

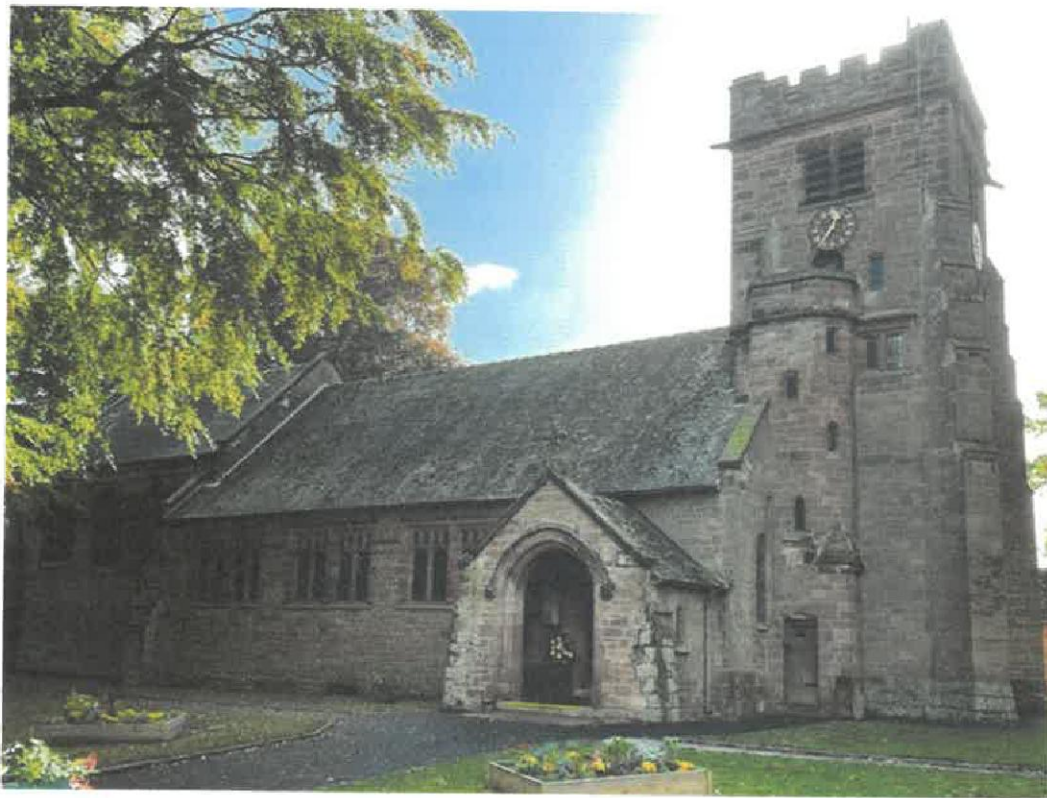
St John the Evangelist, Sandiway

Diocese of Chester

Parochial Church Council

Annual report and Accounts

For the Year Ended 31st December 2022



Registered Charity No 1135082

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

**The Parish of St John the Evangelist, Sandiway
SAFEGUARDING POLICY
PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH**

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 7th March 2022

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Julie Westgate as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Churchwardens: Alison Fletcher and John Fraser

Date: 7th March 2022

Reviewed and updated: 28th April 2023

The Annual Report of Sandiway Parochial Church Council (PCC)

1st January to 31st December 2022

Objective and Activities of the PCC

The primary objective of the PCC is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of Sandiway the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is charged with good stewardship of finances and has maintenance responsibilities for the and church hall both in Norley Road, Sandiway.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is made up of the Vicar, Churchwardens, Readers, parish representatives on the Deanery Synod plus a number of elected and co-opted lay members. The appointment of PCC members is governed by the Church Representation Rules and all church members who are on the electoral roll are encouraged to stand for election.

