

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST OSWALD, KING & MARTYR, OSWESTRY**  
The Parish Office, Church Street, Oswestry, SY11 2SY

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
2019**

The PCC cooperates with the Incumbent in the whole mission of the church according to the call of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. As part of the Synodical structure of the Church of England, the PCC makes known and puts into effect any provision made by the Diocesan or Deanery Synods and gives advice to these synods on any matters the PCC considers appropriate. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church; the PCC draws up a budget and has the responsibility with the Incumbent of appointing, paying and dismissing paid officers of the parish. The PCC is responsible for the care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric of the Parish Church and the adjacent Parish Centre; a house at 14 Lower Brook Street, Oswestry is in the beneficial ownership of the Parochial Church Council, vested in the Diocesan Trust and is normally let to tenants. The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of the School House at Morda Church of England Primary School in the parish.

As a parish within the Diocese of Lichfield, it follows the Bishop's Three Primary Tasks of Discipleship, Evangelism and Vocation.

**Membership of the PCC is as follows:**

**(a) Ex-Officio**

Incumbent *Vicar of St Oswald, King & Martyr, Oswestry – Rev'd H L Gibbons, M.A.*

Churchwardens    Mr D P Evison    Miss E J Williams    Mrs M Jones    Mr A Neale

Deanery Synod Representatives (elected in 2017 to serve until 2020)

*Includes ex-officio membership of the PCC*

Mr W E Bowen BEM    Mrs J Chesworth    Mrs L Clarke    Mr I Davies

**(b) Elected Representatives** under arrangements in force since the late 1980's and modified in 2002, three people are elected each year, for a term of three years.

To serve until 2020            Mrs E Leek            Mrs F Major

To serve until 2021            Mr P Crosby            Mr M Donkin            Mr C Lewis

To serve until 2022            Mrs S Best            Mrs F A Boulton            Mrs F Pearson

**Co-options**

At the first meeting of the Council following the APCM on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 Mrs S Tansley was re-appointed as Hon. Secretary and co-opted with full voting rights.

## **Officers of the Council**

The Vicar, as Incumbent is the legal Chairman of the Council  
The Lay-co-Chairman of the Council is Mr D P Evison  
The Hon. Secretary to the Council is Mrs Susan Tansley  
The Hon. Treasurer to the Council is Mr D P Evison  
The Electoral Roll Officer is Mrs M C Crosby

## **Sub Committees of the Council**

The Vicar is ex officio on all sub committees listed below:

### **(a) Standing Committee** (the sole statutory Sub Committee)

**The Vicar, Four Churchwardens; Lay co-Chairman;  
Hon. Secretary; Hon. Treasurer - all ex officio**

Mr P Crosby; Mr I Davies

Other sub committees include representatives appointed by the PCC from among their number, normally including one Churchwarden (at least) signified by \*

**Building and Fabric Committee** – the full terms of reference is available on request and the membership is as follows: **Mr P Crosby (Chair), Mr P Evison\*, Mr C Tansley Mr A Neale\*, Mr M Clarke, Mr M Brennan and Mr P Walley**

**Finance Committee** – the full terms of reference is available on request and the membership is as follows: **Mr P Evison\* (Chair), Mr M Donkin, Cdr M Peters (Gift Aid), the late Mr D Karran, Mr A Clarke and Mrs L Adams**

**Parish Centre Management Committee** to manage the daily running of the Centre and its staff. **Mr A Neale\*(Chairman), Miss S West (until 1 August 2019, taken over by Mrs J Holderness), Mrs E Leek and Mr W E Bowen BEM.**

**Social Committee** to encourage activities and functions within the church to bring people together outside worship. **Mr C Lewis (Chairman), Mr P R Crosby, Mrs M Crosby, Mr W E Bowen BEM, Mrs M Bowen, Mr D Doggett, Mrs P Lewis, Ms G Lewis, Mr G Young and Miss M Jones** agreed to help out when possible.

### **Mission and Giving Group**

**Mr D Doggett, Mrs A Pilsbury, Mr H Jones**

### **Mission and Ministry Team**

**Mr W E Bowen BEM, Mrs J Chesworth, Mrs L Clarke, Mr B Evans, Mrs E Leek Mrs G Evison, Mr I Davies, Miss S Wright and Mrs F Stocking**

### **Sick and Needy Fund**

**Mr P Crosby Mrs M Jones**

The PCC appoints representatives to the local ecumenical body **Churches Together in Oswestry and District**. A total of two including the clergy are allowed according to the revised constitution of Churches Together adopted in 2012. Those nominated at the

Annual Meeting were **The Vicar, Mrs A Pilsbury and Mr I Davies** who agreed to fill in when called upon to do so.

### **The Parish**

The population of Oswestry according to the 2011 census was 18,700 of which 10,700 live in the parochial parish of St Oswald, King & Martyr. The Electoral Roll at 29 April 2019 stood at 244. Average Sunday Adult attendance for the year stood at 151 and in addition 12 under the age of 16 years. Thanks are due to Mrs Maureen Crosby for encouraging membership of the electoral roll.

### **Mission and Giving**

£4,000 was allocated for charitable giving over and above the various special collections and fundraising efforts supporting emergency appeals and those we traditionally support. The £4,000 was shared as follows:

Toilet Twinning	£750
Compassion UK	£750
Hope UK	£750
Oswestry Rural Youth Church	£500
Designs in Mind	£500
Morda C of E Primary School	£500
Oswestry & Borders Food Bank	£250
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Total	£4,000

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees of the Charity are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that by promoting the work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical Parish of St Oswald, King & Martyr, Oswestry it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively within the ecclesiastical Parish and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:-

Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers: and promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

### **Health & Safety and Risk Management**

We are required to make adequate arrangements for Health and Safety and to carry some understanding of the risks that are perceived, together with a strategy for risk management.

In implementing these policies, it has proved to be effective in ensuring that we conduct all our activities in a safe manner whilst maintaining the dignity of our worship and protecting the fabric of our ancient grade II\* listed building.

The policies are reviewed, amended and discussed by the PCC on a regular basis. Our Health and Safety Officer is Mr M Donkin. Outside organisations using the Church, Parish

Centre or Tower are provided with a statement of the procedures and their responsibilities when using the Church.

We will continue to be diligent in providing for the safety of our congregation employees, volunteers and visitors according to the policy and regulations which can be requested from the Parish Office.

The principal risks fall under the following headings:

**Accidents and First Aid, Fire safety, Electrical safety, Gas safety, Control of hazardous substances, Plant and machinery, Slips, trips and falls, Lighting, Falls from height, Food hygiene, Manual handling, Display screen equipment, Hazardous buildings/glazing, Child protection, Personal safety, Activities and other hazards.**

We continue to develop understanding of, training in and adherence to these policies and take reasonable and necessary steps to prevent accidents occurring. The Health and Safety policy and Fire Safety policy were reviewed during 2016 and copy is available on request from the Hon. Secretary to the PCC.

### **Safeguarding**

There has been considerable attention given to the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults nationally and not least by the Church of England. During 2019 we reviewed our parish policies and procedures to make sure that we bring DBS checks up to date for those required to have them. We have adopted the Diocesan and Church of England policies in this regard.

**The Parish Sick and Needy Fund:** The fund was set up some years ago formerly known as the Vicar's Discretionary Fund to help people within the parish who are suffering with hardship and is administered by a small committee under the chairmanship of the Vicar. If any member of the congregation is aware of any such case they should contact the Vicar for the case to be discussed with the committee.

### **Incumbents Review of the Year**

As I look back over the events of last year a number of threads begin to appear.

Firstly, that which was a continuation of what had gone before. St Oswald's is a busy parish and ministry is ongoing with both Sundays and mid-week services being an important part of our mission. In the last twelve months we conducted: 34 Baptisms (including 7 from Moreton Hall); 32 funerals in church, 20 at Crematoria or Cemetery and 1 interment of ashes where the funeral had taken place elsewhere and 9 weddings. Whilst the occasional offices rarely, if ever, have a significant impact on our Sunday congregations, they are so important because they are a shop window into the church and its people. They enable us to reach out to all people in compassionate service, loving our neighbour as we try to serve God.

A similar approach can be taken towards Christmas, it is a busy time of year with school and church services and there are times when it can feel a bit like a conveyor belt. Yet it shows that St Oswald's is there to serve all who call upon us, to be inclusive and

accessible. It is a constant reminder of the responsibility we face in keeping 'church' healthy and present for this, and future generations. Our worship was much aided by the remodelling of the church's online presence which began with the relaunching of the Church Facebook page with material being regularly updated on the St Oswald's Messy Church Facebook page. Changes to the Sunday liturgies continued with the rewriting of the liturgy for the 'Sundays after Easter' and the 'Sundays of Advent'.

We continued to build our All Age Worship, Messy Church, links with the Under 5's group, and our relationship with Morda Primary School. It is a relationship that the school values greatly, as is our relationship with Oswestry School who now hold assemblies regularly on a Friday afternoon. This not only builds our pastoral engagement, but offers a new income stream. Mission and outreach to church members was also maintained through relaunched Pastoral Groups, the Monday Ladies Group, Place of Welcome, Lent course groups and our connection with the Mothers' Union. All of these provided important fellowship and pastoral support.

The year marked the centenary of peace which brought to an official end the hostilities of the First World War. Whilst it was a significantly smaller event than that of 2018, it enabled me to create a good working relationship with a new town mayor and town clerk. The civic role that St Oswald's is privileged to hold is a reminder of the importance of maintaining a good and creative working relationship with the town council and the people of Oswestry as we seek new ways to serve them.

