

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Dunstan's Church, Mayfield

High Street, Mayfield TN20 6AQ

Registered Charity no. 1132001

For the year ended 31st December 2023

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Website: www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk

Incumbent: Fr. Michael Asquith
The Vicarage High Street, Mayfield TN20 6BE

Independent examiner: Vincent Blake, The Old Farmhouse. Town Row green,
Rotherfield TN6 3QU

Bankers: National Westminster Bank plc 89 Mount Street, Tunbridge
Wells TN1 1QJ

St Dunstan's, Mayfield

Trustees Annual Report for 2023

Administrative Information

The Parochial Church Council of Mayfield & Five Ashes was formed as a combined entity in April 2006. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The Parish is a Charity and was registered as an independent charity with the Charity Commission during 2009 (Registered Charity Number: 1132001). It is governed under the powers of the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules as amended.

During the year April 2023 to March 2024 the following served as Members of the Mayfield & Five Ashes Parochial Church Council (PCC):

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent	Fr. Michael Asquith	Chairman
Deacon	Revd. Di Blackden	

Elected Members

Churchwardens	Stephen Blurton Stephen Lawrence
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Deanery Synod	Emma Ryder Richardson Denise Packham Karen Mack
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Ordinary Members	Robin Holliday Emma Ryder Richardson Anne Clayton Karen Dines Lindy James Guy Mantoura Tim Reid Roger Salwey Sue Smith	Treasurer Acting PCC Secretary
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Structure, Governance & Management

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members; Churchwardens and up to 4 members of the Deanery Synod; plus up to 10 members of the Church who are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and a balance of skills and experience is sought where possible.

The full PCC has met on 7 occasions over the calendar year. Meetings were held in London House in person.

Additionally, 7 Standing Committee meetings were held to prepare the Agenda for the full meeting.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of maintaining the life of the church and to co-operate with the incumbent, Fr. Michael Asquith, in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical.
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known;
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or, ability to pay;
- Providing financial support those in need and, to other organisations with similar objectives.

The PCC also contributes to the provision of services at the Cottage Hospice, Five Ashes.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

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

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

For this year we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community
- Baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- Provision of teaching on religious matters
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, in small group situations
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus

- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants to missionary organisations
- Reaching out to the unchurched through provision of offering food and fun at Harvest
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the village.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and, it is our great pleasure to welcome anyone from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ, is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

Last year we prepared a parish plan to cover the next few years entitled 'God's Church, our Future - Expanding Horizons' to stimulate ideas for growth. During 2023 this has dovetailed with a Diocesan initiative named 'Great is thy Faithfulness' whereby we were invited to join a pilot scheme under the leadership of the Diocese with the nearby benefice of Warbleton, Bodle Street and Dallington. This comprised a group from St Dunstan's regularly meeting with a similar sized group from the benefice to discuss topics and issues relating to change and growth with regard to country parishes. As an ancient country parish, it is quite natural that we have emphasised the pastoral ministry but the great challenge to aging and conservative congregations like ours is to shift this predominant mindset to a more missional way of thinking so that we can reach a wider, younger and more diverse group of people. The course emphasised that context is extremely important and that consequently change and growth comes through small incremental steps. This has therefore underpinned the thinking of the PCC over the past year.

From our mission statement return to the Diocese, Easter services attracted an attendance of 202 and taking October as a representative month, the average weekly Sunday and Wednesday attendance, counted during that month was 85 adults and 5 children (2022- 78 adults and 6 children). Choral Evensong attracted 38 on the fourth Sunday of that month.

Our Christmas services for Christingles, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day attracted over 722 worshippers of all ages, surpassing handsomely the previous year's high figure of over 500. Additionally, we hosted three schools for their Christmas services that attracted 730 children and adults in total.

Taking the year as a whole, although the electoral role marginally decreased from 154 to 152, we estimate the worshipping community has risen from 95 to 112.

Teaching Baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

During the year there have been 3 weddings, 2 baptisms and 20 funerals/burial of ashes and 2 confirmations. (6, 4,10 and 0 respectively for 2022). Sunday Club operates most Sundays with teaching of Christian principles to the young of our parish. In October we ran a three-part course over three consecutive weeks entitled 'Hope Explored'. Through video and printed materials, we were encouraged to look at the Christian meaning of 'Hope', 'Peace' and 'Purpose'. Each evening session began with a meal provided by the church and was enjoyed by some 20 people on each of the sessions.