PCC following the APCM on the 29th May 2022 were as follows:

Vicar and Chair of PCC	Reverend Ruth Mock	From 1 st October 2019
Churchwarden	Alison Fletcher	Elected 29/5/2022
Churchwarden	John Fraser	Elected 29/5/2022
Reader & Deanery Synod Rep	Paul Stevenson	Licensed 21/10/2017
Reader & Deanery Synod Rep	Sue Hadden	Licensed 21/10/2017
Elected Member	Marian Fraser	Elected 14/10/2020
Elected Member Deanery Synod Rep	Eric Wright	Elected 14/10/20
Elected Member	Jane Green	Elected 14/10/2020
Elected Member/ Secretary /Deanery Synod	Susan Shaw (Mandy)	Elected 19/5/2021
Elected Member	Nicola Cowie	Elected 14/10/2020
Elected Member	John Goulden	Elected 19/5/2021
Elected Member	Cherry Jackson	Elected 19/5/2021
Elected Member	Heather Williams	Elected 19/5/2021
Elected Member	Jim Wren	Elected 29/5/2022
Elected Member	Helen Lilley	Elected 29/5/2022
Elected Member	Stewart Hadden	Elected 29/5/2022
Elected Member	Peter Westwood	Elected 29/5/2022
Elected Member	Tony Grand	Elected 29/5/2022
Treasury Team Leader	Andy Carter	Co-opted 29/5/2022
Director of Music	Kathryn Holmes	Co-opted 29/5/2022

PCC Contact and location information

Vicar: Reverend Ruth E Mock, The Vicarage, 50 Norley Rd, Sandiway CW8 2JU

Email: vicar.stjohnsandway@gmail.com telephone 01606 883286

Sandiway Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Care of The Vicarage, 50 Norley Rd, Sandiway CW8 2JU

SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR ST JOHN'S SANDIWAY

Annual meeting May 2023

I have been in post for almost a year now and can safely say we at Sandiway are keeping a pretty tight ship. As you all know, Margaret Denton stepped down from the Parish Safeguarding post last year of many dedicated years and we wish her well in her move to the other side of the country with Steve.

I successfully completed the Diocesan Safeguarding Leadership course online in June 2022. It was very strange being in a virtual classroom, but interesting to hear some of the challenges other safeguarding officers were facing. Mandy Shaw, who has been my very able deputy while I have been finding my feet in the role, has decided to step down from the role. Hopefully not a reflection on my performance, but more a necessity due to her other many commitments. There has also been a change in the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor as Pauline has moved on. The acting advisor is Sean Augustin until the post has been filled on a full time basis. I have spoken to Sean who is very approachable and keen to assist where he can.

Safeguarding remains a standing item at all PCC meetings and safeguarding updates are shared, which thankfully are very few and far between. Between us, Mandy and I have managed to ensure nearly all of the current PCC members have had an enhanced DBS check. This was following a request from Bishop Julie Conalty requesting all PCC members should have this check. We have not been quite so successful with the safeguarding training. Online safeguarding courses are available through the Safeguarding area of the Diocesan website and I have been encouraging PCC members to take up the Basic Awareness and Foundation training courses, which are both really interesting. I might have to use more persuasive skills to get the rest to take up the training; either that or bribery!

If anyone has any questions about Safeguarding, or would like to speak to me in confidence, please don't hesitate in contacting me.

Julie Westgate, Parish Safeguarding Officer, 27th April 2023

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Changes since the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

At the 2022 APCM the Electoral roll stood at	181
Names added up to 11 th May 2022 (end of revision period)	9
Names removed up to 11 th May 2022	7
On the 11th May (following the revision period) the 2019/2025 Electoral roll stands at	183

The revised Electoral Roll will re-open after the APCM to receive further applications throughout the year. Please contact Gill Carter, Electoral Roll Officer, via Reverend Ruth.

Note: The last occasion where was a completely new electoral roll was for the APCM in 2019. All PCCs are required to produce a new roll every 6 years and in between a formal revision has to be made ahead of the APCM. All members of the congregations are encouraged to register for the Electoral Roll to enable them to take part in the governance of the parish.

ANNUAL FABRIC REPORT

Churchwarden's Report of the Church Fabric, Goods and Ornaments 2023

Fabric

Following successfully obtaining a Faculty and securing the necessary funding the long awaited tower repairs are now underway and expect to be complete by April.

The Baptistry has been tidied and brought back to its intended appearance, with the floor tiles being exposed and cleaned.

The footpath from the lych gate to the porch has been resurfaced.

The church boundaries have been generally tidied, a new hedge planted and one of the oak trees polarded.