Secondly, those things that were new beginnings and two things come to mind. Firstly, I was invited to set up a chaplaincy service at Derwen College as part of their well-being offering to students. St Oswald's and Derwen have enjoyed a long history so it is particularly pleasing to see that relationship continue with the setting up of a weekly 'Prayer and Praise' session which includes a member of staff and several young adults. It has proven to be both an example of how we can be challenged by the call of God, and fed by those we serve. It also serves as a reminder of our duty to be an inclusive church with doors and hearts open to everyone.

Secondly, St Oswald's was invited to participate in LEAD Academy, a new Diocesan initiative for churches in Market Town contexts. A group of five of us; myself, Jan Chesworth, Lindsay Clarke, Muriel Jones and Alan Neale spent two challenging days exploring our values and purpose alongside other church groups. It was an exercise that has begun the process of reshaping St Oswald's direction of travel for the next decade, so please do join in as best you can.

LEAD Academy is for me an extension of my personal theology and ecclesiology, both of which find fruition in collaborative ministry. Leaders are here to show leadership and direction, but leaders are only as effective as those they lead. Recognising and developing our skills and gifts, working together and encouraging one another is crucial as we discover what God has in store for us, both as individuals and also as a worshipping community seeking to love God and serve our neighbour.

So, to the third thread, the closure of things that had been carried over from 2018. At long last we completed the drainage work and await with eager anticipation the completion of

the floor repairs at the West end of the church. These important projects have been a major drain on the time and energy of many people and have had a significant impact on our church life. Finally, the Social Committee which has served St Oswald's for so many years was disbanded in order to give a little space to a new group which will be set up next year. My gratitude to all those who have served so lovingly on that committee.

Thank you too, to everyone who has worked so hard alongside me during the past twelve months, supporting and gently (though not always) putting me straight. A special thank you to the PCC and Church Wardens, to Frances and Diane, and to Gerry and Mike. Also to my ministry colleagues; Brian, John, Keith, Gordon and David Hart who have now been joined by Adrian; not forgetting Bill, Bryan and Wendy without whose help and support so much of the work completed this year could not have been done.

I wish to close with a personal thank you. In 2019, I celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being made deacon in Salisbury Cathedral and it was a privilege to celebrate here with you, and also to stand alongside our children Toby and Hester and our daughter in law Ruthi, you made them so very welcome, thank you.

As ever, I am looking forward to the next twelve months with great enthusiasm and hope.

***Rev'd Harvey Gibbons***

## **Safeguarding**

At the time of writing this report everyone requiring a DBS check has one. Everyone who has a DBS certificate has also completed their required training. A few people are due to update their training this year which can now be done on-line. Reminders will be sent as the renewal dates become due.

All PCC members are now required to complete the on-line training and this is in process.

A Safeguarding incident was reported in December 2019 which flagged up the need for support for one of our congregation. This was dealt with in a very sensitive way and we are aware that support from outside agencies is ongoing as well as from within St Oswald's.

Please continue to report any concerns to either myself, Harvey or contact the help lines on the church website. Guidelines are also shown on the Safeguarding posters on display around the church.

**Lynne Adams, Safeguarding Coordinator**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE BUSINESS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

In 2019 there were six meetings of the PCC with 18 members including the Vicar and Secretary. The average attendance at each meeting was 14. My grateful thanks go to all those who attend PCC meetings for doing their best for our church.

The church is opened each day for morning prayer. The Vicar takes evening prayer Monday to Thursday in St Catherine's Chapel at 1600 hrs during the winter months and at 1700 hours once it is lighter in the evening and he locks the church afterwards. Locking on Fridays is by rota, and the Director of Music opens up on a Saturday morning for choir practice. A discussion has taken place about whether a paid Caretaker/Verger should be employed with some extra duties, not currently filled by the congregation.

Once again we took part in the Heritage weekend and Miss Pam Willing put up a display about the past "Pubs, Pews and People" of Oswestry which was very well received and great interest was shown by all who viewed it.

The Tower was open on the day and visits were well attended (see Bell-Ringers report).

On the 9<sup>th</sup> September the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust held their sponsored Ride and Stride. Five people from St Oswald's took part cycling round seven villages. We came fourth in Shropshire, raising £1,136 including Gift Aid for SHCT and the church received nearly £500 from them. Thank you again to all, whether in church helping me with the refreshments or taking part in the cycling.

The St Oswald's Day 'Bring and Share' lunch took place in August in the Vicarage Garden to celebrate our Patronal Festival, the sun shone and it was once again a success.

The PCC has agreed to purchase the 'St Oswald's Icon' which we had been displaying but did not own. It will be brought out for the Patronal Festival and other important events. We hope to make more of our Patron Saint in 2020 and on those days the Icon will be on display. The cost to buy the Icon was covered entirely by donations.

The Christmas lunch this year took place on the 25 December in the Parish Centre, Sandy and Marilyn took on the cooking and worked very hard, for which the Vicar praised them. The numbers were restricted to fifty and it was a successful day, thank you to all who helped in any way. It has been discussed how this could be taken further and that 'high teas' during Spring, Summer and Autumn with a Dementia friendly aspect is under consideration.

The St George's Memorial Centenary in April 2020 has been put off to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day on the 8<sup>th</sup> May by the Town Council with a civic service in church followed by a shorter service at Cae Glas Park gates with a picnic in the park to follow.

A request is going to the Bishop to re-dedicate the St George's Memorial on a different day.

**Susan Tansley, Hon. Secretary to the PCC**

## **CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT**

Routine contract servicing of installations within the Church and the Parish Centre has been completed as required, and also repairs and maintenance to the buildings have been carried out. Further details of all work is given in the report of the Buildings and Fabric Committee.

We are not aware of any theft of personal or church property during the year.

Churchyard parking remains a problem especially at the 10.30 Sunday morning service.

We are so grateful to those who carry out the role of Deputy and Retired Church Wardens; Lynne Adams, Neil Brogden, Lindsay Clarke, Malcolm Clarke, Paul Crosby, Irene Gull, Cynthia Hawksley, Carole Joby, Elaine Leek, David Morgan, Mike Peters, Graham Roberts and Jenifer Chippett-Williams and we appreciate the loyal teams of sides-people who welcome and make our services run smoothly.

We welcome the ongoing support from the congregation and feel very privileged to serve in the Office of Churchwarden.

**June, Paul, Alan and Muriel**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

It always feels good when I know that the accounts for the previous year end have been completed and balanced. So now I can make my observation on the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

In the year to 2018 my report stated that it had been a peculiar year. The year 2019 was far more balanced. The property in Lower Brook Street is now professionally managed and has given us no problems. Our Investment Valuation pulled back the significant loss of last year with a substantial increase this year.

The Fabric Committee did not spend its allocated budget, so this contributed to the excess of income over expenditure, and as always, we are grateful for the generous contributions from our Parishioners which ensure that our voluntary income remains constant.

Donations to the church of £11,129 includes a grant of £7,500 for the work on the drains.

There would be little surplus in our accounts without our Investment Income. Our annual expenditure is £152,782 which equates to £2,938.12 per week.

The figures for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 are fully explained in the PCC Financial Statements included in the Annual Report.

As always I could not and would not attempt to act as Treasurer without the assistance of the staff from Garner Pugh & Sinclair, who are paid as outlined in the accounts for this service. In addition, I would like to thank Irene Gull and her Monday morning team of counters, together with the administrator Frances and her backroom helpers Diane Dawson and Ann Sagar.

**Paul Evison**

## ALTAR GUILD

Visitors to St Oswald's often remark on the brightness of the church brass. This is due to the efforts of the brass cleaners, a small team of women and men. Most of them are elderly so some new recruits would be very welcome (especially men!) The work involved is not too onerous – an hour or so every month or two.

At the end of December I retired from organising the rota for the brass cleaning. I would like to thank all of those who have dedicated themselves to this important task.

**Angela Doggett**

## BELL RINGERS

We rang all eight bells for most Sunday morning services and also rang for civic and church services – St Andrew, St Patrick, St George's Days, Remembrance Sunday, St Oswald's Patronal Festival, Christmas and New Year. Practices were also well attended, conducted by Cordelia Warr (Sunday) and Peter Woollam (Thursday). In December we celebrated the 40 year contribution of John Ellis, whose health now prevents him from ringing.

Bells were rung for 8 weddings at St Oswald's and 2 at St John, Whittington.

The fortnightly Quarter Peel programme resulted in 29 Quarters:-

- Remembering an uncle who piloted a landing craft onto Normandy beach on D-Day;
- Quarters rung for the first time nationally and named for St Hildegard of Bingen / St Joavan of Leon / St Gilda the Wise;
- The award of the BEM to Bill Bowen

Our 'Oswestry School' bell-ringing club, part of the school's 'Activities' programme, is led by Richard Major and Peter Woollam. Ollie Miller from last year's programme and Ben Rothera, our tower captain's elder son, recruited in the 'Ringing Remembers' initiative, are now regular Sunday service and wedding ringers. Two of this year's Oswestry School students are also showing real interest.

Oswestry Mayor, John Price, asked to attend a Thursday practice, visiting the belfry and enjoying the view from the top of the tower, and raising our profile locally.

Two Heritage Open Day tours raised £55.23 for our bell fund.

Our usual Boxing Day Teddy Bear Zip-wire was well supported and raised £135.