Evangelism and outreach

MAYFACS

At the start of the year Mayfield and Five Ashes Community Services (“MAYFACS”), the charity that serves the local villages and importantly the many displaced Ukrainians in the local area found itself with no home as its existing office within Mayfield’s Memorial Hall was slated for redevelopment. They approached St Dunstan’s for help and we were able to offer, on a shared basis, the two front rooms in our property on the High Street – London House. This central location for them has proved to be a great success and we are delighted to be of service to this exemplary organisation.

Music

This past year has been an ‘annus mirabilis’ for St Dunstan’s on the musical front. Under the extremely talented leadership of our young director of music Jack Gonzalez-Harding, the choir especially has enjoyed a truly exceptional time being invited to sing at both Chichester and Southwark Cathedrals and at Westminster Abbey, where they sang on two consecutive days to much acclaim from the powers that be and all who attended.

The choir also ended the year on a high. Jack arranged for them to join with an ensemble of professional young musicians, singers and soloists to perform an immensely polished and musically sparkling performance of Handel’s Messiah in the presence of a packed church.

The high standard of choral music that the choir attained practicing for these outside events thereby enriched the services throughout the year.

At St Dunstan’s we greatly value our musical heritage to encourage people to visit and spend time in the church whether believers or not. We actively encourage the use of the church for concerts so that large numbers of people may enjoy the beautiful ambience of the building and appreciate the relevance of the church in village life.

As well as the church choir enjoying great success, the Mayfield Festival Choir, consisting of some 80 singers, staged two critically acclaimed concerts during the year to capacity audiences. Both concerts involved some 10 preceding rehearsal sessions, which again is a wonderful use of the building and we are very pleased to host them. The Friends of Music in Mayfield also hosted a concert weekend in June in the church featuring songs written by Rachmaninov, a piano recital by Joseph Havant and the performance of Mass in Blue written by Will Todd.

This was followed up in July with an entirely different style of concert as the local community choir ‘Mayzing’ sang a medley of popular ‘favourites’ that proved to be a very enjoyable and successful event attracting a very different set of concert goers.

St Dunstan’s also arranged and hosted two other concerts of note during the year. The first, in the early part of the year, given by Fenella Humphreys on violin accompanied by Jack on harpsichord was extremely well received. Then in September Dame Emma Kirkby was invited by Jack to give a recital of early English songs which proved to be an exceptional evening and was much appreciated by a large audience.

As the year came to an end, we said a fond farewell to Jack as he moved on to further his career in London and Europe.

Lent

Once again, we were able to host a series of Lenten lunches that raised funds for MAYFACS the Cottage Hospice in Five Ashes, Family Support Work in Sussex, Friends of the Holy Land and Friends of St. Dunstan's. These were well attended not only by villagers but also by people from as far away as Tunbridge Wells and environs.

A Lent course was also held using materials supplied by the Diocese.

Eco Church

Eco Church is a scheme run by A Rocha UK, equipping churches to care for God's creation through their worship, buildings, land, community engagement, and individual lifestyles. During the year a sub-group was formed to advise the church of ecological improvements that can be made in the way the estate is managed and by the end of the year we are pleased to report that the church had earned a bronze certificate under this scheme.

Other events attracting a wider audience:

Summer Fete and Christmas Market

This year we were able to stage both a Summer Fete and a Christmas Market that attracted large numbers and raised significant funds for the church.

King and Queen's Coronation

The church was open all day and video streamed the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles 111 and Queen Camilla on Saturday 6th May attracting a large audience for this public screening.

Harvest

Following the success of last year's event, we again organised a catered lunch in church to celebrate 'Harvest Festival' that was attended by approximately 50 people. Proceeds from our collection went to the foodbank run by Family Support Work, a local Sussex charity. Also, at this time we were pleased to welcome into church the whole of Mayfield CofE Primary School plus some parents/guardians to celebrate their own Harvest Festival (238 in total).

