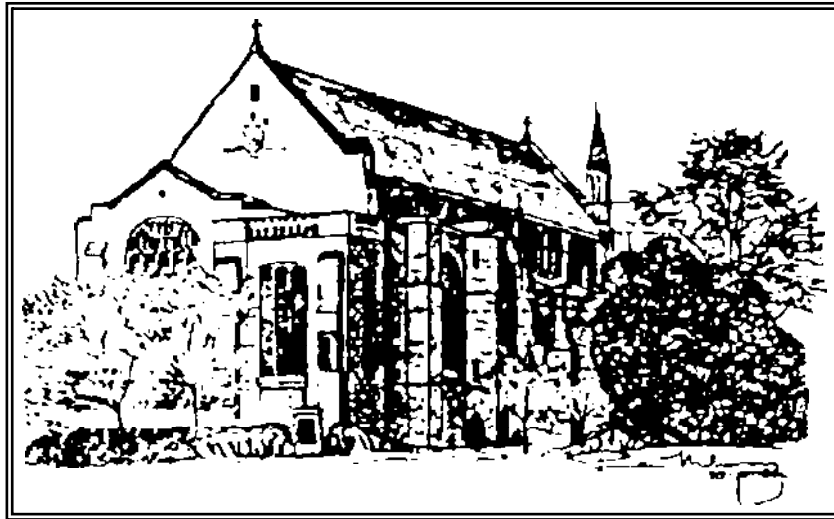


The Parish Church of St John the Baptist Greenhill

(The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Greenhill, Harrow - a registered charity)



Annual Report (Pages 1 to 8) and Accounts (Pages 9 to 16) for 2023

Incumbent

The Revd Barry Hingston (Vicar)

Bank

**Barclays Bank PLC, Harrow Branch
355 Station Road, HARROW, Middlesex, HA1 2AN**

Independent Examiner

The Revd David Green

Church Address
Sheepcote Road, HARROW, Middlesex, HA1 2JE
Answerphone - (020) 8863 3690 - office@stjohnsharrow.org

The Parish Church of St John the Baptist. Greenhill

**The Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council of Greenhill
and of the Parish Activities Generally for 2023**

A Note from the PCC Secretary

With the Covid-19 Pandemic hopefully past us we are now in a "new normal" and the following information reflects this.

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Report

Administrative Information: The Church is situated in Greenhill, better known today as the central shopping area of Harrow, and is located at the junction of Station Road and Sheepcote Road. It is part of the Diocese of London within the Church of England and is in the Willesden Episcopal Area of that diocese. The correspondence address is St John's Church, Sheepcote Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 2JE.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission under the title of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John, Greenhill, Harrow" (number 1138108) and it was registered in 2010. The Victoria Hall, which was next to the

Church in Sheepcote Road and was rebuilt between 2018 and 2021, is a registered charity (number 207730) with a new registered charity taking over (number 1174963) and both are legally independent of the PCC.

PCC members who have served from the 1st January 2023 to the date this report was approved are as follows. The initials 'APCM' stand for Annual Parochial Church Meeting and that meeting for 2023 took place on Sunday, 21st May 2023. Dates of expiry of membership do not preclude the person concerned from standing for re-election. If no date of appointment or election is given, the person concerned was a member of the PCC at the 1st January 2023.

		<u>Office Held on PCC</u>	<u>Notes</u>
The Revd Barry Hingston*†	Ex Officio (Vicar)	Chairman (Ex Officio)	Until he leaves or retires* from office. A member of the Deanery Synod (Ex Officio) (*Last Service Easter Sunday 2024)
Mr Peter Polkinghorne*†	Ex Officio (Churchwarden)		To Archdeacon's Visitation 2024
Mrs Catherine Still†*	Ex Officio (Churchwarden)	Vice Chairman	To Archdeacon's Visitation 2024
The Revd Ajay More	Ex Officio (Associate Vicar)		Until he leaves or retires from office. A member of the Deanery Synod (Ex Officio)

		<u>Office Held on PCC</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Mr Peter Hawkins*	Ex Officio (Deanery Synod Representative)	Secretary	Elected to the Deanery Synod by the Parish) To 31st July 2026
Mr Tim Mackenzie	Ex Officio (Deanery Synod Representative)		Elected to the Deanery Synod by the Parish to 31st July 2026
Mr Derek Biddle	Elected to APCM 2025		
Mrs Claire Cook*	Elected to APCM 2024		
Mrs Maggie Dawson	Elected to APCM 2025		
Mr Gary Morris	Elected to APCM 2023		Did not stand for re-election at the APCM 2023 and has since left the parish for a local church
Mr Simon Patrick*	Elected to APCM 2025	Treasurer	
Miss Patricia Roney	Elected to APCM 2024		
Miss Vicki Swinchatt*	Elected to APCM 2026		
* A member of the Standing Committee of the PCC † The Vicar and Churchwardens are ex officio members of the Standing Committee			

Structure, Governance and Management: The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend Church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities: The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of Greenhill the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church of St John the Baptist Greenhill, Sheepcote Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 2JE. The PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, in relation to having due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable

adults.