St Oswald continues as a centre for hosting some of the annual Shropshire Association programme of meetings and practices. Several of us joined in the Shropshire Association's Quiz in November and the shared Association Carol Service at Baschurch in December. We also hosted the 2020 AGM and provided a light meal for approximately 50 members.

**Visitors** came singly from across the country, including Cockermouth, Dumfries, Aylesbury, Shiplake and on ringing tours – 24 Bournemouth diocese ringers on their annual tour / the Modern Society of Plymouth Youth / Edgmond's Annual Tour.

**Jan Snowball, Secretary**

## **BIBLE STUDY**

This group has been meeting on a weekly basis and during the first part of the year we completed our studies of Matthew's Gospel.

After much deliberation, we then decided that we would like to step into the unknown and challenge ourselves with a book from the Old Testament. Our shortlist was narrowed down and the unanimous decision was made to study the apocalyptic book of Daniel and oh! what a challenge it has proved to be!

This writing has given rise to much learning and debate and we have all been amazed at the similarities of the world as it was then and still is today. Our knowledge has been increased not only spiritually, but also historically and geographically.

The chance to meet and share our Christian journeys with each other in this way has enriched all our lives in so many ways and we consider ourselves very blessed for this opportunity.

**Natasha, Julia and Sally**

## **BUILDING AND FABRIC COMMITTEE**

Work on Phase 2 of the major project, identified in the 2016 Quinquennial Inspection, to repair damage to the drains round the north side of the church progressed during the year. Replacing the drain which was damaged at the point where it went underneath the west wall of the North Transept was problematic so, following agreed Faculty amendment, the drain was replaced by a soak-away. This work completed replacement of all the damaged drainage from the church. Unfortunately, work to eliminate the flooding with the churchyard car park cannot be considered as part of this project because of the costs involved.

Following replacement of the drains by the west door, the joists and floorboards, identified in the Quinquennial inspection as being affected by wet rot, have been replaced. However, the committee felt it was prudent to confirm that there was no further wet rot in the area along the west wall towards the Yale Memorial. Wet rot was found and, following an extension to the Faculty, replacement of the affected flooring, planned for November, was completed in January 2020.

In addition to the £9,150 grants from Trusts and £2,000 from members of the congregation mentioned in the 2018 report, £7,500 from the Garfield Weston Foundation and £5,000 from the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust have been received, bringing the total support towards the cost of this project to £23,650.

A proposal by a member of the congregation to add turned-spindle lighting with shades within the choir stalls, as a memorial gift, is progressing. We are waiting photographs of a mock-up of the proposal before seeking a final Faculty approval.

Following the attempted murder in the summer of 2018 in the area between the church and the parish centre, a temporary barrier was erected. The architect has designed a permanent wrought iron replacement which will be in keeping with the church building and this has received Faculty approval. The architect is seeking tenders for this work but, so far, attempts to seek external funding have failed.

After a window was broken in the cloister to the parish centre we found the window frames on both sides of the cloister have rotted. Whilst localised repair is suitable on the side with the broken

window, the Broadwalk side will need a completely new window frame which will be completed in 2020.

An overflowing gutter had affected the plaster in the office. The plaster has been repaired and the area repainted on a self-help basis.

We have signed a four year gas contract with British Gas until February 2024 and a four year electricity contract with Total Gas and Power until November 2023.

VAT totalling £2,786, which had already been paid on eligible work, has been reclaimed under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme.

Contract servicing of the Parish Centre wheelchair-accessible Lift, Fire Appliances, Organ and Clock have been completed and the boilers in the church and the parish centre have also been serviced.

Though thanks are due to the whole committee, particular thanks must go to Colin Tansley and Peter Walley who have undertaken 'self-help' works and on-going maintenance.

**Paul Crosby, Chairman**

## **CHURCH CHOIR**

This year we have seen some comings and goings, Chelsea Morris left to take up her studies in Music at the University of West London (formerly the London College of Music) and at the same time we have welcomed three new choristers, Francesca Porter, Zach Jones and Logan Darbyshire who have all settled in well and are making a good contribution to the music of St Oswald's.

I am delighted to say that Ethan Cheetham secured a chorister scholarship at Oswestry School. We have two scholarships available each year and I am always pleased to discuss these with anyone who thinks that they know a child who would benefit from the fine education available at the school and the musicianship and voice coaching available through the choir.

This year nine choristers attended the annual RSCM Summer School at Bath. In addition to these Abbi Grainger, a previous Head Chorister was once again appointed Head Chorister of the whole course and Chelsea Morris was appointed as House Captain for the Junior Girls. Abbi graduated this year with a degree in European Law and French from the University of Birmingham.

I am grateful to those people who so generously responded to our 'Adopt a Chorister' appeal and helped fund the chorister's attendance.

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June, the Choir sang Choral Evensong in Lichfield Cathedral. A number of members of the congregation joined us on the coach to Lichfield and others made their own way. The occasion was a great success and we are grateful for the support that we received from the church family.

Highlights of the year were:-

1. A summer recital series of 6 lunchtime concerts throughout June and early July. This was organised by our Organist, Gerry Howe, who produced a stunning array of organists.

Refreshments were available from mid-day and the recitals began at 1.00 pm lasting about 50 minutes in order to let those who had to return to work time to do so. Entry was free of charge but a retiring collection was taken which provided some much needed additional resources for the Organ maintenance fund. The series was such a success that we are planning a repeat in 2020.

2. The purchase, thanks to a donation, of a lovely small chamber organ which was used at the Veronica Donkin Memorial Organ Recital when Gerry played it in a performance of Handel's Organ Concerto 'The Cuckoo and the Nightingale'.
3. A performance of Handel's 'Messiah' given by the Church Choir with Cantiones and members of the Scholars & Gentlemen. This was played to a packed house and raised over £900 of which £300 has been given to the music fund while the remainder has added to the Church's funds. Thanks to all who took part and those who supported us.

The Choir currently comprises:-

- 13 Trebles / Sopranos
- 4 Altos
- 5 Tenors and
- 6 Basses

We welcome applications in all parts of the choir. Children should be able readers but need not have any musical skills beyond being able to sing in tune. Adults should be competent singers with either good sight reading skills or the ability to learn quickly.

My special thanks to Gerry Howe who, in addition to his duties as organist which he carries out to the highest standard, has worked with me to deliver the Royal School of Church Music 'Voice for Life' training scheme which does so much to maintain the high standard of musicianship which routinely enhances our liturgy. This year Gerry suffered a personal tragedy in the loss of his partner of 20 years, Xavier. I am extremely grateful to Gerry for the way in which he has carried out his duties and supported the choristers despite having to deal with such a stressful time.

**Mike Donkin, Director of Music**

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN OSWESTRY DISTRICT**

CTOD finds itself at something of a crossroads. At the last meeting it was revealed that the executive is considering its future with regard to its role and purpose.

CTOD plays a vital role in uniting Christians despite huge differences in points of view and styles of worship. It reminds us that we are one Body in Christ and promotes fellowship and understanding between us. CTOD was responsible for the emergence of the Food Bank and the Schools Christian Worker Project which are now autonomous. It has encouraged Christian Aid through bucket collections, events and house to house collections, although St Oswald's is now the only church to continue with this. It has also encouraged smaller groups and projects such as the Community Outreach Group which provides a Christian presence in Oswestry Market, Kiwoko hospital, a thriving teaching hospital in Uganda, and Oswestry Rural Youth Church for isolated young Christians.

In view of the present uncertainties regarding its leadership and role, a committee of clergy and Executive members is meeting to discern the way forward. Our prayers are welcomed.

**Anne Pilsbury**

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

The church website continues to keep parishioners and visitors informed of what is happening. Please continue to tell me about new events and also changes to existing events so that the site is kept up to date, <http://www.stoswaldsoswestry.org.uk/>  
Thanks go to Ann Sagar for the weekly Pew Sheet and to Diane Dawson for the monthly Parish News. Thanks also to Harvey for maintaining our Facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/stoswaldsoswestry/>

**Anne Pilsbury**

## **DEANERY SYNOD**

Deanery Synod met in 2019 under the chairmanship of the Revd Paul Darlington. The summer meeting, at Holy Trinity Church, was a detailed and lengthy presentation by a Diocesan representative on the way the Parish share is calculated. In the autumn the synod met at Gobowen, and had a lively workshop led by the vicar of St George's, Frankwell, Tim Vasby-Burnie, on Discipleship. This provided plenty of opportunity for thought and discussion.

We have been kept updated throughout the year on the progress of Oswestry Rural Youth church by the Pioneer Youth Minister, Matt Barkley.

**Lindsay Clarke**

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Finance Committee met four times in 2019. Our first meeting is always to review the annual accounts before they are examined by our Independent Examiner.

Lynne Adams retired from the Committee in April 2019 and was not replaced.

During 2019 we discussed the possibility of a Gift Day and/or Stewardship Campaign, but felt the time was not right. We also explored the possibility of appointing a Caretaker/Verger, but put the decision on hold. However, in 2020 we feel that this appointment will be necessary.

Barclays Bank decided to charge us for having a separate bank account for USPG funds, so it was decided that we should close the bank account, as donations had reduced over the recent years. Many thanks to all those who have contributed over the years.

As in previous years David Karran reported on the state of our Investment Portfolio at each meeting. We were saddened by the news of his death and I know that we will all miss David's valuable contribution. He had been my predecessor as Church Treasurer, and his knowledge especially regarding our investment strategy will leave a gap in our Finance Committee team.

Overall the Committee is a springboard for thought regarding future financial commitments and assists the PCC on financial decisions. This relieves the financial burden and time pressures on PCC meetings that would ensue without the Finance Committee reviewing the state of financial affairs on a regular basis.