World Day of Prayer

As a church we support the ecumenical 'World Day of Prayer'. This year Colkins Mill Church hosted the service and over 50 people attended from three local churches. The theme was 'I have heard about your faith' put together by women from churches in Taiwan.

Act of Remembrance

Another major service involving other churches and the Royal British Legion and Scouts was the Act of Remembrance in November. The memorials are at the entrance to the church from the High Street. This service always attracts a very large number of participants. Additionally, a short Act of Remembrance was held at 11am on Remembrance Day which was also well attended.

The Village High Street

As part of the village's late night shopping evening in November, we opened the church and bell tower and served mulled wine. This popular event attracted many people who wandered into the church and enjoyed the hospitality on offer.

Churchyard

The upkeep of the 'open' and very large churchyard is a primary responsibility of the PCC, but in this task, we are most grateful for the help received from various village organisations. Such collaboration is an important part of our village outreach.

School Visits

We were very pleased to welcome Mayfield C of E primary school together with parents for special services at Easter and Harvest and Christmas. As a church we also funded Five Ashes C of E primary school to be bussed up to the church for their Christmas service. It was also a pleasure to welcome back Skippers Hill Prep School for their Christmas Carol service.

A team from the church visits Mayfield and Fives Ashes CofE primary schools on a regular basis with their 'Open the Book' school assembly bible story enactments.

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy:

As mentioned, we celebrated 2 baptisms, 3 weddings, 11 funerals and 9 interments of ashes, and 2 confirmations at our church during the year. St. Dunstan's church continues to be appreciated by our parishioners and many others, as a space where life events are celebrated with joy and thanksgiving.

It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. To this end the church building is open during the day and the many entries in the visitors' book testify to the importance of access. It is notable this year how many people from all round the world have come in and made an appreciative comment. There is also a specially dedicated prayer board for people to leave cards so that others may remember those loved ones in their own prayers. The use of prayer cards has increased substantially during the year.

Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find an open church but, also the sense of peacefulness and spirituality that pervades.

Other remarks include the sense of history within; that people of much earlier generations found life and presence there and, comments on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building.

We also have a labyrinth laid out in the churchyard as a space for contemplative reflection.

Church building and future projects

The one major capital outlay on the building this year was the installation of a sophisticated alarm system to protect the roof. Unfortunately, there has been a recent spate of thefts of lead from roofs in Sussex so this installation is both necessary and timely.

For the coming year the PCC is looking at the feasibility and funding of installing glass doors and or a glass porch for the south entrance. This review is all part of making the church a more welcoming place to visit.

Plans are also being made to renovate a particularly fine 17th century plaque on the south wall, known as the 'Aynscombe Memorial'.

Caring for the church building is a constant and expensive concern. In this effort, we are enormously grateful to the 'The Friends of St Dunstan's Church' for their continuing generous benefaction in helping to maintain the fabric of the church.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

In addition to our Lenten collections, the two main charities we supported during the year were (i) Family Support Work, a local Sussex charity, that helps families struggling with issues such as poverty, ill health, learning difficulties, bereavement, family break-up and domestic abuse and (ii) Friends of the Holy Land that supports Christians in the West Bank, Gaza and Jordan.

Our Thanks

In closing, we would like to thank all those who contribute to the life of St. Dunstan's. Bellringers, Choir, Fabric and Finance Committees, Flower Guild, Gardeners and Keepers of the Churchyard, Holy Dusters and those who perform Sacristan and Sidespersons duties, Organ Trust, the Parish Office, the Social Committee and to those who serve out refreshments after services, Sunday Club, and finally but not least to Fr. Michael and Deacon Di for leading worship during the year and to our fellow Trustees/members of the PCC past and present.

We look forward to the challenges and opportunities of the coming year and together with all members of the congregation of St. Dunstan's of being Christian salt within our community.

Trustees and Churchwardens: Stephen Lawrence & Stephen Blurton

2023 Financial Review

Overview

2023 was the year when the Parish emerged from the impacts of the Coronavirus Covid-19. Activity levels within the Church and throughout our wider community reverted towards pre Covid levels and this is reflected in these accounts. However, the global price shocks following the invasion of Ukraine were fully felt over the year as energy and other costs rose sharply. At last, the rate of increase is abating but the Parish faced significant cost pressures during the period, which continue.