Review of the Year: The PCC met formally 6 times during the year with an average attendance of 85.0% against 78.0% in 2022. All meetings were in person. Committees met or corresponded within themselves between meetings and their reports were received by the PCC and discussed where necessary. The PCC itself also did some of its business by correspondence between meetings, the details of such transactions being reported to the following PCC meeting so they appeared in the minutes.

At all meetings during the year the PCC discussed its finances, safeguarding and the proposed annex in the space outside the West Door of the Church. In January, the PCC discontinued the Easter Vigil Service on the grounds of very poor attendance and noted that the Annual Memorial Service had ended as Valerie Harrington, who organised it, was now in a home and it was not missed in 2022.

The PCC noted the roof alarm servicing was due and that it needed to find a new firm of electrical contractors. Finally it was noted that the Annual Churches Together in Central Harrow Joint Service would take place in our Church at 10.00am on Sunday, 22nd January 2023. March saw the Easter arrangements noted and these were normal. In May our Safeguarding Policy was renewed and it was noted that we need more volunteers to assist in Church on Sundays. In July the PCC agreed its contribution to the Common Fund for 2024 at £81,300. The PCC also appointed/re-appointed its Officers and Committees for the coming year. In September the PCC was looking for a new tenant for 20 Manor Court and the Annex tenders had been received, but not yet looked at. Also Services to the end of the year were outlined including the Deanery Choirs' Festival to be held this year in our Church on October 14th. In November we chose a contractor for the Annex project.

Vicar's Report: Dear church of St John the Baptist,

It is with some sadness and sense of loss that I write my last annual report. By the time this is distributed and read I will have finished my time here and heading for pastures new.

2023 was a time of continued progress and consolidation for us following two very disrupted years of Covid-affected operation. At the time of writing our Sunday congregation, although variable, has stabilized around the 60-65 mark, which is marginally down on the 2019 level but encouraging given the impact and length of the crisis. In addition, we saw the emergence of a small group of children on Sundays which has enabled us to restart a lively little children's group (great thanks go to Cath Still!). We expanded the team for running the A/V facility on Sundays which means we continue the mixed-mode of service, keeping some of our mobility-limited congregation with us.

We have settled into a pattern of face-to-face services on Sundays (with online access in the morning), and an online service mid-week. This has had the benefit of achieving 8-10 people on a Wednesday which is much more than if we did it face to face. It also enabled us to do more discipleship work in the form of an online Alpha course. So, our technology is definitely helping and a huge thank you to Godfrey and the team for making it happen.

As of the end of 2023 we have appointed a contractor for our work outside the West Door. This will provide 3 new toilets, a small kitchenette, and some social space. Also, it will allow us to expand our electrical power intake which will have great benefits for our vestry kitchen. By the time you read this, the site outside the West Door will have been cleared and the work commenced. Completion is estimated to be July 2024.

2023 also saw us restore and expand our connection with the local C of E School, St Jerome, and I know that on my departure, Ajay wants to build on this. Last year we saw them visit the church again after a few years' lapse, culminating in a fabulous Christmas service with the church full of pupils and parents twice on one day. We look forward to seeing more of the same.

My personal plan is now well advanced and by the APCM I will have departed. I am moving back to Ealing to reconnect with my old church but as a self-supporting minister, so in a sense I am embarking on a period of retirement in that I am not taking on another church. I'd like to thank all those at St Johns for all your support and loyalty over the past 11 years. Space does not allow me to fully express my feelings here, but I passionately wish St John the Baptist all the best for the future.

God bless you all.

Barry Hingston.

Worship

Church Attendance: The mean average October weekly attendance was 65 as against 64 for October 2022. This included attendance in person in Church and at the Church at Home Zoom presentations. The Electoral Roll reported

at the APCM was 102 members against 100 in 2022. - *Peter Hawkins, PCC Secretary.*

Choir: Following our annual performance of Stainer's Crucifixion in April, with a slightly larger choir than last year, the highlight was

hosting this year's Harrow Deanery Choirs Festival in October for the first time since 2010. We robed in, and processed from, the Victoria Hall (the first time that the new hall has been used for a church event), and I am grateful to Peter Polkinghorne, Derek Biddle and Peter Hawkins and the hall staff for making the arrangements run smoothly, as well as Esther Roberts and her friend Pat Turner for the refreshments. Also thanks to John Barnard, who designed the service (on the theme of Jesus as the Light of the World), Rev. Ajay More for leading it, Philip Rees (Stanmore, who grew up in this parish) for playing and Martin Singleton (Pinner) for conducting. Thanks also to the extra singers who joined us for Carols by Candlelight and to Dominica Parry for playing for part of this service and on Christmas morning. Ben Cook also played for a couple of services. But my main thanks are to our faithful choir members for practising week by week and leading our worship. New members always welcome! - *Simon Patrick*.