The role of the Committee is also to support the Treasurer and assist the Churchwardens in their financial duties.

Once again I thank Mike Peters for his work as Secretary to the Committee.

**Paul Evison, Chairman**

### **HOME COMMUNION**

The team of Wendy Groom, Bill Bowen, Michael Jones and Pam and Keith Musson have continued to visit the four residential homes in the parish and some ten individuals in their homes on a monthly basis. The message that we take is that all those who share in the body of Christ are members of the one body and that even though they are unable to attend normal services they are still included in the family of the church.

If you become aware of anyone who would wish to be included in this ministry please contact the Vicar or myself.

**Keith Musson**

### **LADIES' GROUP**

The group continues to thrive sharing prayer and fellowship together, usually on the first Monday of the month in the evening, with an average attendance of 30+.

We have a wide range of speakers. Members help at many functions in our Church Life and new members are most welcome. Details from June 652544 or Ann 657903.

**June Williams**

### **MESSY CHURCH**

Messy Church is held in the Parish Centre on the third Sunday in the month from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Our numbers are increasing and last month we welcomed two new families who have come to join us. Gary Edwards who comes to messy church is now Crucifer at the All Age Worship and his daughter Amy is an Acolyte. They also assist in the preparation of one of the five fun activities each month that we arrange for the children who attend Messy Church. Richard Ali and Tomi Rekikoski (two of the Dads) are our chefs at the BBQ that we hold in July in the grounds of the Parish Centre.

Themes we have looked at this year have included: Noah, faithful sheep, safe and sound, walking disciples. Photographs of our activities are always displayed on the board in Church.

Our worship has been greatly enhanced since Harvey produced a projector and screen for our service in the Lady Chapel and we would like to thank him for this and also his ideas and enthusiasm in undertaking the service each month.

In December some of the children joined the junior church choir in the Christmas Parade through the town.

In preparation for the Christingle Service some of our families with their children assisted with the making of Christingles in the Parish Basement on the Saturday morning before the service the following day. The year culminated in the Christingle service attended by the whole Church enjoying light refreshments in Church provided by the helpers.

Sadly in December we lost Gaynor who was our Secretary as well as one of our dedicated helpers. It was a shock to all the families and we miss Gaynor's presence and friendly manner each month. Paul assures me that he will return to help us again in the near future. We would like to thank Diane Dawson, Mary Jones and Dilys Lloyd who have helped us out in the kitchen over the year. New helpers or people who would be willing to fill in occasionally if we are short will be made most welcome.

**Ann Sagar on behalf of the Messy Church Team**

### **MINISTRY OF WELCOME & CHURCH STEWARDING**

During the summer, a group of volunteers welcome visitors to our beautiful church. The visitors can be from all parts of the country, or indeed, the world. Many are just visiting the town for the first time but some have family connections with St Oswald's.

We have been fortunate in welcoming two new volunteers this year. We are most grateful to all the volunteers who have given their time again to this valuable part of our Church life.

If you feel you can help us with this extremely interesting and rewarding role, please join us. It only involves an hour and a half of your time each week, and runs through June to the end of September.

For more details please contact Dilys Lloyd – telephone 01691657244 or Ann Sagar – telephone 01691657903. We look forward to welcoming you to our friendly team.

**Dilys Lloyd and Ann Sagar**

### **MISSION AND MINISTRY TEAM (MMT)**

The MMT began 2019 by choosing material for, and running, the Lent Study Groups. About fifty church members attended these studies, which used the Gospel reading for each Sunday in Lent, approaching each with a different way of engaging with scripture.

MMT provided a springboard for the planning of the Easter services. On Holy Saturday a continuous reading of St Luke's Gospel was held in church. This proved to be a very moving experience.

In June MMT organised and ran the Open Prayer Day as part of "Thy Kingdom Come", the Archbishop's call to prayer. This was on the theme of The Fruit of the Spirit and was well attended by both church members and visitors.

In July we held "Taste and See", a day of workshops exploring different ways of praying. This proved very popular and we will repeat it in 2020.

In September 15 people took part in a short course on the Rhythms of Grace, the rule of life for the Diocesan Community of St Chad.

MMT continues to organise the Prayer Breakfast held bi-monthly on the last Saturday of the month. Forty-five minutes of prayer and reflection are followed by breakfast and fellowship. These are a wonderful time of calm and everyone is welcome to come.

During Advent MMT gave three lunchtime reflections on the theme of "Longing". These worked well and those attending were able to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy a chat afterwards.

In early December the last three years' Baptism families were sent invitations to the Crib and Christingle Services together with a little book of the Christmas story. Also in December a bake sale was held after morning service, in aid of the Children's Society.

The MMT, together with a loyal band of helpers, continues to run the popular Tuesday morning Place of Welcome. This was also open on the Saturday of the Oswestry Christmas Parade, offering hot drinks and mince pies. We look forward to another busy year in 2020.

**Lindsay Clarke on behalf of the Mission and Ministry Team**

### **MOTHERS' UNION**

During the last twelve months members from St Oswald's have continued to attend meetings at Gobowen. They have continued to make us welcome and after a talk we continued our fellowship with afternoon tea.

In March and October we invited members from Gobowen and Selattyn Branches to St Oswald's on which occasions our speakers were, separately our Vicar Revd Harvey Gibbons and the Archdeaconry President Mrs Katherine May. A Christmas lunch was organised instead of the December meeting.

For a variety of reasons six of those who have attended Gobowen during this last year are planning to return to St Oswald's in 2020 where we will meet on a more informal basis in the Parish Centre and are expecting to be joined by other previous branch members and anyone who would like to support us.

**Pam Musson**

## **PARISH CENTRE COMMITTEE**

Apart from some minor upgrades of the equipment, the main change has been to introduce a new booking system. We are very grateful for the many years of service by Sylvia West, who has this year taken well earned retirement from her role as booking secretary. The IT systems available and expectations of 'users' of the Centre have led to this change. Mrs Jenni Holderness has taken on the job of collaboratively designing and implementing an on-line system of enquiry and booking. We are pleased to report that the system is working well.

Towards the end of the year, problems were apparent with the electrical power circuits. Arrangements were made to ensure safety whilst enabling a reduced power socket availability until replacement of cabling was done.

The replacement time-clocks on the heating system have enabled on-going reliable heating to be provided.

The committee are aware of several issues which impede the maximum use of the Centre. They will be pleased to work with others to achieve any outcomes highlighted during consultations in the coming year in order to implement the vision for the decade.

**Alan Neale, Chairman**

## **PLACE OF WELCOME**

Place of Welcome opened on every Tuesday morning of 2019, and we also opened on a Saturday morning in December, on the day of the town Christmas Parade. We continue to welcome both regulars and occasional guests, from the community and from our church family. All enjoy the chat and the refreshments, especially the toasted fruit loaf and the seasonal hot cross buns and mince pies. There is no charge for anything but guests can leave small donations and these enable us to very easily cover our costs. Surplus funds are given away throughout the year to charitable organizations, with an emphasis on social action. In 2019 we donated a total of £460, distributed between The Food Bank, the local branch of the NSPCC, Sycamore Tree restorative justice scheme at HMP Berwyn, Crisis at Christmas, Morda School Holiday Club, and also Severn Hospice and Hope House.

It is still important to do all we can to make people who might benefit from Place of Welcome aware that it is there, so we would urge church members to spread the word amongst friends and neighbours.

Place of Welcome would not be possible without our rota of cheerful kitchen volunteers, and we thank them all most sincerely.

**Elaine Leek, on behalf of The Place of Welcome team**

## **PRAYER AND CARE**

We have been meeting for over 20 years!

We are not super-prayers, but have been called to this ministry of prayer. We meet on the first Monday afternoon of the month in each other's houses. We have a short office, then report in confidence on those for whom we pray, and we pray for them. Then a cup of tea, and return home to pray by ourselves each day for those on our list.

There is a box at the back of the church into which people can put requests for prayer, and these are brought up to the altar in the Sunday service. We also pray for them.

If you would like us to pray for someone, contact one of us and why not come to one of our meetings!

**Gordon Hodson**

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

2019 started off with a pancake party, which was followed by the Lent lunches, the committee did one, we did not do the Christian Aid Lunch as some of our committee were not well, our final event was the Summer Fair which raised a modest amount. The Social Committee disbanded after that and I would like to thank all the members for their hard work, thank you.

**Chris Lewis, Chairman**

## **St OSWALDS'S UNDER 5's**

St Oswald's Under 5's 'Stay and Play' is now a thriving group meeting every Wednesday morning in the Parish Centre, during school term-time. Numbers have been building up through the year to 14 or more mums, dads, grandparents and carers, with up to 21 'under 5's' now regularly attending. The charge is £1.00 per adult plus child, and 50p for each additional child. This covers the costs of refreshments (tea, coffee and biscuits for the adults and a snack and a drink for the children); as well as a contribution towards the cost of the parish centre and the replacement of toys or special outings or events such as the Christmas party. There are ride on toys, craft activities and a 'soft' area for the very young. Adults can relax with a cuppa and the chance to catch up with friends and swap ideas.

