The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park, Leicester

Registered charity number: 1178009

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council Year Ended 31 December 2023

Incumbent

Reverend John (Sami) Lindsey
Church Office
4A Clarendon Park Road
Leicester
LE2 3AD

Bankers

NatWest Bank Plc 5 The Parade Oadby LE2 5BB

CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill West Malling, ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiners

Wyatt & Co. 125 Main Street Garforth Leeds LS25 1AF

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the charity year ending 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual reports and financial statements of the Charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

Administrative information

St. John's Church is situated on Clarendon Park Road just south of the centre of Leicester. It is part of the Diocese of Leicester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: St John the Baptist Church, 4a Clarendon Park Rd, Leicester, LE2 3AD

Incumbent: Revd. John (Sami) Lindsey

Curates: Revd. Jonathan Tearne, Revd. Alexia Simpson-Smith, Revd. David Lewis

Lay Readers: Shirley Parsons

Wardens: Fiona Aldridge, Huw Miles
Deanery Synod Members: Piers Lindley, Shirley Parsons

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Members 2023/24

	Designation	Term of Office						
Ex-officio members								
Revd John (Sami) Lindsey	Parish Priest	Ex-officio						
Fiona Aldridge	Churchwarden (St John's)	Ex-officio						
Huw Miles	Churchwarden (St John's)	Ex-officio						
Revd Jonathan Tearne	Curate (Until 29/1/23)	Ex-officio						
Revd Alexia Simpson-Smith	Curate	Ex-officio						
Revd David Lewis	Curate	Ex-officio						
Shirley Parsons	Lay-reader (from 20/5/23)	Ex-officio						
Elected Members (Must be on the	e Electoral Roll of Parish to be eligible for election)	·						
1. Jane Kendrick	Elected (re-elected 24/4/23)	2023-2026						
2. Grace McSharry	Elected (resigned 27/3/23)	2022-2025						
3. John Coffee	Deanery Synod (until 24/4/23)	2021-2023						
4. Nigel (Piers) Lindley	Deanery Synod (re-elected 24/4/23)	2023-2026						
5. Susan (Kate) Aldridge	Elected	2021-2024						
6. Trevor Welch	Elected (Until 24/4/23)	2020-2023						
7. Francisca Oloto	Elected (re-elected 24/4/23)	2023-2026						
8. Judith (Ann) Dooley	Elected (resigned 7/1/23)	2020-2023						
9. Daniel Dooley	Elected (Until 24/4/23)	2020-2023						
10. Charles Carr	Elected	2021-2024						
11. Oliver Packer	Elected (from 24/4/23)	2023-2026						
12. Mayowa Omoniyi-Oni	Elected (from 24/4/23)	2023-2026						
13. Jillian Gray	Elected (from 24/4/23)	2023-2026						
14. Hannah Lewis	Elected (from 24/4/23)	2023-2026						

PCC Officers

Chair: Fiona Aldridge Vice Chair: Huw Miles Secretary: James Banks Treasurer: Carole Huffee

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a body corporate (Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity registered with the charity commission (reg. Charity no.1178009). The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met six times during the year and was fully quorate at each meeting.

The PCC has one committee, the Standing Committee made up of Incumbent, Wardens and PCC Secretary.

Risk Management and Review

The PCC recognises its responsibility for identifying and managing risks within the organisation. A working party of PCC members has identified, collated and scored risks for the PCC to manage and action as necessary.

Safeguarding

The PCC of St John the Baptist are committed to the safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults.

In accordance with the Church of England policy, we have written and implemented a safeguarding policy and procedures based on 'Promoting a Safer Church'. This was formally adopted by the PCC on 24/11/2020 and last reviewed by the PCC on 22/5/2023. A copy of the safeguarding policy can be found on our website. www.sjbchurch.co.uk/safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility but it is the duty of the Incumbent, Parish Safeguarding Officer and the PCC to ensure that the policies and procedures are being followed and reviewed on at least an annual basis. Safeguarding is a standing item on every PCC agenda.

The day to day responsibility for safeguarding within St John's is delegated to the following officers:

Our local Safeguarding contacts are:

Incumbent – Revd Sami Lindsey: slindsey@sjbchurch.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer – James Banks: jbanks@sjbchurch.co.uk

Aims and Purposes

The PCC of St John the Baptist Church is responsible for cooperating with the Incumbent to promote the ecclesiastical parish and the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance and management of the Church buildings and attached Parish Centre, although these building are not owned by the PCC, but the Diocese of Leicester. The use of these buildings is gifted to the PCC by the Diocese.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community at St. John's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship in the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

Public Benefit Statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

In particular, we seek to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Provision of pastoral care.
- Missionary and outreach work.
- the relief of sickness, financial hardship and promoting good health.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. John's and the attached Parish Centre.