Gospel Choir: The Gospel Choir aims to worship God and share the good news of Jesus through joyful singing, in church and in the wider community.

In 2023 we continued to contribute to the 10am service once a month, including Racial Justice Sunday and Harvest. A highlight was the service on 7th May celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III.

Bishop Lusa made a short visit to St John's in May as part of his pilgrimage round all the churches in the area. The Bishop's visit coincided with Gospel Choir practice, so we were delighted to welcome him with singing.

In December we joined with Ajay and friends for carol-singing in English and Hindi. We sang outside the church and at the Sattavis Patidar centre in Wembley. We received kind donations totalling £166.27 which have been shared between Harrow Foodbank and Firm Foundation.

Thanks to everyone who has been part of the Gospel Choir in 2023 and all who have supported and encouraged us. It has been a joy to welcome new and returning members during the year. If you enjoy singing or play an instrument and would like to join, we'd love to hear from you. - *Dominica Parry*.

Servers: Our effective numbers are down to five, following the departure of the Morris family in the autumn to worship nearer to where they live: Noah had served faithfully for six and a half years. With Covid now thankfully mainly a distant memory, we will be considering whether to assist rather more in the sanctuary during the services. - *Simon Patrick*.

Sidesmen: With live streaming on Zoom now available only two sidesmen on duty were now needed to look after those who attended in person and enough sidesmen were so attending to create a rota. This remains the position and appears to be the "new normal" as I write (February 2024). However, some more sidesmen are needed to make rostering easier. There is only one requirement to be a Sidesman - your name is on the Electoral Roll of the Parish Church. If any person is interested (male or female), please see me. From 2020 Sidesmen are no longer appointed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting but by the Parochial Church Council and this means we normally have at least six opportunities per annum to appoint Sidesmen as opposed to one in past years. - *Peter Hawkins*.

Flower Team: The Flower Team has had another busy year. My grateful thanks go to all the regular members of the team, and especially to Helen Morris for her years of dedicated arranging. Thank you also to the other kind people who help us to prepare the church for special occasions, this includes those who kindly donate greenery for our use. We couldn't do without you all. Thank you also to those who donate money for flowers. If there is anyone who would like to join the flower team, (we'd give full support and training), please speak to one of us. - *Jill Polkinghorne*.

Mission Links

Children's Society (The): I succeeded in carrying out a box opening in 2023, raising £80.60, from what turned out to be only four

remaining box-holders. With the decline in the use of coins, I am not expecting much demand for the numerous spare boxes I have inherited, but

instead I call on people to visit www.childrenssociety.org.uk to find out about the Society's work and perhaps make an online donation. - *Simon Patrick*.

Christian Aid: Christian Aid week collection was substantially down this year at £75. In this year (2023) we ran an online collection which mainly came from the congregation. Please consider helping at the 2024 Christian Aid week

12th-18th May 2024 and suggest to me what you might like to do to assist - *Peter Polkinghorne*.

Poppy Day Appeal: Thanks to collectors and a box in church, we did have a collection for the Poppy Appeal this year, and with good support we raised just over £1,850, a significant increase on last year. Thanks also to Sandra Broad (President of South Harrow branch of the Royal British Legion) for support - *Peter Polkinghorne*.

Community Engagement

Welcome Centre: The Welcome Centre is an open-door drop-in that St John's runs in collaboration with our local Roman Catholic parish of Our Lady and St Thomas of Canterbury on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and this takes place in our Church. We aim to provide a space where people of all sorts and with all sorts of needs feel welcome, safe and reasonably warm. We give our thanks to the volunteers from both churches for all that they do throughout the year and welcome enquiries from potential volunteers and also offers towards the costs of the free refreshments and heating. - *Peter Hawkins, PCC Secretary*.

Open Church: At one time known as "Church Watch" this opens the church on Friday afternoons from noon to 2.00pm to enable people to come in for private prayer, to sit and be peaceful, just to look around, or to make contact with the church through the volunteer stewards. We give our thanks to the volunteer stewards for all that they do throughout the year. - *Peter Hawkins, PCC Secretary*.

