

The Parish of Curry Mallet

In the Seven Sowers Benefice

(United Benefice of Beercrocombe, with Curry Mallet, Hatch Beauchamp, Orchard Portman, Staple Fitzpaine, Stoke St Mary (with Thurlbear) and West Hatch)

Annual Report And Financial Statements Of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31st December 2024

Administrative Information

All Saints' Church is situated in Curry Mallet, Somerset. It is part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Ash Road, Stoke St Mary, TA3 5BX

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Incumbent: The Revd Joanna Porter Appointed 19th April 2021

Asst Curate Rev'd Julie Kimber

Lay Reader Susan Mcken

PCC Members who have served from May 2024 until the date this report is approved are:

Elected Members:	Mr Lionel Frazer	Chair/Secretary
Warden	Mr Michael Bawler	Vice chair
	Mrs Marianne Townrow	Treasurer
	Mrs Lizzie Frazer	
	Mrs Sally Down	
	Mr Mike Pettitt	
	Mrs Angela Pettitt	
	Mr Neil Crafter	

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The church holds its account at Lloyds Bank, Taunton. Peter Hounsell, Hatch Beauchamp, is the Independent Examiner.

Objectives and activities

All Saints PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the ministry team in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the Church-Building and Churchyard in Curry Mallet.

Achievements and Performance

There were 25 names on the Electoral Roll during the year. Communion Services were held 8 times during the year in line with the Benefice rota. The Worship 4 All Services came to an end in June, there were no families attending and Holly wanted to concentrate on her working with Schools and children role. A monthly Morning Worship Service was started in September with Rev'd Julie Kimber and Tim Frazer (lay member) alternately leading the Services.

Contact with the School was kept up throughout the year. An Easter service was held at the Church with the children's art works on display. A summer Leaving Service was held at end of term when the 11 leavers were presented with Bibles.

Head Teacher Nicola Stoddart left to take up another post and was replaced by Katie Hill in September. Their Harvest service this year was held at Park Farm.

Review of the year

The PCC met 3 times during the year at members' homes, and the Annual Parochial Meeting was held at Curry Mallet & Beercrocombe Village Hall in April.

Sue Mcken, a Licensed Lay Reader, served throughout the year as part of the Ministry team, with Rev'd Sue Hounsell taking Services at various times during the year. They were joined in June by Asst Curate Julie Kimber who continues her training in the Benefice with Rev'd Joanna. Holly Stevens, the Children and Families worker, continued her work in the Benefice.

Sarah Hampson continued as Rev'd Joanna's Administration Assistant, and Helen Hossell as the Benefice Safeguarding Officer.

There were 3 funerals during the year and 1 burial of ashes together with a baptism in July.

Festival Services

In January the Plough Sunday Service was held during which Rob Walrond, Rural Life Advisor, gave a talk. As part of the PCC's charitable giving, a donation was made to the Farming Community Network. An Easter sunrise Service was held at West Hatch Scouts headquarters, followed by refreshments and bacon baps. There was no Service at All Saints this Easter Day.

Harvest Thanksgiving Service of celebration was held in September, and a collection of non-perishable food items taken at the Service were distributed to Ilminster and Taunton foodbanks.

For a second year "Carols in the Barn" was held at Park Farm, with thanks to the Downs family for setting up the cow shed that was used. The Service of Carols and Readings was led by Rev'd Joanna Porter and Tim Frazer. An even larger crowd than last year, estimated at 200, enjoyed refreshments with mulled wine, mince pies and chocolates after the Service.

There was no Christmas Day Service at All Saints this year.

As usual in November, parishioners from Curry Mallet, Beercrocombe, and West Hatch gathered at the War Memorial in Hatch Beauchamp for Remembrance.

Fund Raising

The annual plant and produce sale with refreshments, bacon or sausage baps, and cakes was held at the village hall in May. Thanks once again to Celia Hawkins and family for organising the plant sale and helping on the day.

In the last week of November, a Christmas coffee morning with bacon or sausage baps was held at the village hall to raise funds. The two fund raising events combined raised £1,719.