Income and Expenditure

Joyously the financial support received from Parishioners through our Planned Giving Scheme, collections, and other means increased by 10.8% in the year, which helped soften the impact of the increased costs. This rise breaks a run of 4 years in which income had fallen. Gifts received are vital to pay for the mission of the church in the Parish, and the PCC is most grateful to all who gave, as it attempts to restore a financial balance of covering its annual costs from its income.

The PCC continues to be thankful too for the support it receives from the Nicholson Trust, who made grants totalling £6,793 in the year, and to the Friends of the Churchyard who covered the cost of major storm damage in the Churchyard, as well as looking to contribute towards the cost of its maintenance in 2023 alongside the PCC, the Parish Council and other churches in Mayfield. The PCC also received grants (£2,490) towards the cost of installing a roof alarm on the lead church roof from the Benefact Group and of £2,370 to cover VAT paid on maintenance costs of our listed church.

The number of weddings increased, and this is not only to be welcomed within the mission of the church but has a positive financial impact.

Income was also boosted by the letting income of London House to Mayfacs, and by increased use of the church for concerts in a non Music Festival year. Net income from social activities including the summer fete and winter market saw a small increase.

However, costs rose in most areas including the amount paid to the Diocese to cover the costs of clergy, their training and support to Parishes which rose by £3,230 to £73,630. Energy costs rose by £1,603 to £10,212, almost all of the rise was in London House, as steps to limit electric uses in the church paid off and the PCC were protected by a term contract for gas, which sadly will come to an end shortly! Other costs rose sharply including salary costs, and other utilities.

Net Expenditure

The accounts for 2023 show that the PCC spent £35,751 more than it received in its General Fund, but this includes net expenditure of £6,301 on the alarm and necessary repair work on London House and depreciation on the new audio equipment in the church of £3,282. Thus the day to day deficit for the year before such items shows a net expenditure of £26,043, some £4,000 worse than 2022. The deficit is paid for by drawings on reserves created by legacies received.

Investment Performance

The PCC remains fortunate in having received Legacy income of some substance and at the year end the General Fund has investments of £699,248, whilst the Restricted Funds had investments of £174,626. The last two years have seen negative returns on the PCC's investment portfolio with an unrealised loss of £21,123 being seen on the General Fund but an increase in value of £1,277 being seen on the Restricted Funds. In 2021 the Funds both saw falls in value of £10,509 and £14,387 respectively compared with 2022 figures of gains of £58,117 and £16,557. The PCC has an Investment Committee which advises it on the management of the portfolio and the Committee continues to meet regularly and reports to the PCC.

Restricted Funds

These continue to serve the purposes for which they were established.

P C C Charitable Giving

The report contains details of the money directly raised by the PCC for the various charities it supported during the year. In addition to the figures which passed through the PCC books, it is well aware that substantial other donations were made directly by Parishioners and from the donations made at the Lenten lunches. These are welcomed by all charities supported but particularly by the PCC charities which remained the Friends of the Holyland operating in Palestine and Family Support Work which supports families in need in Sussex.

Staff and Volunteers

During the year, in addition to Fr Michael, whom the Diocese pays, the P.C.C. employed an Administrator, a Cleaner for London House, and a Musical Director, who sadly resigned as at 31 December 2023 in order to pursue a full time career in music. Additionally the PCC contracts out the maintenance of the Churchyard. It has been well served by them all, but the PCC is reliant on volunteers in every aspect of its operation, and is grateful to so many who do so much for the benefit of the Church and its mission, including all those involved with the independent charities which support the Church financially.

Reserves

The agreed minimum figure of £400,000 for the value of liquidity in the General Fund reserves has been exceeded. The level required is reviewed annually, in line with the view of the extent they will be relied upon for the future operation of the Parish. The Trustees do not believe there to be any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Risk Management

The PCC examines major risks that the Parish faces each year during its activities and establishes policies where appropriate which in recent times included dealing with COVID.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2006 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charities Commission on public benefit, which has been reported upon earlier.