Church Garden: The shrubs which were planted in 2021 are doing really well, and have grown into large and beautiful bushes. The long-established shrubs and hedges were pruned in the autumn and have benefited from being cut back.

The two rosemary plants and one lavender plant from the Easter Garden, which was displayed in church, have been planted in the flower bed adjacent to Sheepcote Road and are growing into fine shrubs. There was a fine display of daffodils alongside the Station Road side of the garden, and the flowering cherry trees were very beautiful. No further work has been needed on the benches around the war memorial. - *Linda Clark*.

Concerts: We held 19 concerts in the year (not counting another ten summer concerts, separately organised), with an attendance ranging from 39 to 69 with an average of 54, a slight increase on the figure of 47 in 2022, but not yet back up to pre-Covid levels. Four new performers took part as well as the large number of regulars. I am grateful to our band of helpers for enabling these concerts to take place, including by bringing and serving the food and welcoming people at the door. We made a small surplus for church funds. - *Simon Patrick*.

Firm Foundation Night Shelter: In 2023, the night shelter restarted on the usual basis, but unfortunately we were not informed, so could not assist. In 2024, we have made contact and are providing some volunteers. If you are interested in helping in the future, please contact Peter Polkinghorne. - *Peter Polkinghorne*.

Christian Growth

Women's Breakfasts: The Women's Breakfasts have continued to take place on the 2nd Saturday of the month, meeting from 9.30 till 11 at the Vicarage. We share food and time together, look at scripture and pray. Over the past year, we've

been looking at the books of Ephesians and Philippians, taking a few verses or a chapter at a time and asking God to speak to us as we share our thoughts on the passages. We will also often listen to some worship music, leading into a

time of prayer. It's a good time of fellowship and support to each other and valuable time in God's presence. The core group of about 8 of us who meet regularly has not changed particularly,

although we have welcomed one new regular member. We do advertise the meetings in the news sheet, to open the group up to others who might like to come along. - *Jill Hingston.*

Children's Work

Children's Work on Sundays: We were able to meet every Sunday throughout 2023 - the first time since COVID - and this has been something to celebrate. We have four to six regular attenders, and we have been delighted to welcome occasional visitors during the year. We continue to meet in the Chapel while we only have one regular children's worker, in order to meet safeguarding requirements, but actually we are reaping the benefit of being visible and "drop-in-able" for new families. We also enjoy sharing our activities with parishioners on their way back from receiving communion! As the local community grows, I would love to see our children's work grow too; we value your prayers for our children, both current and future. Thank you to those who have run sessions during the year, especially Jill Polkinghorne; please come and talk to me if you would like to join the Sunday morning team! - *Cath Still.*

into the church over the year, with an average of 12 families each session. This is an increase on recent years and shows how valuable our monthly sessions are. It is good to welcome church families and families from St Jerome's; in addition, many of the parents and children who come along have no church connection at all and so it is a real privilege (and responsibility!) to make a place where they feel welcomed and where they can meet Jesus, possibly for the first time. We have kept the same mix of crafts, worship and fellowship over food which seems to work well; this year we have created a baby-friendly space with soft floor toys, as well as providing baby-changing facilities in the choir vestry, and this has been welcomed and appreciated. Dominica and I are so grateful to the amazing team of volunteers who prepare food, run the activities, tidy up and keep us all safe in church - we could not do it without you! Please keep this valuable form of outreach in your prayers, as we build relationships with families from across Harrow. - *Cath Still.*

Messy Church: Messy Church met throughout 2023, with its usual summer break, and we have been delighted to welcome 50 different families

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care: Pastoral Care at St John's (providing the members of St John's with care and support, both practical and spiritual) is mainly carried out without any formal organisation.

10.00am Communion Services, providing welcome support for those who appreciate this form of ministry. Training is given if you are interested in serving in this way.

However, Home Communion fall under this category being Communion taken to people who are unable to attend Church although some may attend on line. Also we have a Prayer Ministry Team which offers prayer at the end of the

The Light of Lights Tree proved to be a welcome focus for those missing loved ones at Christmas time, leaving names on the tree in remembrance. - *Peter Hawkins, PCC Secretary.*

Collections for Other Charities

In past years, before the introduction of the new regulations under the Charities Act 1993, it was traditional to show a list of monies collected for other charities through the efforts of the people of St John's, where we were acting as agent, in the notes to the Financial Statements. Under the new regulations, the PCC does not account for these monies, as they belong to the charities concerned

and consequently this list was lost. In the early years after the change there were some rumbles, and although some of these figures may be found in the reports above, I have listed them below again this year in order to maintain this old tradition. It must be understood that they do not form part of our Financial Statements and that some of the figures may be approximate.