A thank you as always to all the parishioners who provide flowers for the Altar and decorate the Church with flowers throughout the year.

This report focuses on what the PCC have been doing during the year, and the particular issues it has sought to address. The PCC acknowledges all that is done by people to help strengthen the Christian community in the parish.

Michael Bawler
(Church Warden)
April 2025

Financial Review

Total receipts to general unrestricted funds were £18,067 with £6,657 from Gift Aid and £2,110 from voluntary donations. Four Grants totalling £1,971, were received, the delayed 2023 payment from the Duke of Cornwall's Benevolent Fund together with one for 2024, one from the Listed Places of Worship Scheme which repays VAT (on electrical safety tests and servicing of fire extinguishers) and one from Curry Mallet Parish Council towards the upkeep of the churchyard. A further £1,917 was raised from tax refund on Gift Aid giving. Through the work of the Magazine Committee and the magazine distributors, £616 was received as the parish's allocation of the magazine surplus, which is distributed among the seven parishes in the Benefice. A plant sale raised £1,338 and a coffee morning £381. A repayment of £142 was made by EDF.

£16,871 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from All Saints' Church. This included the contribution of £10,344 for the Parish Share payable to the Bath and Wells Diocesan Board of Finance. The Parish Share largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The overall sum that the parishes within the deanery have to find is shared between them according to a formula that is based on membership. For the first time the Parish Share was paid in three instalments and so received no discount.

Payments were made to 4 charities – Christian Aid Gaza Appeal (£250), Children's Hospice South West (£329), Farming Community Network (£315), and Seven Sowers Charitable Trust (£490).

Costs of services totalling £267 were paid– organist's fees (£200) and CCLI (£67).

During the year, for maintenance of the churchyard, £915 was paid to Mr Peter Bawler, partially offset by a grant of £427 (50% of cost for 2023) from Curry Mallet Parish Council. A further £204 was paid out for crown lifting (trees).

£490 was paid towards the costs of the Children, Schools and Families worker. 11 school leavers were presented with Bibles from the PCC.

The net result for the year was a surplus of receipts over payments of £1,196 on unrestricted funds. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £12,095.

Total receipts to the Fabric Fund were £2,080 which included donation of £1,500, together with a tax refund of £375 on Gift Aid. Due to an overload of the 1 phase electricity supply to the church it became necessary to upgrade the supply to 3 phase. The cost was £4,247 net of the Listed Places of Worship Grant of £849 (VAT). The account balance at 31st December totalled £17,019.

Reserves Policy

To date the PCC has had no formal policy for reserves. For several years the balance on unrestricted funds has equalled approximately 12 months of unrestricted payments.

Fund balances are invested with Lloyds Bank.

M H Townrow, 6th March 2025.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CURRY MALLET
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

GENERAL (UNRESTRICTED) FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
POST-EXAMINATION

	2023		2024
Voluntary Receipts			
Regular Giving			
Giving under Gift Aid	6,839		6,657
Income tax recovered	1,822		1,917
Collections & Other Giving	1,015	9,676	928
			9,502
Other Voluntary Receipts			
Grants	290		1,971
Donations	597	887	2,110
			4,081
Receipts from activities for generating funds			
Benefice's Parish Magazine share of surplus	621		616
Fund-raising plant sale & coffee morning	1,350	1,971	1,719
			2,335
Receipts from Church activities			
Fees (PCC)		1,815	1,503
Receipts from investments			
Bank Interest	29		59
Investment Dividend (ex CCLA Fund)	38	67	38
			97
Other Receipts			
Electricity Repayment	150		142
Miscellaneous	157		407
Commonwealth War Graves	0	307	0
			549
Total Receipts		14,723	18,067
PAYMENTS			
<i>Church Activities</i>			
Charitable Giving			
Secular		775	894
Diocesan Parish Share		9,286	10,344
Church running expenses		1,974	1,994
Clergy expenses		68	1,095
Admin. Assistant		0	
Outreach (incl. CSF Worker & Bibles for school-leavers)		663	629
Cost of Services		254	267
Upkeep of churchyard - routine		855	915
- exceptional		-	244
Repairs & Maintenance - routine		48	264
- non routine		70	
Miscellaneous Expenses		900	225
TOTAL PAYMENTS		14,893	16,871
Excess of Receipts over Payments		(170)	1,196
Bank current & deposit accounts as at 1 st January		11,069	10,899
Bank current & deposit accounts as at 31 st December		10,899	12,095