Looking Forward

The PCC has much to be thankful for. It receives generous support from its Parishioners both from their involvement in so many spheres of Parish life, and also financially, as it does also from local Trusts and charities. However, the major financial challenge remains to seek to balance the books of the PCC on a day to day basis, so that the Legacy monies can be used to further the mission of the church. The aim must be to ensure there is a clear viable future for the Parish as we know it today looking into the medium term. The short term is secure, but the long term may bring further pressures.

Annual Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

Mayfield

London House, High Street, Mayfield, East Sussex, TN20 6AQ

Registered Charity no. 1132001

For the year ended 31st December 2023

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Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	<i>Total Funds 2022</i>	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations	79,615	8,938	-	88,553	136,476	
Charitable activities	4,434	6,786	-	11,220	10,936	
Other trading activities	22,055	2,114	-	24,169	21,736	
Investments	3,544	2,361	-	5,905	3,609	
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	425	
	109,648	20,199	-	129,847	173,182	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable activities	126,510	18,613	-	145,123	138,159	
Other trading activities	13,081	2,031	-	15,112	7,724	
Major repairs to St Dunstan's, London house	5,808	-	-	5,808	21,374	
Total expenditure	145,399	20,644	-	166,043	167,257	3
Net gains (or losses) in year on investments realised					-	8b
Net income or (net expenditure)	(35,751)	(445)	-	(36,196)	5,925	
Transfers between funds	(3,874)	3,874				10
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Losses on revaluation of investments	(21,123)	1,277	-	(19,846)	(18,971)	8b
Net movement in funds	(56,749)	4,706	-	(56,042)	-392	
Total funds brought forward	1,082,072	167,245	30,000	1,279,317	1,298,288	
Total funds carried forward	1,025,323	167,951	30,000	1,223,275	1,279,317	

Balance Sheet

31 December	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022	Notes
	£	£	
Tangible assets	282,201	286,564	
Heritage assets	-	-	
Endowment investments	30,000	30,000	
Total fixed assets	312,201	316,564	8a & b
Debtors	6,760	8,413	10
Investments	843,874	863,720	8b
Cash and deposits at bank and in hand	63,471	92,360	
Total current assets	914,105	964,493	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(3,031)	(1,740)	11
Net current assets	911,074	962,753	
Total assets less current liabilities	1,223,275	1,279,317	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-		
Provisions for liabilities	-		
Total net assets or (liabilities)	1,223,275	1,279,317	
The Funds of the Charity			
Endowment funds	30,000	30,000	
Restricted income funds ex revaluation reserves	139,523	136,094	
Restricted income revaluation reserve	32,428	31,151	
Total Restricted income Funds	171,951	167,245	
Unrestricted funds ex revaluation reserves	833,559	873,184	
Unrestricted Funds revaluation reserve	187,765	208,888	
Total unrestricted funds	1,021,324	1,082,072	
Total charity funds	1,223,2756	1,279,317	12

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2023, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by Rev'd Michael Asquith:

Signed:

Date:

Notes to the Financial Report

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2016) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, (SORP (FRS 102))

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest;

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund

Endowment funds - funds for which the capital must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

Income and endowments

All income and endowments, accounted for without deduction for any costs of their receipt, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when received.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding is received by the PCC and payment is certain.

Charitable activities

Statutory fees for weddings and funerals are recognised when the office occurs.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either, when received or (in the case of concerts) for the year in which the event occurs, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when received. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, payment is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. Grants received are accounted for when received.

Church activities

The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for on an annual basis as paid and reflects the allocation agreed by the PCC with the Deanery/Diocese.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable Church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a Faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Land and Buildings	Nil
Fixtures and fittings	Nil
Office equipment	20%
Heaters in London house	10%
Audio visual equipment	10%

No depreciation is provided on freehold buildings as the useful economic life of these assets exceeds 50 years and residual values so high that potential depreciation would be immaterial. It is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. Resulting from regular impairment reviews, provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors, less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank.