Review of the Year - David Lewis

Leadership and Vision

2023 was another year at St John's with a transitional feel. We believe God began a foundational process in lockdown which continued through 2023. It has been like he pushed the reset button for us as a community, calling us back to a New Testament pattern of spirituality, church life, and mission. St John's is first and foremost an extended family – a worshiping and missional community in our own right. We have also been designated as a Resourcing Church. Central to the foundational process has been asking what it truly means to be a Resourcing Church. As a Resourcing Church we have a call and mandate for planting new communities, stimulating mission in other churches, and the giving away of people, expertise, and finance to see this happen. The truth is, we do not currently have a great capacity for this kind of work. However, firmly believing this is what God is calling us to, we have been asking what it takes to grow in our capacity to do this.

A key feature of this foundational work in 2023 has been a series of conversations over the summer and early Autumn with different groups from the church family about vision and values. These proved to be helpful times that stimulated much helpful conversation and reflection. As a community, we are committed to fostering a discipling culture, where everyone belongs, everyone grows, and everyone contributes; a culture where everyone understands themselves to be personally called and commissioned by Jesus to build his kingdom. We want to continually facilitate the multiplication of leaders, equipping and enabling as many as possible in the life and ministry of the Holy Spirit. Through this process, the centrality of children, young people, families, and schools to our work has been affirmed.

The foundational work also involved some staffing changes. First, Scott Else was appointed as Chris Beaumont's successor in a role focused on discipleship, leadership development, and church planting. A review of our developing vision for Growing Faith (that's work with children, young people, families, and schools) led to the decision to restructure our Growing Faith roles. The decision was made to appoint a new role, a Director of Growing Faith. This role would have a greater emphasis on strategic thought leadership and on building and equipping teams and leaders. This restructuring impacted both of our existing Growing Faith roles. In 2024, Sharon will transition to a new role to begin a new ministry called "Be-Loved." Sadly, also following a formal process, Josh Young will leave us through redundancy. We have walked closely with Josh through this period of discernment and explored various options with him. The PCC has been at great pains to ensure we manage the process in a discerning, caring, sensitive, prayerful, and legally compliant manner. We are extremely sad to be saying goodbye to Josh. He has been a valued and core part of our team and is much loved by parents and children alike. We know that many, especially among our young people, will be very sad that Josh is leaving us. He has made a huge contribution to St John's in the 5 years he has been with us. As we build for the future, we are building on the foundations he has laid. Although Josh was made redundant at the end of 2023, he will not leave us until the start of 2024.

We firmly believe God is leading us to appoint the new role. The new role will be called *Director of Growing Faith (or something similar)*. We believe there is a huge kingdom opportunity among children, young people, families, and schools in and around St John's. Also, as a Resourcing Church, we have a developing vision to serve a network of churches and resource and stimulate mission wherever we can. Within the existing membership of St John's, we have a wealth of leadership potential that with the right form of oversight and encouragement can be released to do something quite amazing. With its more strategic focus and emphasis on identifying, equipping, and supporting workers and leaders and on building teams, this new role will help us build the kingdom and realise a vision. We have the potential to

build on the excellent foundations laid so far and develop this ministry to impact an entire generation. Recruitment for this role will commence in 2024.

With Scott now in his new role, we quickly saw the benefit of the focused role to which he was appointed. He spent time developing a discipleship strategy, building relationships with people, discerning with them how God was calling them to serve, lead, or mentor in our community. He oversaw the launch of Catalyst (a church planting training programme) which has already seen multiple churches engage with the format. He also launched the leadership learning community for St John's members also began in the autumn term, encouraging anyone with a leaning towards leadership to take the next step. We made a conscious effort to continue with Regroup in a stripped-back form, offering an opportunity to meet regularly as a whole community outside of Sunday services. The launching of small groups took longer than we had hoped, and this caused some pain, but we wanted to get it right so refused to rush the process. By the end of 2023 this process had become much more fleshed out, with leaders stepping up to lead small groups of different types.

Church planting as a culture continued to become more embedded during 2023. Catalyst enabled us to feed into other churches in our diocese who desire to plant, or already have and need training in their next steps. Our children's and families worker Sharon Leeson shared publicly about planting a new 'Be-Loved' community in Knighton Fields, reaching families who are far from Jesus. We have also seen progress at St Peters in Oadby, especially the community that now meets in the Black Dog Pub to explore faith in Jesus together.

We continued to foster our partnership with the diocese, intentionally meeting up with senior leadership to look at different ways we can plant or revitalize communities, as well as continue to resource others where needed. As part of this partnership, Sami took up a wider role as Resourcing Church Transition Lead, giving one day a week to the diocesan vision in this area of mission and ministry.