Bishop of Willesden's Mission Fund	700.00
Christian Aid	75.00
Firm Foundation (Carol Singing Donations)	83.00
Harrow Care Plus (Dell Bequest)	500.00
Harrow Food Bank (Harvest Appeal and Carol Singing)	929.00
Lent Appeal (Mozambique Conflict Trauma Support)	100.00
Poppy Day Appeal	1,850.00
St Luke's Hospice (Harrow Deanery Choirs Festival)	221.00
Total	4,458.00

It is understood that some of these monies have been passed, or passed in part, through our books on an "in and out" basis. Please see notes to the accounts (Agency Accounts). Some of these figures may include Gift Aid. - *Peter Hawkins, PCC Secretary.*

Finance

Financial Review: Expenditure on the new Annexe to the church building, and the reimbursement of these costs by the Victoria Hall Charity, have made it appropriate for our accounts to be prepared on an accruals basis, and the 2022 accounts (and the 2022 figures in this report) have been restated on this basis to match. The total income to the General Fund was £147,897 (2022: 119,292) and total expenditure £135,995 (2022: 115,505) giving a surplus, before transfers, of £11,942 (2022: £3,787). Although nearly all of our sources of income increased, there was considerable increase in some expenses, notably electricity and gas, and the expenditure on the three rental properties included considerable expenditure on repossessing one of the properties and a retrospective bill for service charges for several years on the other two (see Note 8 to the

accounts). We agreed with the Diocese of London that we would pay a lower Diocesan Common Fund contribution in 2023 (£70,000 rather than £75,200) but are raising this to £81,300 for 2024. St John's was responsible for the finances of the Niya Jivan Church, a Hindi-speaking church community meeting at St Andrew's, Kingsbury, for the whole of 2023: figures for the separate fund which we set up for them are at the end of the Annex to the accounts. Our reserves policy is set out in Note 12 to the accounts. - *Simon Patrick, PCC Treasurer.*

Planned Giving (Stewardship): 2023 was another successful year for the Planned Giving Scheme with total donations exceeding those of 2022. However the membership of the scheme dropped to 49 and it is known that there will be further reductions in 2024. Planned Giving by

the regular use of personally numbered envelopes or (better still) by a regular standing order from your bank enables the church, in the knowledge of promised regular income, to make viable forward plans for special services or events. A very helpful situation to enjoy. If you are not currently a member of the scheme please give consideration to joining and complete an application form, a supply of which is available at the back of the

church, or discuss the matter with one of the wardens or duty sidesmen. As usual at this time of the year I thank all those who participate in the scheme together with those who count the contents of the weekly envelopes on Sundays. Without this assistance I should be unable to continue in my role as Planned Giving Recorder, due to my being present only on Zoom at the various services. - *Brian Lanning, Planned Giving Recorder.*

Conclusion to the Reports

The foregoing reports, give an insight into the work of the Parochial Church Council, the parish organisations under its aegis and other associated organisations within the wider church.

For all this work we must be grateful, and we thank all those who have made these things possible. Also, we thank all those who have

taken the time and trouble to write these reports - no easy task.

Finally, on behalf of us all, I extend my grateful thanks to our Vicar the Revd Barry Hingston, and our Associate Vicar the Revd Ajay More, and the Churchwardens, and their families for sacrifices they make for us. - *Peter Hawkins, PCC Secretary.*

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council, Peter Polkinghorne, Vice-Chairman.

15th May 2024

The Accounts (Financial Statements) Follow

Financial Statements to the 31st December 2023

Church of St John the Baptist, Greenhill, Harrow Income and Expenditure Account, 2023