In conjunction with our Eco Team, many of our laurel bushes have been extensively trimmed back and wild flowers planted instead.

The church floodlights have been replaced by energy saving LED types.

At the church work continues with phase 1 of the Heritage Building Project with the ramp being the next focus of attention.

At the hall, the inside has been painted, the broken manhole cover by the kitchen has been replaced and the outside lights have been upgraded to LEDs

As usual various minor maintenance has been carried out during the year involving a combination of contractors and DIY as appropriate. The work of our small dedicated in-house team is much appreciated.

Goods

No change

Ornaments

No change.

Inventory

We are satisfied that there has been no significant change in the inventory (Bibles, prayer books, service books, hymn books, etc)

**John Fraser and Ali Fletcher.
Churchwardens**

PROCEEDINGS OF MIDDLEWICH DEANERY SYNOD 2022

In 2022 Sandiway St John's had four lay representatives (Mandy Shaw, Eric Wright, Susan Hadden and Paul Stevenson) to Middlewich Deanery Synod plus our Vicar, the Revd Ruth Mock, in the House of Clergy. This provides the PCC with a link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

The laity representatives are elected directly to the synod and by virtue of this are automatically members of the PCC. Susan Hadden and Paul Stevenson are also Readers.

Our vicar Revd Ruth Mock was also appointed to the post of Rural Dean for Middlewich Deanery since October 2022.

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2022, in February, June and October.

We heard reports from deanery officers and received copies of reports from the Diocesan and General Synods. Parish news was also shared. Minutes of the Deanery Synod are available on request.

In addition to the formal business each meeting focuses on a different topic with invited guest speakers.

The Guest Speakers in 2022 were as follows:

1st February 2022 – Rt Rev Julie Conalty (Bishop of Birkenhead)

+Julie spoke of her family connections to the mid-Cheshire area having had relatives in both Hartford and Acton Bridge and then spoke of her school days in Ormskirk and her experiences of church and Spring Harvest.

Work in the Probation Service in London preceded her ordination. +Julie's ministry until being appointed Bishop of Birkenhead has been mainly in Southeast London in the dioceses of Southwark and Rochester before being appointed as Archdeacon of Tonbridge.

As Bishop of Birkenhead, she has a particular responsibility for Safeguarding and Outreach.

14th June 2022 – Rev Peter Froggatt Diocesan Director of Outreach.

Rev Peter noted that Middlewich Deanery is right in the middle of the Diocese of Chester and that it is the intention of the Outreach Department to visit each deanery.

He outlined his career as a parish priest in various parishes within the Chester Diocese since being ordained as Deacon in 1995. He also noted that the Outreach Department was formed about 2 years ago with the amalgamation of the former Mission and CSR Departments. He outlined the structure of the Department and stressed their enabling role; i.e., they can't do it for us!

22nd October 2022 – Rev Simon Chesters Diocesan Director of Ministry.

Revd Simon is from the Wirral and lives in Chester. He worships at St Mark's, Saltney where he is also a self-supporting Assistant Priest. He succeeds the Revd Canon Dr Christopher Burkett.

Simon spent five years as the Director of Vocations in the Diocese of Liverpool. Prior to this, he worked for five years as Liverpool's Director of Studies for Readers and Ordinands.

Simon is no stranger to Church House, Daresbury either as he used to be the Ministry Development Officer for the Diocese of Chester for a period of seven years, having been a parish priest in Runcorn and a curate in Birkenhead.

Eric Wright, Deanery Synod Representative.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PCC

FINANCIAL REVIEW

by the Treasury Team 12th April 2023

Background

This report covers the financial statements and balance sheet for the year ended 31st December 2022, copies of which are included with other APCM papers.

Financial administration

The treasury team manages the parish finances on a day-to-day basis. The PCC members scrutinise the actions of the treasury team and the committee provides information and advice to the PCC on financial matters.