Staffing

Lots of staffing changes happened at St John's in 2023. Some have already been mentioned in the first part of this report, but in addition to that — Jon Tearne officially finished as a curate with us as he was licensed as interim team vicar for St Peter's Oadby in January, this also meant Sami Lindsey resigning as interim team vicar for St Peter's. Kate Aldridge stepped down from her voluntary role as Pastoral Team Lead. David Lewis was ordained Priest in July. Eloise finished as our Children's and Youth Intern in July. In November it was announced that Sami would transition into his role with the diocese as Resourcing Church Transition Lead, he will continue to do this alongside his role as Vicar of St Johns.

Worship & Prayer

Sunday services in 2023 continued to provide significant highlights for us as a community. The feature services of Easter Sunday and the Christmas Carol Service saw huge numbers of attendees, as well as the Crib Service on December 24th (over 220 attended the Carol and Crib Services). Multiple baptism and dedications included in the services saw visitors attending for the first time. In some cases, those visitors returned after such a positive experience. Our teaching series began in January with a deep-dive into the book of Ephesians, which ran through until Easter. From April to August, we explored using the Psalms to help us engage with God and our calling, followed by a look at Unlikely Heroes in the Bible. From September to December, we followed a series called 'The Jesus Way', growing in our understanding of Christ's teaching on topics such as anger, integrity, faith, and money. This was of course followed by an annual celebration of the Christmas story.

Throughout 2023 we had lots of new people join. These were from a wide range of backgrounds and people groups, adding to the diversity of St Johns. This is all part of our recovery journey post-COVID as we see numbers increasing again. Many of these new congregants, alongside those who have worshipped here for years, got involved in our patterns of worship, prayer and fasting. This included termly opportunities to communally fast for up to three days, ending in a night of prayer and worship. Prayer ministry continued to be an integral part of our Sunday Services with many people being intentional about praying for each other during response sessions and even sometimes once the service had officially ended. The music team continued to thrive last year with many Sunday services having a full band leading us in God's praise.

Our Wednesday Emmaus community (gathering around Celtic prayer and communion) continued to thrive, with lots of members choosing to share their testimony both with the group and their relationship networks.

Children, Young People, Families & Schools

Our children's and youth work continued to recover following covid. We began to see a slow increase in numbers, both on a Sunday and Tuesday youth groups. A growing relationship with year 5 and year 6 children at our school also saw a small boost in numbers at the Tuesday evening sessions in particular. Our children's groups on Sunday had very high numbers attending at certain points last year. We also had those who were 14 years and older meeting bi-weekly for their own dedicated sessions on Sunday. The 10-14 age group met weekly on a Sunday and at times had the wonderful problem of not having enough room for them all to comfortably fit in the office. A weekend away was organised alongside Holy Trinity Church which enabled young people to go away together for a time of fun, community-building and a deeper understanding of God. The youth team also facilitated a summer camp stay at Christian Festival 'Satellites' which encouraged a number of young people from St John's.

In 2023 we developed a Growing Faith vision which would enable us to link school, church, and home together so that children and young people could grow as disciples in the best way possible. This led to a restructuring of all the teams involved in this endeavour, and we were blessed with a number of new willing leaders, particularly in the Children's team. Our partnership with the school continued to grow as we worked with them to provide themed services, assemblies, and lunch time club for years 5&6. We were also intentional in finding governors for the school and having intentional conversations with those already serving in that capacity. This included foundation governors who would count themselves as having a Christian faith.

Our weekly parents and pre-school age children groups were incredibly popular last year. MOLO and Buzzy Bees had a huge number of mothers and guardians visiting every week, some of whom saw these groups as an integral part of their parenting and community life. SAT DADS completed its first full calendar year as a group and saw a continual stream of new members join and enjoy the opportunity to connect. The SAT DADS teams continued to grow as fathers willingly completed safeguarding training so they could serve when the event was running.

Evangelism & Discipleship

As previously mentioned, a Leadership Learning Community was established last year, providing people with an opportunity to go further in their own discipleship. They were helped in finding out how God had gifted them to they could serve effectively, but also feed into others within the community as well. After a successful run of Christmas events in 2022, we hosted a small Hope Explored group in January 2023. This included home cooked food, video content and lots of time to discuss life and faith together. One

attendee in particular had such a positive experience that they quickly became an active members of St John's. After Easter we hosted an Alpha Course which even included an entire table of young people. This provided guests with a clear depiction of the gospel through hospitality, community, and video content, as well as giving congregants a chance to serve in cooking, washing up and table leading. One young person in particular found Alpha, along with other evangelistic elements/events, very helpful and ended up choosing to be baptised on a Sunday during the Autumn term.

Throughout the year the demand for our compassion ministry, led by Rachel Lowe, grew and our foodbank served more people than ever. This year we expanded our provision to include surplus food collections from local supermarkets meaning that could be distributed to those in need. We also continued to buy toiletries and fresh fruit/veg thanks to generous congregational giving and grants from various sources. At Christmas we were also able to bless young people in the local hostel and families from the local school with 'bags of kindness', something that was led by Jill & Charlie Carr. Throughout the year the compassion team grew, and many more people stepped up to serve. A big thank you to all those people who contributed towards this vital ministry that serves our community.