	Unre- stricted	Desig- nated	Re- stricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
INCOME					
Income from generated funds					
Voluntary income					
Planned giving (by gift aid).....	51,186	600	5,233	57,019	50,089
Income tax recovered.....	14,198	150	1,448	15,796	14,074
Planned giving (not gift aided).....	2,819	—	—	2,819	2,435
Collections.....	6,189	—	665	6,854	6,697
Legacies.....	—	46,750	—	46,750	—
Donations.....	6,368	—	365	6,732	3,994
Sub-total: voluntary income.....	80,760	47,500	7,711	135,970	77,288
Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising.....	—	—	—	—	252
Saturday morning coffee receipts.....	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total: activities for generating funds.....	—	—	—	—	252
Investment income					
Property rent.....	52,950	—	—	52,950	37,025
Interest and dividends.....	7,828	2,073	463	10,364	2,470
Sub-total: investment income.....	60,778	2,073	463	63,314	39,495
Total: receipts from generated funds.....	141,537	49,573	8,174	199,284	117,036
Receipts from charitable activities					
Wedding/Funeral fees.....	302	—	—	302	160
Concert income.....	6,057	—	—	6,057	5,180
Other income [notes 9, 15, 16].....	—	100,000	—	100,000	7,057
Total: receipts from charitable activities.....	6,359	100,000	—	106,359	12,396
INCOME: GRAND TOTALS.....	147,897	149,573	8,174	305,644	129,432
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising expenses [note 5].....	—	—	—	—	194
Total: cost of generating funds.....	—	—	—	—	194
Charitable activities					
Diocesan Common Fund.....	70,000	—	—	70,000	75,200
Donations and subscriptions.....	827	—	1,421	2,248	2,309
Upkeep of building.....	2,698	800	—	3,497	1,995
Upkeep of Church services.....	946	—	3,710	4,656	725
Heating (gas).....	9,080	—	—	9,080	7,027
Electricity.....	2,737	—	—	2,737	1,866
Cleaning [note 11].....	1,829	—	—	1,829	1,716
Insurance.....	5,556	—	—	5,556	4,846
Salaries [note 11].....	3,394	—	—	3,394	3,013
Vestry phone.....	591	—	—	591	574
Printing and stationery.....	226	—	—	226	394
Clergy expenses.....	2,159	—	118	2,277	1,916
Concert expenses.....	5,156	—	—	5,156	5,164
Flowers.....	—	—	354	354	354
Sundries.....	3,040	102,173	734	105,947	6,617
Property expenses.....	27,715	—	—	27,715	7,392
Total: Charitable activities.....	135,954	102,973	6,336	245,263	121,108
EXPENDITURE: GRAND TOTALS.....	135,954	102,973	6,336	245,263	121,302
Surplus (before transfers).....	11,942	46,601	1,838	60,381	8,130
Transfers.....	-13,100	13,100	—	—	—
Surplus (after transfers).....	-1,158	59,701	1,838	60,381	8,130

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023

	As at 31.12.23	As at 31.12.22
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets [notes 6 and 7].....	1,328,649	1,329,641
	1,328,649	1,329,641
Current assets		
Debtors and prepayments [note 8].....	65,131	13,247
Cash at bank and in hand [note 10].....	317,018	265,853
	382,150	279,100
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in 1 year [note 8]...	44,109	2,434
Net current assets less current liabilities	338,040	276,667
Total assets less current liabilities	1,666,689	1,606,308
Total net assets less liabilities	1,666,689	1,606,308

Fund movement summary, 2023

Fund and type [note 2]	Balance brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Gains/ Losses	Balance carried forward
General fund (unrestricted)	38,281	147,897	135,954	-13,100	—	37,124
Designated funds						
Annexe [Notes 8 and 15].....	—	100,000	100,000	—	—	—
Church fabric.....	60,761	2,823	—	10,000	—	73,585
Legacies and Donations.....	126,239	46,750	140	—	—	172,849
Mission and Outreach.....	18,083	—	1,984	—	—	16,100
Organ.....	10,869	—	800	1,000	—	11,069
Vicar's discretionary fund.....	684	—	—	—	—	684
Vicarage maintenance [note 14].....	2,029	—	—	500	—	2,529
Children and Young People.....	951	—	49	—	—	902
Boiler renewal.....	6,613	—	—	1,600	—	8,213
Properties [note 7].....	1,325,000	—	—	—	—	1,325,000
Sub-total (designated funds)	1,551,228	149,573	102,973	13,100	—	1,610,929
Restricted funds						
Gardening.....	104	—	104	—	—	—
Events Committee.....	3,172	—	—	—	—	3,172
Missionary Committee.....	35	1	—	—	—	36
Choir.....	1,745	379	620	—	—	1,504
Gospel Choir.....	911	28	85	—	—	854
Welcome Centre.....	390	13	—	—	—	403
Flower fund.....	632	304	354	—	—	582
Harvest Appeal (Harrow Food Bank)	47	799	846	—	—	—
Dell Bequest fund [note 15].....	5,100	155	500	—	—	4,756
Naya Jivan [note 16].....	4,663	6,495	3,828	—	—	7,330
Sub-total (restricted funds)	16,798	8,174	6,336	—	—	18,636
Grand totals	1,606,308	305,644	245,263	—	—	1,666,689

Figures have been rounded to the nearest pound independently, so may not sum exactly to the totals.
For details of income and expenditure for the funds other than the General Fund, see the Annex.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The 2023 accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, and the figures for 2022 have been restated to match. The accounts include (under “sundries” in the General Fund column) a provision for a fee for examining the accounts of £780 including VAT.

2. The General Fund represents the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions on their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted. The restricted funds may be used only for the purposes for which the money was given to them.