Notes to the Financial Report

2 Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (gift aided but excl. tax refunds)	33,069			33,069	30,138
Planned giving (not gift aided)	8,682			8,682	9,085
Loose cash collections	9,843			9,843	8,404
Donations and special appeals	5,286	527		5,813	16,468
Gift Aid recoverable	11,499	-		11,499	11,555
Appeal for PCC charities	-	365		365	747
Legacies	-			-	-
Grants	11,236	8,046		19,282	60,079
Donations and legacies	79,615	8,938	-	88,553	136,476
Fees for weddings & funerals	4,434	6,786		11,220	10,936
Fetes, lunches etc	5765	1,274		7,039	6,036
Concerts lunches etc	1649	840		2,489	2,940
Sales of the parish magazine and cards etc				-	50
Magazine advertisement fees				-	-
Rent from long term let London House	5000			5,000	5,000
Rent from hourly lets London House	4105			4,105	1,431
Hire of church for concerts etc	5536			5,536	6,279
Insurance claim re church lighting				-	-
Other trading activities	22,055	2,114	-	24,169	21,736
Bank & CBF deposit interest	2,119	813		2,932	1,086
Dividends	1,425	1,548		2,973	2,523
Financial income	3,544	2,261	-	5,905	3,609
Sale of piano	-	-	-	-	425
Total income and endowments on all funds	109,648	20,199	-	129,847	173,182

Of the grants received, £2,370 was received under the Listed Places of Worship scheme created by HMG to provide grants in respect of the VAT paid on qualifying expenditure on the fabric of listed places of worship.

Notes to the Financial Report

3 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2023	<i>Total Funds 2022</i>	<i>Notes</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	
Special appeals costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Stewardship costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Other fundraising costs	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable grants and donations	-	935	-	935	1,971	4
Administration costs	13,612	-	-	13,612	13,252	
Diocesan parish share	73,630	-	-	73,630	70,400	
Clergy and other people's expenses	982	191	-	1,173	1,443	
Vicarage costs	4,307	-	-	4,307	5,321	
Organists costs	8,643	390	-	9,033	9,158	
Upkeep of services	2,498	2,905	-	5,403	5,782	
Church running costs	7,717	-	-	7,717	6,051	
Youth work	1,056	-	-	1,056	556	
Church maintenance and repair and insurance	6,915	2,064	-	8,979	10,301	
Upkeep of churchyard	2,000	12,128	-	14,128	11,393	
Bank charges	187	-	-	187	162	
Depreciation	4,363	-	-	4,363	1,081	8
Governance	600	-	-	600	1,288	7
Cost of charitable activities	126,510	18,613	-	145,123	138,159	
Winter Fayre costs	981	-	-	981	811	
Licence cost for events	1,518	2,031	-	3,549	1,297	
London house running costs	10,582	-	-	10,582	5,074	
Parish magazine costs	-	-	-	-	542	
Cost of other trading activities	13,081	2,031	-	15,112	7,724	
Expenditure on fabric- major repairs/ renewal	5,808	-	-	5,808	21,374	
Total expended before prior year items	145,399	20,644	-	166,043	167,257	

Notes to the Financial Report

4 Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowment Fund/s	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Overseas:	£	£	£	£	£
Christian Aid- Ukraine Appeal					385
Friends Of the Holyland					238
Water Aid					73
Home: Family Support Work		724		724	846
Hospice in the Weald		211		211	145
Flower Guild					18
Known Dimensia					73
British Legion					193
Total	-	935	-	935	1,971

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowed Funds	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
Remuneration	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	19,455			19,455	18,646
Employer social security costs	-	-		-	-
Employer pension costs	-	-		-	-
Total	19455	-		19455	18,646

Numbers employed

3- The PCC employs an administrator, a musical director and cleaner for London house. Fr Michael is paid by the Diocese from the Parish Share which Parishes pay to the Diocese. The Musical Director resigned at the year end.

Volunteers are vital to all aspects of the charity. Areas where volunteers are essential are:- our Deacon, Governance, church services, (readers, intercessors, sidesmen, bellringers, choir members), those setting up the church, cleaners, refreshment providers, the Flower Guild), property management including maintenance and cleaning of church and London House, social committee, financial control and administration, fund raising activities

6a Payments to PCC members

Fr Michael received expenses within the year relating to travel costs totalling £444 and reimbursement for minor items purchased for the church. No other member of the PCC received any payment other than reimbursement for minor items purchased.

No person received remuneration in excess of £60,000.

6b Transactions with persons related to PCC members- None.