The Church Building & Parish Centre – James Banks

Throughout 2023 the main church building and attached parish centre continue to be well used to support the mission and ministry of the church and are let out to supplement church income.

The main external user of the parish centre is 'Little John's Pre-School' who continue to use it Monday-Friday during term time. There are a selection of other ad-hoc users who use the building in the evenings and at weekends.

Various groups during the week continue to benefit from use of the main church space, especially MOLO, BuzZy Bees & SAT DADS baby/toddler groups. We have also been able to host the first Catalyst Church Planting Hub learning community and our own large church gatherings such as ReGroup. The fitting of carpet to the main church alongside the purchase of chairs and round tables in previous years, has been key to enabling these things to happen.

Throughout the year minor works were carries out around the church including heater & flat roof repairs to the parish centre.

During the year the quinquennial inspection was due. Every five years we are required by the diocese to commission a formal inspection on the condition of the building, known as the Quinquennial Inspection. This was completed in August and the report highlighted several issues that need addressing, some were already known to us. They are split into different categories as shown below depending on urgency.

Urgent – to be completed as soon as possible

- Investigate cause of wet rot in toilets
- Clear overgrowth behind the church

Works in the next 12-24 months:

Urgent external masonry repairs – circa £200,000

In the next 5 years:

- Overhaul and decorate rainwater goods £10,000
- Replace missing roof tiles and point ridges £5,000
- Replace extension roof and consider insulation £40,000

The above works now form the basis of a discussion with the buildings group as a way forward with our buildings, because we know the work required. The buildings group will work in conjunction with the PCC to include these as part of building project(s) along with other things that need addressing such as: heating system, main church floor and the general usability of the spaces we have.

City of Leicester Deanery Synod Report 2023

Only two deanery synod meetings were held in 2023.

Monday 27th March, St. Andrew's Church Aylestone – Generous Giving

50 people attended this Open meeting. The theme was 'The need to solve the funding gap between parish contributions and clergy costs in the diocese.' A presentation was given by David Palmer, Jonathan Kerry, Claire Bampton, Phil Leech and Simon Wilson, representing the Diocesan Board of Finance. The difficult financial position the diocese is in was outlined, along with thoughts and possible proposals for how we can all contribute to the long-term funding of local ministry, and the consequences of doing nothing.

The diocese is £2.4 million in deficit. Our main source of income (parish contributions) is going down, expenditure on day-to-day operations is greater than our income and is subject to inflation etc. It was explained that Minster Communities will help. Most people give to the church building, not mission which needs building up. 80% of expenditure is on clergy, so the number of paid clergy needs to reduce. There is a need to build up discipleship and communities, be outward facing, not inward looking. **Deanery Synod Accounts** were then briefly read through by the Lay Chair/Assistant Area Dean on behalf of the Treasurer and a **Parish Update** on St. Andrew's, Aylestone was given by their Vicar, Revd Rowena Bass.

Wed 5th July 2023, All Saints Church, Scraptoft - Climate Crisis and the Church.

Following a presentation from Andrew Quigley, who outlined the work the Church of England is doing nationally to work towards our ambitious target of becoming Carbon Net Zero by 2030, Andrew spoke about the work happening locally in our Diocese to support churches with our contribution to this target. We had presentations from Fr Martin Court (All Saints), Anne Scott, (St Peter's Belgrave), Sharon Plant (St Anne's and St Paul's with St Augustine's) who gave case studies about litter picking, Muddy Church and the Outdoor Worship Leaders (OWL) network and Allotment Church respectively. Zina Zelte from Climate Action Leicester and Leicestershire attended, speaking about joining their network and their current campaign asking Leicestershire County Council to divest their pension scheme from fossil fuels. The Synod broke by houses to vote to join both Climate Action Leicester and Leicestershire and also support the Pension Divest campaign. The motion was carried in both houses.

Church attendance

At the date of the APCM in 2023 there were 118 persons on the Electoral Roll

The analysis of the general attendance and participation in the life of the church was:

- There were 2 weddings, 6 baptisms & no funerals.
- The average number of adult attendees per Sunday during the month of October 2023 (the annual count month) was 92, the average number of children was 42.
- The total number of people participating in the life and worship of St Johns on a regular basis is 282.

Financial Performance – Carole Huffee

The accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 have been prepared on an accruals basis in line with the previous year. The key financial objectives in 2023 remained as they have been in recent years - to ensure the day to day finances of the church remain on a sustainable basis and to build financial resilience through reserves to ensure challenges can be weathered. In addition to building up the general reserve, the church continues to set aside funds into a Church Planting fund to support future mission activities and has allocated a percentage of its income for missions giving.