3. Collections for specific charities are counted as “agency accounts” and have been sent to the relevant organisations before the end of the year (except that a sum of £10 outstanding at the end of 2022 was remitted to St Luke’s Hospice in 2023). The figures are not shown in these accounts.

4. 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 or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

5. Income from fundraising and other activities of the church is accounted for gross, with the associated expenditure appearing under “Fundraising expenses” or other relevant expenditure line.

6. Consecrated property is excluded from the accounts under section 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property, and are not included in the accounts. They are listed in the church’s inventory. The major items of audio-visual equipment and the office computer are being depreciated over five years: their value at the end of 2023 was £3,649.

7. The PCC owns flats at 20 Manor Court and 76 and 77 Moore House, which are let out. These properties were last valued, as at 31 December 2021, at £425,000 for 20 Manor Court and £450,000 each for 76 and 77 Moore House.

8. The figure for Debtors and Prepayments in the Balance Sheet includes Gift Aid on donations received in the relevant year (even if the Gift Aid had not been received by the end of the year). For 2023 it also includes a legacy of £46,750, which we were notified of in 2023 and which we received in early 2024. The figures for Creditors includes accrued expenditure on electricity and gas, and in 2023 a liability for £10,928 for unpaid (and previously uninvoiced) service charges for 76 and 77 Moore House since their construction in 2020. The 2023 creditors figure also includes £30,580 as the amount received from the Victoria Hall towards expenditure on the Annexe (see also Note 15) not spent on preparatory expenditure by the end of 2023.

9. In December 2022 a Church Energy Cost Support Grant of £2,641 was received from the Diocese of London. This is shown under “other income”.

10. The “cash at bank and in hand” as at 31 December 2023 includes £257,314 on the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. Events Committee funds are held in a separate account.

11. Payments are made to the Administrator (under “Salaries”) and the Cleaner (under “Cleaning”). There are no discloseable transactions in respect of PCC members, persons closely connected with them or other related parties.

12. On 19 September 2007 the PCC agreed to a reserves policy, as follows: “It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on the General Fund and any legacies and donations (if possible) which equates to approximately six months’ unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of the Fabric Fund is retained towards meeting the cost of repairs to the church building as and when necessary. It is our policy to invest our fund balances in the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.” The balances at the end of 2023 represent 18.1 months’ unrestricted payments (2022: 16.3). This is partly because of legacies received in 2017 and 2023/24.

13. Following permission from the Charity Commission to release capital from small permanent endowment funds, in August 2010 the Vicar and Churchwardens requested that the investments of the Dell Bequest be sold and transferred to a restricted PCC fund. The Vicar and Churchwardens still have responsibility for seeing that the funds are distributed in a way which reflects the intention of the original bequest and so annual donations of £500 are made to Harrow Care Plus (formerly Harrow Christmas Care).

14. On 7 July 2016 the PCC agreed to create a Vicarage Maintenance fund to comply with diocesan policy that PCCs should provide the cost of redecoration of one room in the vicarage per year (such costs are not covered by the Diocese). It was agreed to transfer £500 to this fund each year.

15. The accounts contain a new designated fund for expenditure on the Annexe being built at the west end of the church; this expenditure is being reimbursed by the Victoria Hall Charity. However, as the

Annexe is a capital project being funded by capital receipts, this does not generate any net income or expenditure. £100,000 had been received by the end of 2023, of which £69,420 had been spent on preliminary work. The difference of £30,580 due to be paid after the year end is included in the Balance Sheet under “creditors” as mentioned in Note 8.

16. In December 2022 St John’s became responsible for the financial affairs of Naya Jivan Church, a Hindi-speaking church meeting at St Andrew’s, Kingsbury. Funds of £4,416 were transferred from Holy Trinity, Hounslow, the church previously responsible, and donations of £171 were received during the remainder of 2022. The annex to these accounts includes the relevant figures from our accounts for 2023, and the figures for 2022 incorporate information supplied by Holy Trinity, Hounslow.

17. The analysis of the receipts and payments of the individual funds are provided as an annex to the accounts.

Report by the Independent Examiner

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of Parochial Church Council and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner’s report

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

Independent examiner’s statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

Revd David M Green FCA

Gowers Limited
The Old School House
Bridge Road
Hunton Bridge
Kings Langley
Herts. WD4 8SZ

Date: 16th May 2024.

Annex to the Accounts

Church of St John the Baptist, Greenhill, Harrow ANNEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023: FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This Annex does not form part of the examined accounts.