Notes to the Financial Report

6c Transactions with related charities

There have been no payments to related charities during the year, but the PCC has received financial support from the Friends of the Mayfield Churchyard for repair of storm damage in the churchyard (£3,000), and from The Nicholson Trust for mission costs (£6,793). These charities are independent of the PCC but have a number of common Trustees.

7 Governance

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Fund/s</u>	<u>Endowed Fund/s</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023</u>	<u>Total Funds 2022</u>
<i>Independent examination</i>	£ 600	£	£	£ 600	£ <i>580</i>

8 Fixed assets

a) Tangible fixed assets

	<u>Freehold land and buildings</u>	<u>Heaters London House</u>	<u>Audio system Church</u>	<u>Office Equipment</u>	<u>Total fixed Assets</u>
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2023	250,000	1,649	3,2823	4,583	289,055
As at 31 December 2023	250,000	1,649	32,823	4,583	289,055
Charge for depreciation					
At 1 January 2023	-	660	-	1,831	2,491
Depreciation charge in year		165	3,282	916	4,363
At 31 December 2023	0	825	3,282	2,747	6,854
Net book amounts					
At 1 January 2023	250,000	989	32,823	2,752	286,564
At 31 December 2023	250,000	824	29,541	1,836	282,201

The freehold land and buildings comprise London House. It was purchased in 1974 for £12,500 and the leasehold interest in a flat in London House repurchased in 2000 for £30,000. After substantial refurbishment in 2001, the Churchwardens revalued the property at £385,000, since when all costs of ownership including repairs have been expensed. An indicative valuation during 2010, led the Churchwardens to reduce the valuation to £250,000.

Notes to the Financial Report

b) Investments

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Endowment Fund £	Total £
Market value 31 December 2022	720,371	143,349	30,000	893,720
of which cost	511,483	112,198	30,000	653,681
and revaluation reserve	208,888	31,151	-	240,039
Disposals at value in year	-	-	-	-
of which cost	-	-	-	-
Net gains/losses realised in year	-	-	-	-
Net gains/losses realised from previous years	-	-	-	-
Purchases in year at cost	-	-	-	-
Revaluation gains in year	-21,123	1,277	-	-19846
Market value 31 December 2023	699,248	144,626	30,000	873,874
of which cost	511,483	112,198	30,000	653,681
and revaluation reserve	187,765	32,428	-	220,193

The Endowed fund investments are held as a Fixed Asset, all other investments as Current Assets.

During the year no sales or purchases of investments were made.

Investments held at 31 December 2022 were:-

General Fund £699,248

L E Ruffer Total Return Fund 'C' accumulation units –86,898.22units value £467,816

Premier Miton Cautious Multi Asset Fund 'B' accumulation units- 59,714 units, value £184,337

Bankers Investment Trust -46,171 shares, value £47,095

Restricted Funds-Total £144,626- Endowment Fund£30,000

Organ Fund (Restricted Fund)-£115,793

L E Ruffer Total Return Fund 'C' accumulation units –9,553units value £51,427

Premier Miton Cautious Multi Asset Fund 'B' accumulation units - 15,991 units, value £49,363

Bankers Investment Trust -14,709 shares, value £15,003

Bruxner Randall Fund (Restricted Fund-£30,000 Endowment) - £37,909

L E Ruffer Total Return Fund 'C' accumulation units –1,477.07 value £7,952

Premier Miton Cautious Multi Asset Fund B accumulation units - 2,673 units, value £8,252

Bankers Investment Trust -21,279 shares, value £21,705

Fabric Fund-£4,099

CBF Fixed interest Fund- 968 units, value £1,401

M & G Charifund -188 units, value £2,698

Graveyard Fund-£16,825

CBF Fixed interest Fund- 367 units, value £531

CBF Investment Fund Income units 721 units, value £16,294

Notes to the Financial Report

9 Net assets by fund

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Fund/s</u>	<u>Endowed Fund/s</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023</u>	<i>Total Funds 2022</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets for church use	282,201			282,201	286,564
Investments	699,248	144,6269	30,000	873,874	893,720
Current assets (except cash)	2,762	3,998	-	6,760	8,413
Cash at bank and on deposit	40,144	23,327		63,471	92,360
Current liabilities	(3,031)	-	-	(3,031)	(1,740)
	1,021,324	171,951	30,000	1,223,275	1,279,317