The overall result for the year on the general reserve was to break even, with an increase in interest income year on year offsetting other reductions in income.

The main ongoing source of income for the church is voluntary income. Excluding legacy income, voluntary income (including gift aid) for the year remained at a consistent level with the previous year. Whilst Resource church funding increased in the year this funding varies by year as the associated cost base varies and as such current year values are not indicative of future positions. A one off payment relating to historic utility bills was received during the year and this has been designated for use against future utility bills. The church was also received further income from legacies and this has been added to the designated fund created in 2022 to be used for specific purposes.

The staff team have continued to pay close attention to costs incurred to ensure spending is consistent with the agreed PCC budget. Although overall costs have increased in comparison to 2022 this is largely due to increases in staffing costs which are partially covered by resourcing church income. The Parish Share contribution also increased compared to 2022.

Most of the church's reserves are held in cash and the finance committee of the PCC periodically review the various bank accounts held to ensure interest income on deposits is optimised whilst managing risk. The small amount of debtor balances on the balance sheet are expected to be received in full in the coming year.

Reserves Policy

It is not the intention of the PCC to hold large amounts of reserves for Investment purposes, it believes the church resources should be used for the work of God's kingdom as they are provided to us. However it is recognised that it is prudent to keep some general reserves in to cover primary operational costs in the event of an unforeseen reduction in income or increase in expenditure. It is the policy of the PCC to hold reserves equivalent to three months core operating costs (gross salaries and essential operating costs) at any one time.

Unrestricted reserves held at 31 December 2023 were in excess of the amounts required under the reserves policy due to the receipt of income from legacies, which has been classified as a designated reserve. The PCC are still considering how this income will be used.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed

Sami Lindsey Fiona Aldridge Huw Miles Incumbent Warden (Chair) Warden

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park, Leicester

Year Ended 31st December 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park, Leicester ('the charity') for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 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 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my 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 section 130 of the Act; or
- 2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the financial statements 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.

Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA Independent Examiner 125 Main Street Garforth Leeds

LS25 1AF

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITES

	notes	Un Restricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total 2023	Un Restricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total 2022
INCOME from:							
Voluntary Income	2 a	188,582	7,563	196,145	279,301	4,231	283,532
Activites for Generating Funds	2b	14,873	-	14,873	16,810	-	16,810
Investment Income	2c	4,771	-	4,771	18	-	18
Income from Charitable Activites	2d	77,340	3,072	80,412	39,714	2,068	41,782
Other income	2 e	24,059	257	24,316	980	690	1,670
TOTAL	;	309,625	10,892	320,517	336,823	6,989	343,812
EXPENDITURE on:							
Charitable Expenditure Mission and Ministry Property, Management and Admin	3a 3b	150,479 86,565	9,514 92	159,993 86,657	106,308 75,233	9,671 1,567	115,979 76,800
TOTAL	,	237,044	9,606	246,650	181,541	11,238	192,779
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		72,581	1,286	73,867	155,282	(4,249)	151,033
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		72,581	1,286	73,867	155,282	(4,249)	151,033
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:							
Total funds brought forward	13	183,955	10,657	194,612	28,672	14,906	43,578
Total funds carried forward		256,536	11,943	268,479	183,955	10,657	194,611

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	notes	2023	notes	2022
FIXED ASSETS:				
Tangible assets	6	630	6	1,919
CURRENT ASSETS:				
Debtors	8	10,843	8	153,705
Cash at bank and in hand		261,556		43,602
		272,399		197,307
LIABILITIES:				
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,550)	9	(4,615)
Not consider the		267.040		102.602
Net current assets		267,849		192,692
Total assets less current liabilities		268,479		194,612
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year				
Creditors. Amounts faming due after more than one year		-		-
TOTAL NET ASSETS OR LIABILITIES	7	268,479	7	194,612
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:				
THE TONDS OF THE CHARTT.				
Restricted funds	13g	11,943	14h	10,657
Unrestricted funds	131	256,536	141	183,955
TOTAL FUNDS		268,479		194,612

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 8/4/24 and signed on its behalf by :

Revd Sami Lindsey Carole Huffee Incumbent Treasurer

The notes 1 to 15 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

St John the Baptist Church, Clarendon Park, Leicester is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The address of the charity is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with with FRS 102 (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared as a going conern under the historical cost convention except for the valuation on investment assets where appropriate, which are shown at market value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

As a charity with an income less than £500,000 we have made use of the exemption under the Charities SORP and not prepared a statement of cash flows.

In 2020 there was a fundamental change in the basis of the preperation of the financial accounts from cash accounting to accruals accounting.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restriction regarding their particular use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Funds received that are subject to a restriction are held in a separate fund and used only for that purpose. Where monies given for a restricted capital purpose are expended, the asset is no longer viewed as restricted and an appropriate transfer is made to the General Fund. This includes the payment of any related mortgage liability.