For opening and closing balances see Financial Statements (Fund Movement Summary)

		2023	2022
CHURCH ANNEXE FUND (designated) See Notes 8 and 15			
<i>Capital income:</i>	Grants from Victoria Hall	100,000	100,000
		—	—
<i>Capital expenditure:</i>	Design/planning work	69,420	—
<i>Capital expenditure:</i>	paid in 2024	30,580	100,000
		—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		—	—
CHURCH FABRIC FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations	600	600
	Income tax recovered on gift aid	150	150
	Interest	2,073	1,588
		<u>2,823</u>	<u>2,338</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>		—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		2,823	2,338
	Transfer from General Fund	10,000	10,000
LEGACIES AND DONATIONS FUND (designated)			
<i>These are substantial legacies and donations for general purposes which the Council proposes to spend on items of lasting value</i>			
<i>Income</i>	Legacy	46,750	46,750
		—	—
<i>Expenditure</i>	Depreciation	140	140
		<u>140</u>	<u>140</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		46,610	(140)
MISSION AND OUTREACH FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations	—	—
<i>Expenditure</i>	Donation	—	80
	Zoom subscription/streaming licence	62	406
	Bible courses/Lent books etc.	200	75
	Heaters	—	86
	Other outreach expenditure	—	36
	Audio-visual equipment/depreciation	1,722	1,984
		<u>1,984</u>	<u>2,432</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(1,984)	(3,115)
ORGAN FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>	Interest	—	368
<i>Expenditure</i>	Servicing and repair	800	800
		<u>(800)</u>	<u>368</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(800)	368
	Transfer from General Fund	1,000	1,000
VIC R'S DISCRETION RY FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>		—	—
<i>Expenditure</i>		—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		—	—
VICARAGE MAINTAINANCE FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>		—	—
<i>Expenditure</i>	Vicarage maintainance	—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		—	—
	Transfer from General Fund	500	500
CHILDREN'S FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>		—	—
<i>Expenditure</i>	Messy Church	—	49
Surplus (deficit) for year		(49)	—

		2023	2022
BOILER RENEWAL FUND (designated)			
<i>Income</i>	Interest	—	187
		—	187
<i>Expenditure</i>		—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		—	187
	Transfer from General Fund	1,600	1,600
EVENTS COMMITTEE (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Social events	—	252
		—	252
<i>Expenditure</i>	Cost of social events	—	194
		—	194
Surplus (deficit) for year		—	58
CHOIR FUND (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Stainer's <i>Crucifixion</i> (2023: inc GASDS)	332	364
	Interest	47	61
		<u>379</u>	<u>425</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Music	—	25
	Harrow Deanery Choirs Festival	300	—
	Stainer's <i>Crucifixion</i> expenses	320	320
		<u>620</u>	<u>345</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(241)	80
GOSPEL CHOIR FUND (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations	—	75
	Interest	28	34
		<u>28</u>	<u>109</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Donations	75	—
	Transport	10	—
		<u>85</u>	<u>—</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(57)	109
GARDEN FUND (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations	—	200
	Income tax recovered	—	50
	Interest	—	4
		<u>—</u>	<u>254</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Hedge cutting/maintenance/clearing	104	150
		<u>104</u>	<u>150</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(104)	104
MISSIONARY COMMITTEE FUND (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Interest	1	1
		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>		—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		1	1
WELCOME CENTRE FUND (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Interest	13	15
		<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>		—	—
Surplus (deficit) for year		13	15
FLOWER FUND (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations for flowers	285	316
	Interest	19	22
		<u>304</u>	<u>338</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Flower purchases	354	354
		<u>354</u>	<u>354</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(50)	(16)
DELL BEQUEST (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Interest	155	190
		<u>155</u>	<u>190</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Harrow Care Plus	500	500
		<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		(345)	(310)

		2023	2022
HARVEST APPEAL (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations	639	653
	Income tax recovered	207	116
		<u>846</u>	<u>769</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Harrow Food Bank	846	769
Surplus (deficit) for year		(0)	0
LENT APPEAL 2022 (restricted)			
<i>Income</i>	Donations		90
	Income tax recovered	—	3
		<u>—</u>	<u>93</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Diocesan Lent Appeal	—	93
Surplus (deficit) for year		—	—
NAYA JIVAN (2022 figures incorporate data from Holy Trinity, Hounslow) [Note 16]			
<i>Income</i>	Gift-aided donations	4,888	4,906
	Income tax recovered	1,222	1,116
	Non-gift-aided donations	186	257
	Interest	199	—
	Grants (from Archdeacon)	—	3,500
		<u>6,495</u>	<u>9,779</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>	Rent to St Andrew's, Kingsbury	3,710	5,740
	Clergy expenses	118	909
	Church services	—	1,225
		<u>3,828</u>	<u>7,874</u>
Surplus (deficit) for year		2,667	1,905