The group is very grateful for the support of members of St Oswald's congregation who staff the kitchen, making drinks for the adults and preparing the snacks for the children, particularly the late Mrs Gaynor Bowen-Jones, who organised this for many years. A special mention should be made of Peter Walley who, week after week, sets up and puts away all the toys – an essential task for the continued success of this group. Whilst I am unable to attend the sessions due to work commitments, I liaise with the group through one of the mums and assist with purchase of supplies, administration and publicity.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

In 2019, donations to St Oswald's are a little higher than in 2018 (by about 3%). Receipts from stewardship envelopes and "loose cash" were lower while other sources – through the bank and the blue envelopes – were higher. Total income from these four sources was £83,894 (£81,388 in 2018).

Stewardship envelopes. 56 members started the year using the coloured envelopes, reducing to 55 in December. (54 in 2018). The total donated this way was £36,198 (£37,635 in 2018), an average of £658 from each donor, (£617 in 2018) and £696 per week (£723 in 2018).

Payments through the bank. During the year 64 gave this way (54 in 2018) and the total given for the year was £28,865 (£26,574 in 2018) and over 94% was "tax efficient". This is an average of £451 per donor (£492 in 2018).

"Casual" Donors. Donations made in the blue envelopes totalled £6,682 in 2019 (£6,616 in 2018). Some of these are from members of the congregation who make regular donations. Others are visitors or who attend occasionally on Sundays and for weddings, funerals or special services.

Anonymous donations. Under the scheme introduced in 2013, the equivalent of gift aid can be recovered from anonymous donations up to a maximum of £8,000 in any financial year, giving a return to the church of £2,000. In 2019 the total donated was £12,652, easily exceeding the maximum on which we can claim Gift Aid. In 2018 we received £10,563. If some of these donors were to declare their donation for Gift Aid the return to the church would increase at no cost to individual donors.

Tax recovered. The total tax recovered from HMRC was £20,586 (£20,237 in 2018) maintaining previous good figures. This is some 11.5% of the church's total income (excluding legacies) (was 10.8% in 2018), a very satisfactory result.

Sincere thanks must go to all those who make their gift via St Oswald's and to those who take the trouble to complete the minimal paperwork required for the Gift Aid scheme. There is always space for more donors; anyone who would like to make their gift "tax efficient" should contact the Gift Aid Secretary, Mike Peters, 01691 676091 or [mike.aylestone@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mike.aylestone@tiscali.co.uk) or simply approach him in church.

**D C Banks, Chairman, Stewardship Committee**



**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1133346**

**Report of the Parochial Church Council and  
Unaudited Financial Statements For The Year Ended  
31st December 2019  
for**

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

J. M. Ollier, F.C.A.  
Baldwins Holdings Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
5-7 Beatrice Street  
Oswestry  
Shropshire  
SY11 1QE

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

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Independent Examiner's Report	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 to 15

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Report of the Parochial Church Council  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

The Parochial Church Council present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2019. The Parochial Church Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in 2015.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

1133346

**Principal address**

The Parish Church of St Oswald, King and Martyr  
Church Street  
Oswestry  
Shropshire  
SY11 2SY

**Parochial Church Council**

Rev H Gibbons (Chairman)

Mr D P Evison

Miss E J Williams

Mr C W J Lewis

Mrs S Tansley

Mr W E Bowen

Mr M Clarke

Retired Apr 2019

Mr P R Crosby

Mr M W Donkin

Mrs E J Leek

Mrs L Clarke

Mrs F Major

Mr I Davies

Mrs L Adams

Retired Apr 2019

Mrs J Holderness

Retired Apr 2019

Mr A Neale

Mrs J Chesworth

Mrs A Boulton

Appointed Apr 2019

Mrs M Jones

Appointed Apr 2019

Mrs F Pearson

Appointed Apr 2019

Mrs S Best

Appointed Apr 2019

**Independent Examiner**

J. M. Ollier, F.C.A.

Baldwins Holdings Ltd

Chartered Accountants

5-7 Beatrice Street

Oswestry

Shropshire

SY11 1QE

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

Parochial Church Council powers measure (1956) as amended and church representation rules.

**Risk management**

The Parochial Church Council have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

**Safeguarding**

The Parochial Church Council has adopted the Diocesan and Church of England policies in this regard.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Report of the Parochial Church Council  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**



.....

Rev H Gibbons (Chairman) - Parochial Church Council member

16th March 2020

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE P.C.C. OF ST OSWALD, KING AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

This report on the financial statements of the P.C.C. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, which are set out on pages 4 to 15 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE P.C.C. AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The members of the P.C.C are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider 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;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the P.C.C. and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee 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 next statement.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

- 1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
  - to prepare accounts which accord with these 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.



J. M. Ollier, F.C.A.  
Baldwins Holdings Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
5-7 Beatrice Street  
Oswestry  
Shropshire  
SY11 1QE

16th March 2020

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

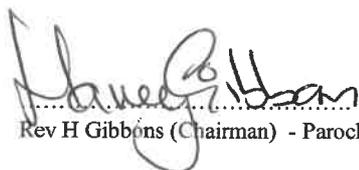
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2019 Total funds	2018 Total funds	* See note 10 for full comparatives
Notes	£	£	£	£	
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Donations and Legacies	2a 128,063	1,595	129,658	135,262	
Charitable Activities	2b 19,057	9,532	28,589	36,849	
Other Trading Activities	2c 15,118	-	15,118	17,181	
Investments	2d 17,420	-	17,420	17,356	
<b>Total</b>	<u>179,658</u>	<u>11,127</u>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>206,648</u>	
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
Raising Funds	3a -	9,297	9,297	7,464	
Charitable Activities	3b 152,782	2,468	155,250	192,021	
<b>Total</b>	<u>152,782</u>	<u>11,765</u>	<u>164,547</u>	<u>199,485</u>	
Net gain/(losses) on investment	59,605	-	59,605	(39,809)	
Net Income/(Expenditure)	86,481	(638)	85,843	(32,646)	
Transfer between funds	(1,735)	1,735	-	-	
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<u>84,746</u>	<u>1,097</u>	<u>85,843</u>	<u>(32,646)</u>	
<b>Total funds brought forward (1st Jan)</b>	<u>542,504</u>	<u>56,238</u>	<u>598,742</u>	<u>631,388</u>	
<b>Total funds carried forward (31st Dec)</b>	<u>627,250</u>	<u>57,335</u>	<u>684,585</u>	<u>598,742</u>	

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

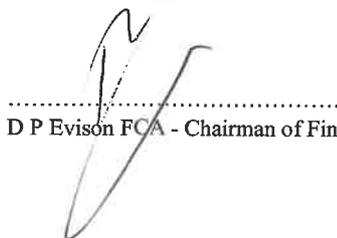
**Balance Sheet  
At 31st December 2019**

	Notes	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	<u>589,163</u>	<u>529,558</u>
		589,163	529,558
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank current accounts		5,903	10,444
Bank deposit accounts		86,060	56,663
CBF deposit fund		6,912	3,216
Cash		175	346
Stocks		195	155
Debtors		<u>11,686</u>	<u>9,488</u>
		110,931	80,312
<b>Liabilities due in one year</b>	6		
Creditors		<u>(15,509)</u>	<u>(11,128)</u>
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		95,422	69,184
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>684,585</u></u>	<u><u>598,742</u></u>
<b>Parish Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	8	627,250	542,504
Restricted funds		<u>57,335</u>	<u>56,238</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u><u>684,585</u></u>	<u><u>598,742</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 16th March 2020 and were signed on it's behalf by:



Rev H Gibbons (Chairman) - Parochial Church Council member



D P Evison FCA - Chairman of Finance Committee and Treasurer

The attached notes form part of these financial statements

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**1 Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP) and applicable accounting standard FRS102.

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

**Cash Flow Statement**

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

**Description of Funds**

**Restricted funds** comprise of two elements:-

- a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest
- b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Unrestricted funds** are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purpose.

**Incoming Resources**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Resources Expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

**Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and Benefice Property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10 (2) (a) & (C) 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 inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

**Investments**

Investments are valued at market value on 31st December.

**Investment property**

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in the market value is transferred to a revaluation reserve.

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>2a Donations and Legacies</b>				
<i>Voluntary Income/Receipts</i>				
1 Tax efficient planned giving	63,378	69	63,447	62,149
Other planned giving	3,828	-	3,828	3,584
2 Collections at services	19,334	-	19,334	20,295
3 All other giving and voluntary receipts including special appeals	20,737	1,526	22,263	26,997
Gift Aid Recovered	20,586	-	20,586	20,237
Legacies received	200	-	200	2,000
	<u>128,063</u>	<u>1,595</u>	<u>129,658</u>	<u>135,262</u>

**1) Analysis of Tax efficient planned giving**

	£
Bank Donations	27,180
Regular Envelopes	36,198
Collections - USPG	69
	<u>63,447</u>

**2) Analysis of Collections at services**

	£
White Envelopes	6,682
Loose plate collections	10,057
Collections - Baptisms	911
Collections - Home Communion	350
Collections - Weddings	179
Collections - Special	1,155
	<u>19,334</u>