The accounts 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 main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income

Donations are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC or in the case of pledged donations when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable. Income tax recoverable on 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, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable.

Activities for Generating Funds

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

Investment Income

Interest is accounted for as it accrues.

Income from Charitable Activites

Income from activities run by the church is recognised when it is due.

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 in each year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Resources used

Grants

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

Allocation of Costs

Costs have been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The PCC is exempted from tax under s.505 ICTA 1988, as a registered charity (reference 1132601).

Fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

The value of these assets is excluded from the accounts by virtue of s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. Any expenditure, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off to revenue in the year it arises. Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Expenditure below £500 per item is written off in the year of acquisition. Computer equipment and other equipment is depreciated over 3 years on a straight line basis.

Current assets

All amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December are shown as debtors, less a provision for any amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Provisions for liabilities are shown where an essential future cost is estimated at the year end.

Pension costs

The PCC as 'Employer' has an auto enrolment pension scheme with the Peoples Pension. All qualifying employees are automatically enrolled on the scheme and non-qualifying employees offered to enrol, at the start of their employment. Contributions are made by both employer and employee into the scheme according to their staff contract. Employers continuing responsibility and duties will be undertaken.

Donated goods, facilities and services, including volunteers

Income raised from donated gifts for resale is recognised at the point of sale where the value of the donation is considered not material in the context of total annual income and/or where the estimated resale value cannot be determined.

The organisation relies on the contribution of many unpaid general volunteers to carry out activities. In the absence of a reliable basis for measurement, this contribution is not accounted for in monetary terms.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to contine as a going conern.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS
	Funds	Funds	2023	Funds	Funds	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2 INCOME						
2a Voluntary Income						
Regular Donations	90,166	1,200	91,366	87,017	1,200	88,217
One Off Gifts	9,164	2,403	11,567	10,522	1,532	12,054
Collection Plate	4,949	-	4,949	5,081	-	5,081
Gift Aid Received	23,544	856	24,400	23,624	649	24,273
Legacies	60,000	-	60,000	150,000	-	150,000
Grants	759	3,104	3,863	3,057	850	3,907
	188,582	7,563	196,145	279,301	4,231	283,532
2b Activites for Generating Funds	•					
Room Hire	14,873	-	14,873	16,810	-	16,810
	14,873	-	14,873	16,810	-	16,810
2c Investment Income						
Bank Interest	4,771	-	4,771	18	-	18
	4,771	-	4,771	18	-	18
2d Income from Charitable Activites						
0-18 Ministries	1,720	-	1,720	2,409	-	2,409
Resource Church	59,667	138	59,805	31,752	60	31,812
Church Events	901	-	901	495	-	495
Church Fees	1,352	781	2,133	758	417	1,175
Staff Training	-	2,153	2,153	-	1,591	1,591
Operations Support Service	7,700	-	7,700	4,300	-	4,300
Christian Conference Income	6,000	-	6,000	-	-	-
	77,340	3,072	80,412	39,714	2,068	41,782
2e Other income						
Gains from Sale of Assets	-	-	-	150	-	150
LPW Grant for VAT	622	-	622	639	-	639
Printing Charges	259	-	259	191	-	191
Other	178	257	435	-	690	690
Legal Settlement	23,000	-	23,000	-	-	-
	24,059	257	24,316	980	690	1,670
TOTAL	309,625	10,892	320,517	336,823	6,989	343,812

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
E	EXPENDITURE						
(Charitable Expenditure						
3 a	Mission and Ministry						
	Mission Giving	4,486	20	4,506	5,287	-	5,287
	Parish Share	54,000	-	54,000	50,000	-	50,000
	Compassion Ministries	-	4,915	4,915	-	2,832	2,832
	Mission Activities *	1,086	-	1,086	248	-	248
	0-18 Ministies	2,034	309	2,343	1,792	425	2,217
	Christian Conferences	171	-	171	-	-	-
	Resource Church	2,970	137	3,107	3,059	60	3,119
	Staff Training	2,595	2,192	4,787	1,923	1,610	3,533
	Interns	1,268	-	1,268	2,867	-	2,867
	Church Events	1,008	-	1,008	184	-	184
	Hospitality & Gifts	1,784	110	1,894	1,590	20	1,610
	Church Services	2,441	-	2,441	2,047	-	2,047
	Church Fees i.e. weddings	12	781	793	62	413	475
	Hardship Fund	-	1,050	1,050	-	345	345
	Ministerial Salaries and expenses	76,624	-	76,624	37,249	3,966	41,215
		150,479	9,514	159,993	106,308	9,671	115,979
3b	Property, Management and Admin						
	Church Utilities and Cleaning	17,418	-	17,418	17,262	-	17,262
	Church Repairs	5,002	-	5,002	4,186	780	4,966
	Technical maint & Equipment	1,487	65	1,552	1,900	756	2,656
	Admin Staff Salaries & Expenses	43,436	-	43,436	44,013	-	44,013
	Office Expenses	2,551	-	2,551	2,677	-	2,677
	Computer Software & Licence Fees	2,989	-	2,989	2,780	-	2,780
	Third Party	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Professional Fees	13,128	-	13,128	1,450	-	1,450
	Banks Charges and Card Fees	554	27	581	532	31	563
	Room Hire	_	-	-	433	-	433
		86,565	92	86,657	75,233	1,567	76,800
1	TOTAL	237,044	9,606	246,650	181,541	11,238	192,779