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Church Fabric Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Designated Fund

	2023	2024
RECEIPTS		
Giving under Gift Aid	1,500	1,500
Income Tax recovered	375	375
Donations	-	-
Interest	157	205
Listed Places of Worship Grant (VAT refund)	-	849
Fund-Raising – Plant sale	<u>200</u>	2,929
	2,232	=
PAYMENTS		
Electrical upgrade - phase 1 supply to Phase 3 - National Grid	-	1,960
- Forest	-	3,136
Electrical		5,096
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-	(2,167)
	-	
Bank Account as at 1 st January	16,954	19,186
Bank Account as at 31 st December	<u>19,186</u>	17,019

Church Roof Repair Fund Receipts & Payments Account – Restricted fund

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS	2023	2024
None		
Excess of Receipts over Payments		
Bank Account as at 1 st January	1	1
Bank Account as at 31 st December	1	1

Tower & Bell Fund Receipts and Payments Account – Restricted Fund

RECEIPTS	2023	2024
Interest	7	10
PAYMENTS	-	-
Excess of Receipts over Payments	7	10
Bank Account as at 1 st January	812	819
Bank Account as at 31 st December	819	829

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Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st December 2024

	2023	2024
CASH FUNDS		
General Fund		
Treasurer's Account	5,300	8,119
Business Access Account	5,599	3,976
Fabric Fund	19,186	17,019
Roof Repair Fund	1	1
Tower & Bell Fund		
Treasurer's Account	10	10
Business Access Account	809	819
	30,905	29,944
 INVESTMENT FUNDS		
69.26 income units held in COIF Charities Investment Fund (per valuation as at 31. 12. 24)	1,374	1,405
 OTHER MONETARY ASSETS (General Fund & Roof Repair Fund)		
Clergy expenses paid in advance	250	250
Income tax recoverable - General	1,262	1,438
- Fabric Fund	375	375
	1,887	2,063
 LIABILITIES		
Clergy & other expenses	566	324
Electricity charge		66

NOTES:

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts & Payments basis.
2. The Parish Share for 2024 was paid in full, in 3 instalments.
3. Charitable Giving payments made in 2024, were to The Farming Community Network (£315), Christian Aid Gaza Appeal (£250), Seven Sowers Charitable Trust (£490) and Children's Hospice South West (£329).
4. During the year for maintenance of the churchyard, £915 was paid to Peter Bawler for churchyard maintenance. Tree lopping for safety reasons cost £204.
5. The PCC received parochial fees totalling £1,503 in the year (cf. 2023, £1815) which was made up of statutory fees due to the PCC, as prepared by the Archbishop's Council under the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986. The PCC also received statutory fees of £457 (cf. 2023, £695) payable towards the stipend of the Incumbent, which were passed on in full to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These fees are not included in the figures shown in the Receipts & Payments Accounts, as the money came into our account and then went straight out again. Funeral fees of £225 (organist) and £75 (verger) were paid into the account and then went straight out again. Also £80 collection in memory of Pam Ive to Parkinson's UK.
6. Grants received were £427 from Curry Mallet Parish Council as contribution towards upkeep of the churchyard and £44 from the Listed Places of Worship (VAT refund on PAT testing and fire extinguishers annual maintenance). Grants for both 2023 and 2024 were received from The Duchy of Cornwall's Benevolent Fund.

LIABILITIES reflect invoice for Parish Recharge (clergy and other expenses) for fourth quarter of 2024 and electricity charges to end of December 2024.

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