**3) Analysis of all other giving and voluntary receipts including special appeals**

	£
Donations - Church	11,129
Donations - Charities	3,375
Donations - Organ Fund - Restricted	1,266
Donations - Organ Fund - Unrestricted	1,513
Donations - Flower Fund	540
Wall safes	2,055
Donations - Funerals	1,578
Donations - Place of Welcome	547
Donations - Christmas Day Lunch - Restricted	260
	<u>22,263</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS CONTINUED:**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>2b Charitable Activities</b>				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Statutory Fees (retained by PCC)	10,403	945	11,348	14,186
Summer Fete	1,222	-	1,222	1,101
Fundraising Activities	<u>7,432</u>	<u>8,587</u>	<u>16,019</u>	<u>21,562</u>
	<u>19,057</u>	<u>9,532</u>	<u>28,589</u>	<u>36,849</u>
<b>2c Other Trading Activities</b>				
<i>Activities for Generating Funds</i>				
Church Hall Hire	2,744	-	2,744	3,713
Church Lettings	2,195	-	2,195	1,400
Lower Brook Street Rent	7,800	-	7,800	7,400
Lichfield Diocesan - Decorator's Scheme	-	-	-	2,350
Parish Magazine & Bookstall	<u>2,379</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,379</u>	<u>2,318</u>
	<u>15,118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,118</u>	<u>17,181</u>
<b>2d Investments</b>				
Dividends	17,242	-	17,242	17,265
Bank Interest	<u>178</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>91</u>
	<u>17,420</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,420</u>	<u>17,356</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>179,658</u>	<u>11,127</u>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>206,648</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**EXPENDITURE ON:**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>3a Raising Funds</b>				
<i>Costs of Generating Income</i>				
Fetes & Fundraising	-	9,297	9,297	7,464
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,297</u>	<u>9,297</u>	<u>7,464</u>
<b>3b Charitable Activities</b>				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Mission giving and donations	7,758	1,469	9,227	9,627
Diocesan Parish Share	59,759	-	59,759	59,021
Salaries/Wages	12,253	750	13,003	13,037
Clergy and Staff Expenses	5,730	-	5,730	8,393
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Church running expenses	11,253	-	11,253	16,665
Church utility bills	20,606	-	20,606	19,171
Cost of trading	20,010	249	20,259	26,910
<i>Major Capital Expenditure</i>				
Major Repairs to the Church	12,773	-	12,773	37,397
<i>Governance Costs</i>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>1,800</u>
	<u>152,782</u>	<u>2,468</u>	<u>155,250</u>	<u>192,021</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>152,782</u>	<u>11,765</u>	<u>164,547</u>	<u>199,485</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**4a STAFF COSTS**

	2019	2018
	£	£
Salaries	<u>13,003</u>	<u>13,037</u>
During the year the PCC employed the following members of the PCC:		
	31.12.19	31.12.18
	£	£
Mrs F Major	3,429	3,345
Mr M Donkin	<u>5,021</u>	<u>4,895</u>
	<u>8,450</u>	<u>8,240</u>

There were no other transactions made in respect of PCC Members, no PCC Member received benefit, or reimbursement of travelling or other expenses.

**5a FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold Buildings £	Church Equipment £	Total £
<b>At Cost</b>			
As at 1st January 2019	-	27,836	27,836
Additions in the Year	-	-	-
Disposals in the Year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Value at 31st December 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>27,836</u>	<u>27,836</u>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
As at 1st January 2019	-	27,836	27,836
Charge for the Year	-	-	-
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
As at 31st December 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>27,836</u>	<u>27,836</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31st December 2019</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31st December 2018</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**5b INVESTMENT ASSETS**

	At 1.1.19 £	Additions £	Disposals £	Transfers £	Change in Market Value £	At 31.12.19 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Investments	307,664	-	-	5,599	51,391	364,654
Investment Property - 14 Lower Brook Street	172,719	-	-	-	-	172,719
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Investments	49,175	-	-	(5,599)	8,214	51,790
<b>Total</b>	<u>529,558</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,605</u>	<u>589,163</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The unlisted investments are made up of the following:

	31.12.19 £	31.12.18 £
Church of England Investment Fund	114,041	96,071
Church of England Fixed Interest Fund	8,558	8,370
M&G Charifund	190,190	163,087
Lichfield Diocesan Trust	<u>103,655</u>	<u>89,311</u>
	<u>416,444</u>	<u>356,839</u>

**INVESTMENT PROPERTY**

**MARKET VALUE**

	£
At 1st January 2019	172,719
Additional Expenditure	-
At 31st December 2019	<u>172,719</u>

**NET BOOK VALUE**

At 31st December 2019	<u>172,719</u>
At 31st December 2018	<u>172,719</u>

During 2011 the deeds at 14 Lower Brook Street were discovered to have been transferred into The PCC's name. In light of this, the property has been brought into the accounts in 2011 at the then current market value of £160,000.00.

**6 LIABILITIES**

*Amounts falling due in one year*

	2019 £	2018 £
Accruals of Utilities	5,000	3,075
Other Creditors	<u>10,509</u>	<u>8,053</u>
	<u>15,509</u>	<u>11,128</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**7 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS**

	General Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Investments Assets	537,373	51,790	589,163
Current Assets	105,386	5,545	110,931
Current Liabilities	<u>(15,509)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,509)</u>
	<u>627,250</u>	<u>57,335</u>	<u>684,585</u>

**STOCKS**

	2019 £	2018 £
Stocks (Prayer Cards & Notelets etc)	<u>195</u>	<u>155</u>

**DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2019 £	2018 £
Prepayments	1,428	1,480
Dividend Income	2,200	851
Gift Aid	5,621	5,445
Other debtors	<u>2,437</u>	<u>1,712</u>
	<u>11,686</u>	<u>9,488</u>

**8 FUNDS RECONCILIATION**

	Reserves at 1.1.19 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Investment Gain/Losses £	Transfer between funds £	Reserves at 31.12.19 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
General Fund	542,504	179,658	(152,782)	59,605	(1,735)	627,250
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Organ Fund	1 3,332	1,266	-	-	141	4,739
Flower Fund	2 930	-	-	-	40	970
Morris Fund	3 145	-	-	-	-	145
Wilfred Owen Fund	4 656	-	-	-	28	684
Vicar's Discretionary Fund for People in Need	5 -	500	-	-	-	500
For the Assistance of the Sick or Needy						
Parishioners Fund	6 8,959	-	-	-	380	9,339
Oswestry St Ann's Fund	7 10,806	-	-	-	459	11,265
Sunday School Fund	8 492	-	-	-	-	492
Vicar's Discretionary Beautification Fund	9 2,677	-	-	-	114	2,791
Boulton Trust Fund	10 13,415	-	-	-	570	13,985
Friends of Music / Choral Foundation	11 5,747	5,938	(6,649)	-	-	5,036
Bellringers	12 3,822	1,322	(1,467)	-	-	3,677
Bellringers - Bell Training	13 937	-	-	-	-	937
Ladies Group	14 2,278	1,772	(2,180)	-	-	1,870
USPG	15 967	69	(1,039)	-	3	-
Christmas Day Lunch	16 1,075	260	(430)	-	-	905
	<u>56,238</u>	<u>11,127</u>	<u>(11,765)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,735</u>	<u>57,335</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>598,742</u>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>(164,547)</u>	<u>59,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>684,585</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains and Losses £	Movement in Funds £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	179,658	(152,782)	59,605	86,481
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Organ Fund	1,266	-	-	1,266
Flower Fund	-	-	-	-
Morris Fund	-	-	-	-
Wilfred Owen Fund	-	-	-	-
Vicar's Discretionary Fund for People in Need	500	-	-	500
For the Assistance of the Sick or Needy Parishioners Fund	-	-	-	-
Oswestry St Ann's Fund	-	-	-	-
Sunday School Fund	-	-	-	-
Vicar's Discretionary Beautification Fund	-	-	-	-
Boulton Trust Fund	-	-	-	-
Friends of Music/Choral Foundation	5,938	(6,649)	-	(711)
Bellringers	1,322	(1,467)	-	(145)
Bellringers - Bell Training	-	-	-	-
Ladies Group	1,772	(2,180)	-	(408)
USPG	69	(1,039)	-	(970)
Christmas Day Lunch	260	(430)	-	(170)
	<u>11,127</u>	<u>(11,765)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(638)</u>
<b>TOTAL NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>(164,547)</u>	<u>59,605</u>	<u>85,843</u>

**NOTES TO THE FUNDS**

*Restricted Funds*

**1) Organ Fund**

This is used to restore the organ in St Oswald's church.

**2) Flower Fund**

This fund is held to enable flowers to be purchased for the church throughout the year.

**3) Morris Fund**

This fund is used for the upkeep of a memorial.

**4) Wilfred Owen Fund**

This fund is held for the upkeep of the Wilfred Owen memorial.

**5) Vicar's Discretionary Fund for People In Need**

This fund is for small gifts for people in need at Vicar's discretion.

**6) Sick or Needy Parishioners Fund**

This fund is to be used to assist parishioners of St Oswald's in times of poor health and hardship. The funds were given to St Oswald's in a fellow parishioner's will.

**7) Oswestry St Ann's Fund**

This was generated from the sale of St Ann's chapel at Morda and is held to be used for capital projects.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**8) Sunday School Fund**

This fund is held to support the Sunday School at St Oswald's church.

**9) Vicar's Discretionary Beautification Fund**

This fund is held for capital projects.

**10) Boulton Trust Fund**

This fund is held for capital projects.

**11) Friends of Music / Choral Foundation Fund**

This fund is used for the Friends of Music Group.

**12) Bellringers Fund**

This fund is used for the Bellringers group.

**13) Bellringers - Bell Training Fund**

This fund was established to assist Bellringers training.

**14) Ladies Group**

This fund is used for the ladies fellowship group.

**15) USPG**

This fund is used for the society for the propagation of the gospel.

**16) Christmas Day Lunch**

This fund was established to provide funds for the Christmas Day Lunch Project.

