoped all parishes with either host events, or share events. The Planning Team is open to new members – please be in touch with Jo Smith.

9. AOB – None.
10. Closing Worship – Compline led by Rebecca.

A prayer for our Deanery

*Almighty God,
you have given your Holy Spirit to the Church
to lead us into all truth:
bless with the Spirit's grace and presence
the members of the Chorley Deanery;
keep us steadfast in faith and united in love,
that we they may manifest your glory
and prepare the way of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Safeguarding Report 2024

In 2023 the Church upgraded to Level 3 of the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This is an online tool to keep on track of safeguarding governance within the Parish.

The PCC reviewed and approved the Safeguarding policy and action plan.

The PCC approved a list of church activities (church services, pastoral visiting team, youth group, walking group) and non church activities (hall hirers for CCC) with safeguarding procedures in place for each – risk assessments, insurance, safe recruitment of leaders / volunteers with DBS checks and relevant safeguarding training.

The PCC reviewed and approved the following Safeguarding procedures: reporting of concerns / allegations, effective management of known offenders, data protection / retention of volunteer records in line with GDPR.

There were no matters of Safeguarding concern in 2023.

Safeguarding is a permanent item on all PCC agendas.

The PCC have encouraged the embedding of safeguarding within all parish activities. Safeguarding is promoted on the noticeboards / screens, and the Ministry team and PCC members are now visible within the Church to assist the congregation with whom they can talk to.

With thanks to Gail Bolton our Safeguarding Administrator for all her work.

Our Safeguarding Officer can be contacted on 07800 519717 or Euxton.safeguard@gmail.com

Claire Holt

Euxton Parish Church Safeguarding Officer