10 Debtors

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Fund/s</u>	<u>Endowed Fund/s</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023</u>	<i>Total Funds 2022</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Income tax recoverable	2,612			2,612	3,250
Loan made to handbell Ringers	150			150	250
Prepayment Scottish Power-gas	-			-	1,039
Deposit held by the Chichester Diocese for the PCC for Chancel costs	-	3,998		3,998	3,874
	2,762	3,998		6,760	8,413

Following a legal review, investments previously held in the balance sheet by the PCC in a chancel endowment fund were transferred to the Diocese in 2019. The accrued dividends are held on deposit by the Diocese for the benefit of the PCC, but dividends received by the Diocese are paid by the Diocese to the PCC by way of a restricted grant. All accrued grant is receivable by the PCC to reimburse it for expenditure related to the Chancel, and is held as a restricted fund. Prior to these accounts, the deposit was shown as an unrestricted fund, but this has been corrected in these accounts.

11 Creditors

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Fund/s</u>	<u>Endowed Fund/s</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023</u>	<i>Total Funds 2022</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Deferred income-prepaid fees	1,381	-	-	1,381	100
Deferred income-donation re statue	-			-	10
Accruals governance costs	600			600	580
Deposit held re long term lease of London House	1,050			1,050	1,050
	3,031	-	-	3,031	1,740

Notes to the Financial Report

12 Statement of funds

Explanation of funds

Endowed funds are required by the donors to be invested and the income spent on specific objectives

£30,000 of the Bruxner Randall Fund has been recorded as an Endowment Fund since only the interest on the original capital of £30,000 is available for spending.

Restricted funds are required to be spent on specific purposes determined when created by the terms of their gift. The Restricted Funds and their purposes are:-

- The Choir Fund receives fees payable to choir members and pays them out as agreed .
- The Bruxner Randall Fund finances music in the Church or for fabric if not so needed.
- The Organ Fund maintains and promotes the use of the organ.
- The Fabric Fund pays the preservation and improvement of the fabric of St Dunstan's Church.
- The Churchyard Fund meets the costs of the repair of tombs and maintenance of the Churchyard.
- The Charity Fund collects donations for named charities.
- The Flower Guild Fund receives donations and pays for flowers in the church.
- The Library Fund received donations and provides books for the Church library.
- The Bellringers Fund receives and pays fees for bell ringing at weddings etc.

Unrestricted funds are not subject to any donor restrictions and can be spent as the PCC decides

Summary of all funds

Fund income and expenditure and final balances are as follows:

Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 31 Dec 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2022	Of Which Investments	Cash
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bruxner Randall	30,000				30,000	30,000	
Total of all endowed funds	30,000				30,000	30,000	
Chancel Fund		124		3,874	3,998		
Choir Fund Fund	452	850	-610		692		692
Bruxner Randall	8,230	532	-1,091	431	8,102	7,478	194
Fabric Fund	7,090	318		14	7,422	4,085	3,324
Organ Fund	118,441	1,797	-2,953	-610	116,675	116,404	882
Churchyard Fund	28,277	13,102	-12,128	1,442	30,694	15,384	13,868
Flower Guild	2,648	1,031	-1,410		2,269		2,269
Bellringers Fund	1,748	1,062	-1,130		1,680		1,680
Library Fund	344				344		344
Charity Fund	15	1,382	-1,372		26		26
Total of all restricted funds	167,245	20,074	-20,694	1,277	167,902	144,625	23,277
General fund	1,082,072	109,772	-145,398	-24,997	1,025,323	699,248	40,194
Total funds	1,279,317	129,846	-166,092	-19,846	1,223,225	873,873	63,471

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of Mayfield & Five Ashes for the Year Ended 31st December, 2023

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of Mayfield & Five Ashes, on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC Members are responsible for the preparation of the Annual Reports. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's Statement

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

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

Examiner's signature

Examiner's name

VINCENT BLAKE

Date

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Examiner's address

The Old Farmhouse, Town Row Green, Rotherfield, East Sussex, TN6 3QU