**9 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Mr D. P. Evison, F.C.A. is a partner in Garner Pugh & Sinclair who are paid £2,200.00 plus VAT (£2,640.00) for Accounting and Administration services.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**10 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES COMPARATIVES (PREVIOUS YEAR)**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>			
Donations and Legacies	133,372	1,890	135,262
Charitable Activities	21,902	14,947	36,849
Other Trading Activities	17,181	-	17,181
Investments	17,356	-	17,356
<b>Total</b>	<b>189,811</b>	<b>16,837</b>	<b>206,648</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>			
Raising Funds	-	7,464	7,464
Charitable Activities	186,273	5,748	192,021
<b>Total</b>	<b>186,273</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>199,485</b>
Net gain/(losses) on investment	(39,809)	-	(39,809)
Net Income/(Expenditure)	(36,271)	3,625	(32,646)
Transfer between funds	10,725	(10,725)	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(25,546)</b>	<b>(7,100)</b>	<b>(32,646)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward (1st Jan)</b>	<b>568,050</b>	<b>63,338</b>	<b>631,388</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward (31st Dec)</b>	<b>542,504</b>	<b>56,238</b>	<b>598,742</b>



**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1133346**

**Report of the Parochial Church Council and  
Unaudited Financial Statements For The Year Ended  
31st December 2019  
for**

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

J. M. Ollier, F.C.A.  
Baldwins Holdings Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
5-7 Beatrice Street  
Oswestry  
Shropshire  
SY11 1QE

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

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Report of the Parochial Church Council	1 to 2
Independent Examiner's Report	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 to 15

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Report of the Parochial Church Council  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

The Parochial Church Council present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2019. The Parochial Church Council have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in 2015.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

1133346

**Principal address**

The Parish Church of St Oswald, King and Martyr  
Church Street  
Oswestry  
Shropshire  
SY11 2SY

**Parochial Church Council**

Rev H Gibbons (Chairman)

Mr D P Evison

Miss E J Williams

Mr C W J Lewis

Mrs S Tansley

Mr W E Bowen

Mr M Clarke

Retired Apr 2019

Mr P R Crosby

Mr M W Donkin

Mrs E J Leek

Mrs L Clarke

Mrs F Major

Mr I Davies

Mrs L Adams

Retired Apr 2019

Mrs J Holderness

Retired Apr 2019

Mr A Neale

Mrs J Chesworth

Mrs A Boulton

Appointed Apr 2019

Mrs M Jones

Appointed Apr 2019

Mrs F Pearson

Appointed Apr 2019

Mrs S Best

Appointed Apr 2019

**Independent Examiner**

J. M. Ollier, F.C.A.

Baldwins Holdings Ltd

Chartered Accountants

5-7 Beatrice Street

Oswestry

Shropshire

SY11 1QE

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

Parochial Church Council powers measure (1956) as amended and church representation rules.

**Risk management**

The Parochial Church Council have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

**Safeguarding**

The Parochial Church Council has adopted the Diocesan and Church of England policies in this regard.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Report of the Parochial Church Council  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**



.....

Rev H Gibbons (Chairman) - Parochial Church Council member

16th March 2020

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE P.C.C. OF ST OSWALD, KING AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

This report on the financial statements of the P.C.C. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, which are set out on pages 4 to 15 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE P.C.C. AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The members of the P.C.C are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider 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;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the P.C.C. and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee 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 next statement.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

- 1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
  - to prepare accounts which accord with these 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.



J. M. Ollier, F.C.A.  
Baldwins Holdings Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
5-7 Beatrice Street  
Oswestry  
Shropshire  
SY11 1QE

16th March 2020

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

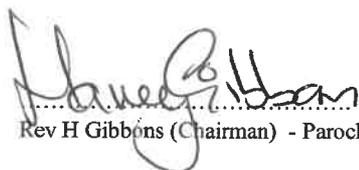
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2019 Total funds	2018 Total funds	* See note 10 for full comparatives
Notes	£	£	£	£	
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Donations and Legacies	2a 128,063	1,595	129,658	135,262	
Charitable Activities	2b 19,057	9,532	28,589	36,849	
Other Trading Activities	2c 15,118	-	15,118	17,181	
Investments	2d 17,420	-	17,420	17,356	
<b>Total</b>	<b>179,658</b>	<b>11,127</b>	<b>190,785</b>	<b>206,648</b>	
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
Raising Funds	3a -	9,297	9,297	7,464	
Charitable Activities	3b 152,782	2,468	155,250	192,021	
<b>Total</b>	<b>152,782</b>	<b>11,765</b>	<b>164,547</b>	<b>199,485</b>	
Net gain/(losses) on investment	59,605	-	59,605	(39,809)	
Net Income/(Expenditure)	86,481	(638)	85,843	(32,646)	
Transfer between funds	(1,735)	1,735	-	-	
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>84,746</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>85,843</b>	<b>(32,646)</b>	
<b>Total funds brought forward (1st Jan)</b>	<b>542,504</b>	<b>56,238</b>	<b>598,742</b>	<b>631,388</b>	
<b>Total funds carried forward (31st Dec)</b>	<b>627,250</b>	<b>57,335</b>	<b>684,585</b>	<b>598,742</b>	

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

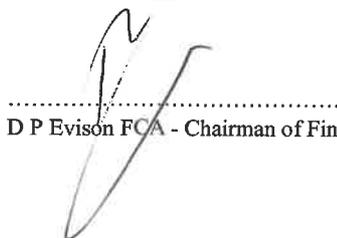
**Balance Sheet  
At 31st December 2019**

	Notes	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	5a	-	-
Investment Assets	5b	<u>589,163</u>	<u>529,558</u>
		589,163	529,558
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank current accounts		5,903	10,444
Bank deposit accounts		86,060	56,663
CBF deposit fund		6,912	3,216
Cash		175	346
Stocks		195	155
Debtors		<u>11,686</u>	<u>9,488</u>
		110,931	80,312
<b>Liabilities due in one year</b>	6		
Creditors		<u>(15,509)</u>	<u>(11,128)</u>
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		95,422	69,184
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>684,585</u></u>	<u><u>598,742</u></u>
<b>Parish Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	8	627,250	542,504
Restricted funds		<u>57,335</u>	<u>56,238</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u><u>684,585</u></u>	<u><u>598,742</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 16th March 2020 and were signed on it's behalf by:



Rev H Gibbons (Chairman) - Parochial Church Council member



D P Evison FCA - Chairman of Finance Committee and Treasurer

The attached notes form part of these financial statements

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**1 Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP) and applicable accounting standard FRS102.

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

**Cash Flow Statement**

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

**Description of Funds**

**Restricted funds** comprise of two elements:-

- a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest
- b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Unrestricted funds** are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purpose.

**Incoming Resources**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Resources Expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

**Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and Benefice Property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10 ( 2 ) ( a ) & ( C ) 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 inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

**Investments**

Investments are valued at market value on 31st December.

**Investment property**

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in the market value is transferred to a revaluation reserve.

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
AND MARTYR, OSWESTRY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>2a Donations and Legacies</b>				
<i>Voluntary Income/Receipts</i>				
1 Tax efficient planned giving	63,378	69	63,447	62,149
Other planned giving	3,828	-	3,828	3,584
2 Collections at services	19,334	-	19,334	20,295
3 All other giving and voluntary receipts including special appeals	20,737	1,526	22,263	26,997
Gift Aid Recovered	20,586	-	20,586	20,237
Legacies received	200	-	200	2,000
	<u>128,063</u>	<u>1,595</u>	<u>129,658</u>	<u>135,262</u>

**1) Analysis of Tax efficient planned giving**

	£
Bank Donations	27,180
Regular Envelopes	36,198
Collections - USPG	69
	<u>63,447</u>

**2) Analysis of Collections at services**

	£
White Envelopes	6,682
Loose plate collections	10,057
Collections - Baptisms	911
Collections - Home Communion	350
Collections - Weddings	179
Collections - Special	1,155
	<u>19,334</u>

**3) Analysis of all other giving and voluntary receipts including special appeals**

	£
Donations - Church	11,129
Donations - Charities	3,375
Donations - Organ Fund - Restricted	1,266
Donations - Organ Fund - Unrestricted	1,513
Donations - Flower Fund	540
Wall safes	2,055
Donations - Funerals	1,578
Donations - Place of Welcome	547
Donations - Christmas Day Lunch - Restricted	260
	<u>22,263</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS CONTINUED:**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>2b Charitable Activities</b>				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Statutory Fees (retained by PCC)	10,403	945	11,348	14,186
Summer Fete	1,222	-	1,222	1,101
Fundraising Activities	<u>7,432</u>	<u>8,587</u>	<u>16,019</u>	<u>21,562</u>
	<u>19,057</u>	<u>9,532</u>	<u>28,589</u>	<u>36,849</u>
<b>2c Other Trading Activities</b>				
<i>Activities for Generating Funds</i>				
Church Hall Hire	2,744	-	2,744	3,713
Church Lettings	2,195	-	2,195	1,400
Lower Brook Street Rent	7,800	-	7,800	7,400
Lichfield Diocesan - Decorator's Scheme	-	-	-	2,350
Parish Magazine & Bookstall	<u>2,379</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,379</u>	<u>2,318</u>
	<u>15,118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,118</u>	<u>17,181</u>
<b>2d Investments</b>				
Dividends	17,242	-	17,242	17,265
Bank Interest	<u>178</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>91</u>
	<u>17,420</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,420</u>	<u>17,356</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>179,658</u>	<u>11,127</u>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>206,648</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**EXPENDITURE ON:**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>3a Raising Funds</b>				
<i>Costs of Generating Income</i>				
Fetes & Fundraising	-	9,297	9,297	7,464
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,297</u>	<u>9,297</u>	<u>7,464</u>
<b>3b Charitable Activities</b>				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Mission giving and donations	7,758	1,469	9,227	9,627
Diocesan Parish Share	59,759	-	59,759	59,021
Salaries/Wages	12,253	750	13,003	13,037
Clergy and Staff Expenses	5,730	-	5,730	8,393
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Church running expenses	11,253	-	11,253	16,665
Church utility bills	20,606	-	20,606	19,171
Cost of trading	20,010	249	20,259	26,910
<i>Major Capital Expenditure</i>				
Major Repairs to the Church	12,773	-	12,773	37,397
<i>Governance Costs</i>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>1,800</u>
	<u>152,782</u>	<u>2,468</u>	<u>155,250</u>	<u>192,021</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>152,782</u>	<u>11,765</u>	<u>164,547</u>	<u>199,485</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**4a STAFF COSTS**

	2019	2018
	£	£
Salaries	<u>13,003</u>	<u>13,037</u>
During the year the PCC employed the following members of the PCC:		
	31.12.19	31.12.18
	£	£
Mrs F Major	3,429	3,345
Mr M Donkin	<u>5,021</u>	<u>4,895</u>
	<u>8,450</u>	<u>8,240</u>

There were no other transactions made in respect of PCC Members, no PCC Member received benefit, or reimbursement of travelling or other expenses.