^{*}Mission Activities was renamed in 2023 from Students, Courses, Alpha & Evangelism

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

4 STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	109,683	76,568
Social Security costs	2,918	1,384
Pension costs	4,927	3,248
TOTAL	117,528	81,200

In 2023, the PCC employed an average of 5 (2022: 4) members of staff. The full time equivalent employees were 4.2 (2022: 3.2) There were no employees who earned more than £60,000 including pension costs. The PCC contributed to a defined contribution personal pension scheme for 4 employees (2022: 3).

5 REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES PAID TO TRUSTEES AND KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

No trustee was paid for their services as trustee. Expenses incurred wholly, exclusively and necessarily for the benefit of the organisation were reimbursed during 2023 to 5 (2022: 7) trustees of £3,875 (2022: £6,069) and 2 (2022: 3) Key Management Personnel of £2,025 (2022: £8,036). Trustee indemnity was paid for on behalf of the trustees.

The total remuneration of key management personnel (including employers NI & pension) during 2023 was: £68,442 (2022: £69,537)

6 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

	Equipment
Cost	
Cost at 1 January 2023	3,868
Additions	-
Disposals	
Cost at 31 December 2023	3,868
Depreciation	
Depreciation at 1 January 2023	1,949
Eliminated on Disposal	-
Depreciation for the year	1,289
Depreciation at 31 December 2023	3,238
Net book value at 31 December 2023	630
Net book value at 31 December 2022	1,919

7 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	630	-	630	1,919
Current Assets	259,626	12,773	272,399	197,307
Current Liabilities	(3,559)	(991)	(4,550)	(4,615)
	256,696	11,782	268,479	194,612

8 DEBTORS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Gift Aid recoverable	858	161	1,018	1,037
Legacy	-	-	-	150,000
Other Debtors & Prepayments	9,814	11	9,825	2,668
	10,672	171	10,843	153,705

During 2022 the church was notified that they were a benficary in the will of the Late Christine Hoyes and were entitled to a fixed percentage share of the estate. At the point the 2023 accounts were finalised the final value of the estate had not been determined, but all interim distrubutions had been received. At year end 31 December 2022 an interim distrubution of £150,000 had been notified but was un-paid, and was therefore included as a debtor.

9 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Creditors for goods and services Deferred Income	3,496 63	991	4,487 63	2,836 1,779
	3,559	991	4,550	4,615

All deferred income in 2022 was released in 2023.

Deferred income in 2023 comprises room hire income received for future financial periods.

Deferred income in 2022 comprises intern & winter energy grants and wedding fees received for future financial periods.

10 GOVERNANCE COSTS

The Independent Examiners rumuneration for 2023 was £738 (2022: £730).

11 TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Donations of £38,913 (2022: £37,399) were received during the year from 19 (2022: 16) Trustees & their partners. No conditions were attached to these donations.

During the year, the church made a gift of £750 to David & Hannah Lewis, trustees of the charity, towards emergency travel costs. David & Hannah were not involved in discussions on this decision.

During the year the church received payments of £7,700 (2022: £4,300) from St Peter's Oadby relating to operations support services provided by the church. Jonathan Tearne was a trustee of the charity until 29/1/23 and is also the chair of trustees for St Peter's Oadby.

During 2022, the church made a payment of £750 to Joel Kendrick, the son of Jane Kendrick a trustee of the charity, towards a mission trip abroad. During the part of the meeting where this decision was made, Jane was not present.

During the year, there were no further transactions with related parties.