**5a FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold Buildings £	Church Equipment £	Total £
<b>At Cost</b>			
As at 1st January 2019	-	27,836	27,836
Additions in the Year	-	-	-
Disposals in the Year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Value at 31st December 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>27,836</u>	<u>27,836</u>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
As at 1st January 2019	-	27,836	27,836
Charge for the Year	-	-	-
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
As at 31st December 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>27,836</u>	<u>27,836</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31st December 2019</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31st December 2018</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**5b INVESTMENT ASSETS**

	At 1.1.19 £	Additions £	Disposals £	Transfers £	Change in Market Value £	At 31.12.19 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Investments	307,664	-	-	5,599	51,391	364,654
Investment Property - 14 Lower Brook Street	172,719	-	-	-	-	172,719
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Investments	49,175	-	-	(5,599)	8,214	51,790
<b>Total</b>	<u>529,558</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,605</u>	<u>589,163</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The unlisted investments are made up of the following:

	31.12.19 £	31.12.18 £
Church of England Investment Fund	114,041	96,071
Church of England Fixed Interest Fund	8,558	8,370
M&G Charifund	190,190	163,087
Lichfield Diocesan Trust	103,655	89,311
	<u>416,444</u>	<u>356,839</u>

**INVESTMENT PROPERTY**

**MARKET VALUE**

	£
At 1st January 2019	172,719
Additional Expenditure	-
At 31st December 2019	<u>172,719</u>

**NET BOOK VALUE**

At 31st December 2019	<u>172,719</u>
At 31st December 2018	<u>172,719</u>

During 2011 the deeds at 14 Lower Brook Street were discovered to have been transferred into The PCC's name. In light of this, the property has been brought into the accounts in 2011 at the then current market value of £160,000.00.

**6 LIABILITIES**

*Amounts falling due in one year*

	2019 £	2018 £
Accruals of Utilities	5,000	3,075
Other Creditors	10,509	8,053
	<u>15,509</u>	<u>11,128</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**7 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS**

	General Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Investments Assets	537,373	51,790	589,163
Current Assets	105,386	5,545	110,931
Current Liabilities	<u>(15,509)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,509)</u>
	<u>627,250</u>	<u>57,335</u>	<u>684,585</u>

**STOCKS**

	2019 £	2018 £
Stocks (Prayer Cards & Notelets etc)	<u>195</u>	<u>155</u>

**DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2019 £	2018 £
Prepayments	1,428	1,480
Dividend Income	2,200	851
Gift Aid	5,621	5,445
Other debtors	<u>2,437</u>	<u>1,712</u>
	<u>11,686</u>	<u>9,488</u>

**8 FUNDS RECONCILIATION**

	Reserves at 1.1.19 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Investment Gain/Losses £	Transfer between funds £	Reserves at 31.12.19 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
General Fund	542,504	179,658	(152,782)	59,605	(1,735)	627,250
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Organ Fund	1 3,332	1,266	-	-	141	4,739
Flower Fund	2 930	-	-	-	40	970
Morris Fund	3 145	-	-	-	-	145
Wilfred Owen Fund	4 656	-	-	-	28	684
Vicar's Discretionary Fund for People in Need	5 -	500	-	-	-	500
For the Assistance of the Sick or Needy						
Parishioners Fund	6 8,959	-	-	-	380	9,339
Oswestry St Ann's Fund	7 10,806	-	-	-	459	11,265
Sunday School Fund	8 492	-	-	-	-	492
Vicar's Discretionary Beautification Fund	9 2,677	-	-	-	114	2,791
Boulton Trust Fund	10 13,415	-	-	-	570	13,985
Friends of Music / Choral Foundation	11 5,747	5,938	(6,649)	-	-	5,036
Bellringers	12 3,822	1,322	(1,467)	-	-	3,677
Bellringers - Bell Training	13 937	-	-	-	-	937
Ladies Group	14 2,278	1,772	(2,180)	-	-	1,870
USPG	15 967	69	(1,039)	-	3	-
Christmas Day Lunch	16 1,075	260	(430)	-	-	905
	<u>56,238</u>	<u>11,127</u>	<u>(11,765)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,735</u>	<u>57,335</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>598,742</u>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>(164,547)</u>	<u>59,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>684,585</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST OSWALD, KING  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
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Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains and Losses £	Movement in Funds £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	179,658	(152,782)	59,605	86,481
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Organ Fund	1,266	-	-	1,266
Flower Fund	-	-	-	-
Morris Fund	-	-	-	-
Wilfred Owen Fund	-	-	-	-
Vicar's Discretionary Fund for People in Need	500	-	-	500
For the Assistance of the Sick or Needy Parishioners Fund	-	-	-	-
Oswestry St Ann's Fund	-	-	-	-
Sunday School Fund	-	-	-	-
Vicar's Discretionary Beautification Fund	-	-	-	-
Boulton Trust Fund	-	-	-	-
Friends of Music/Choral Foundation	5,938	(6,649)	-	(711)
Bellringers	1,322	(1,467)	-	(145)
Bellringers - Bell Training	-	-	-	-
Ladies Group	1,772	(2,180)	-	(408)
USPG	69	(1,039)	-	(970)
Christmas Day Lunch	260	(430)	-	(170)
	<u>11,127</u>	<u>(11,765)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(638)</u>
<b>TOTAL NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<u>190,785</u>	<u>(164,547)</u>	<u>59,605</u>	<u>85,843</u>

**NOTES TO THE FUNDS**

*Restricted Funds*

**1) Organ Fund**

This is used to restore the organ in St Oswald's church.

**2) Flower Fund**

This fund is held to enable flowers to be purchased for the church throughout the year.

**3) Morris Fund**

This fund is used for the upkeep of a memorial.

**4) Wilfred Owen Fund**

This fund is held for the upkeep of the Wilfred Owen memorial.

**5) Vicar's Discretionary Fund for People In Need**

This fund is for small gifts for people in need at Vicar's discretion.

**6) Sick or Needy Parishioners Fund**

This fund is to be used to assist parishioners of St Oswald's in times of poor health and hardship. The funds were given to St Oswald's in a fellow parishioner's will.

**7) Oswestry St Ann's Fund**

This was generated from the sale of St Ann's chapel at Morda and is held to be used for capital projects.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
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**8) Sunday School Fund**

This fund is held to support the Sunday School at St Oswald's church.

**9) Vicar's Discretionary Beautification Fund**

This fund is held for capital projects.

**10) Boulton Trust Fund**

This fund is held for capital projects.

**11) Friends of Music / Choral Foundation Fund**

This fund is used for the Friends of Music Group.

**12) Bellringers Fund**

This fund is used for the Bellringers group.

**13) Bellringers - Bell Training Fund**

This fund was established to assist Bellringers training.

**14) Ladies Group**

This fund is used for the ladies fellowship group.

**15) USPG**

This fund is used for the society for the propagation of the gospel.

**16) Christmas Day Lunch**

This fund was established to provide funds for the Christmas Day Lunch Project.

**9 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Mr D. P. Evison, F.C.A. is a partner in Garner Pugh & Sinclair who are paid £2,200.00 plus VAT (£2,640.00) for Accounting and Administration services.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE  
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**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2019**

**10 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES COMPARATIVES (PREVIOUS YEAR)**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2018 Total funds £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>			
Donations and Legacies	133,372	1,890	135,262
Charitable Activities	21,902	14,947	36,849
Other Trading Activities	17,181	-	17,181
Investments	17,356	-	17,356
<b>Total</b>	<b>189,811</b>	<b>16,837</b>	<b>206,648</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>			
Raising Funds	-	7,464	7,464
Charitable Activities	186,273	5,748	192,021
<b>Total</b>	<b>186,273</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>199,485</b>
Net gain/(losses) on investment	(39,809)	-	(39,809)
Net Income/(Expenditure)	(36,271)	3,625	(32,646)
Transfer between funds	10,725	(10,725)	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(25,546)</b>	<b>(7,100)</b>	<b>(32,646)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward (1st Jan)</b>	<b>568,050</b>	<b>63,338</b>	<b>631,388</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward (31st Dec)</b>	<b>542,504</b>	<b>56,238</b>	<b>598,742</b>