12 GOVERNMENT GRANTS

During the year no (2022: 0) Government Grants were received.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

13 SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS

	notes	Fund balances brought forward at 1/1/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	fo	d balances carried rward at /12/2023
		£	£	£	£		£
Restricted funds:							
Hardship Fund	13a	217	1,580	(1,065)	-	£	732
Buildings Development Fund	13b	7,882	130	-	-	£	8,012
Compassion Fund	13c	1,157	4,683	(5,031)	-	£	809
Third Party	13d	-	3,350	(3,350)	-	£	-
Children's Work	13e	1,340	-	-	-	£	1,340
SAT DADS	13f	61	1,150	(161)	-	£	1,050
	13 g	10,657	10,893	(9,607)	-	£	11,943
Unrestricted funds:							
General funds		24,197	226,624	(221,057)	(5,586)	£	24,178
Church Planting (Designated)	13h	9,705	-	-	4,793	£	14,498
Mission Giving (Designated)	13i	53	-	(4,486)	4,793	£	360
Legacies (Designated)	13 j	150,000	60,000	-	-	£	210,000
Utilities (Designated)	13k	-	23,000	(11,500)	(4,000)	£	7,500
	13 l	183,955	309,624	(237,043)	-	£	256,536
Total funds		194,612	320,517	(246,650)	-	£	268,479

- **13a Hardship Fund** Discretional fund used to support those suffering financial hardship, granted at the discretion of the Vicar and Church Wardens.
- 13b Buildings Development Fund Funds given for specifically for the purpose of redeveloping the St John's buildings.
- 13c Compassion Fund Funds given towards the compassion work of St John's with those in need within the community.
- 13d Third Party Fund This includes transactions such as diocese fees that were received and paid directly back out.
- **13e** Children's Work Fund Funds given specifically towards work with children.
- **13f** SAT DADS Funds given specifically towards the SAT DADS group
- **13h** Church Planting (Designated) As part of the church's 'Mission Giving' 3.75% of donations + Gift Aid was transferred from the general fund to this fund during the year, to be put towards future church plants.
- **13i Mission Giving (Designated)** As part of the church's 'Mission Giving' 3.75% of donations + Gift Aid is given away to external 'Mission Partners'. Any amounts not given are transferred in to this fund.
- **13j** Legacies (Designated) This holds legacies set aside for future investment. This fund was previously named as Hoyes Legacy.
- 13k Utilities (Designated) Funds resulting from historic utilities claim that will be used to offset future utility bills.

14 SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS (Prior Year)

	notes	Fund balances brought forward at 1/1/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	fo	d balances carried orward at /12/2022
		£	£	£	£		£
Restricted funds:							
Hardship Fund	14a	213	357	(353)	-	£	217
Youth Leader Fund	14b	3,500	-	(3,500)	-	£	-
Buildings Development Fund	14c	8,662	-	(780)	-	£	7,882
Compassion Fund	14d	601	3,505	(2,949)	-	£	1,157
Third Party	14e	-	2,777	(2,777)	-	£	-
Children's Work	14f	1,930	-	(590)	-	£	1,340
SAT DADS	14g	-	350	(289)	-	£	61
	14h	14,906	6,989	(11,238)	-	£	10,657
Unrestricted funds:							
General funds		23,061	186,824	(176,254)	(9,434)	£	24,197
Church Planting (Designated)	14i	4,988	-	-	4,717	£	9,705
Mission Giving (Designated)	14 j	623	-	(5,287)	4,717	£	53
Hoyes Legacy (Designated)	14k	-	150,000		-	£	150,000
	14 l	28,672	336,824	(181,541)	-	£	183,955
Total funds		43,578	343,813	(192,779)	_	£	194,612

- **14a** Hardship Fund Discretional fund used to support those suffering financial hardship, granted at the discretion of the Vicar and Church Wardens.
- **14b** Youth leader fund Grants given directly to support the cost of the employee's salary.
- 14c Buildings Development Fund Funds given for specifically for the purpose of redeveloping the St John's buildings.
- **14d** Compassion Fund Funds given towards the compassion work of St John's with those in need within the community.
- 14e Third Party Fund This includes transactions such as diocese fees that were received and paid directly back out.
- **14f** Children's Work Fund Funds given specifically towards work with children.
- **14g** SAT DADS Funds given specifically towards the SAT DADS group.
- **14i Church Planting (Designated)** As part of the church's 'Mission Giving' 3.75% of donations + Gift Aid was transferred from the general fund to this fund during the year, to be put towards future church plants.
- **14j Mission Giving (Designated)** As part of the church's 'Mission Giving' 3.75% of donations + Gift Aid was transferred from the general fund to this fund during the year, to be given away to 'Mission Partners'.
- **14k** Hoyes Legacy (Designated) This holds a legacy set aside for future investment.

15	GRANTS	2023	2022
	Giving to Missions, other organisations and individuals:	£	£
	New Wine	1,179	874
	SLCP	10	10
	The Navigators - UK	1,180	875
	South Leicester Foodbank	1,180	875
	St John's School - Bibles	287	228
	Knighton Free Church (Ukraine Aid)	-	875
	The Saffires Project	-	600
	Joel Kendrick	-	750
	Luke Briggs (Summer Camp Leader)	-	200
	Holy Trinity Leicester (Intern Mission Trip)	150	-
	Full Gospel Assemblies of Pakistan (via Stewardship)	500	
	Christian Aid	20	
	Total Grants	4,506	5,287