The headlines

Following the Covid19 pandemic, 2022 was a better year than we might have expected for St John's - the accounts for 2022 show a small profit of £1,583 but following a loss on revaluation of investments a deficit of £1,226 resulted, which compared with many Churches is very satisfactory. We are very fortunate that during a difficult year for everyone our parishioners continued to contribute either by monthly standing orders or making regular donations to the Church. In 2022 we also embarked upon our heritage building project, this includes some reordering in the Church, a permanent ramp at the front of Church and, eventually, an annexe to the Church. We had a Gift Day for the heritage building fund and this raised a magnificent £19,222 including Gift Aid tax recovery. Some other fundraising was directed at the heritage project including a very successful secret auction, we also received some very generous donations for both the heritage and Tower Fund which resulted in £42,122 being transferred to Restricted funds for these 2 projects.

Expenditure came in below budget, the Parish share remained at the budgeted figure of £69,667 but there were savings in other areas – the cost of Church services continued to show a saving against pre pandemic levels due to us not requiring as many visiting clergy as previously. The repair work to the Tower was started at the end of the year and should now be complete, the repairs have been funded from donations received with any balance coming from the building fund. However, we still need to find ways to increase our income so that we can meet, not only our regular expenses but also start to address the maintenance schedule arising from quinquennial reviews.

We are constantly looking at ways that people can give to St John's. We already have online giving, donations can be made via the Church website, by text or via our card reader. We are hoping to introduce a tap and go system in church very soon.

Where does the money come from?

The church does not receive any government grants or other funding towards its running costs.

The primary source of income for general funds continues to be the planned regular giving of members of our worshipping community together with donations and collections in services together with Gift Aid

Additional sources of regular income are derived from fundraising events, weddings, funerals, church hall hire and investments.

Where is the money spent?

As already indicated the biggest item of expenditure is the parish share due to Chester Diocese which was £69,667 in 2022 and was just about covered by planned giving and open plate collections (excluding Gift Aid Tax Recovery) The parish share is the amount of money we are asked to contribute to pay for mission and ministry, specifically for clergy stipends and housing. Through the parish share we also contribute to supporting other parishes that are in a worse financial position than our own.

All other costs must be met from other income (including our Gift Aid Tax Recovery) – these costs include the upkeep of the Church and grounds, Church Hall (net of rental income) and part of the costs of the Vicarage. It also includes the cost of all Church services, relief clergy, clergy expenses and administration. After these costs have been met there is little income to cover other repairs that are needed. Our outward giving from PCC funds is based on a percentage of the receipts from planned giving. The PCC is determined that our outward giving promise should be maintained as it is a fundamental Christian principle to help others. We have kept control of both Church and Church Hall running costs during the year, and it is gratifying that the Buildings Management Team continues to examine how best to manage our resources.

Reserves Policy

Our reserves policy focuses on the level of unrestricted reserves we need to maintain cashflow. The PCC have reviewed the reserves policy and considering the risks that the Church faces have agreed a range of unrestricted reserves. This range is currently £27,000 to £57,000. On 31st December 2022 we had unrestricted reserves of £42,916, which is within the range set.

Thank you.

To everyone who so generously contributed to our finances, by planned giving or donations, during the year.

To all the people who work so hard to make applications for any grants available for our projects. To our Gift Aid Officer, for keeping our claims with HMRC up to date.

To our Independent Examiner, Tim Vincent, for the work he has put in to satisfy himself that St John's has a set of accounts that satisfy all statutory requirements and in which the PCC and the parish can have confidence.

To the Treasury Team, for dealing with receipts and payments efficiently and promptly

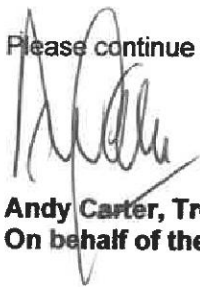
To the Buildings and management Team for their understanding of the Church finances.

The continuing challenge

The PCC has set a budget for 2023, which shows that we will be showing a loss of approximately £15,000; this projected loss assumes no income from Gift Day or Fund raising and is also before we address the maintenance Schedule arising from the 2020 quinquennial inspection. The PCC acknowledged that the challenge for us therefore remains the same as it has in previous years, and as it does in all other parishes. We, as members of the worshipping community of St Johns, Sandiway, need to give freely and generously if we are to continue to meet our aims of:

- Spreading God's word within the parish.
- Providing a diverse range of religious services and other opportunities for worship through the week.
- Providing a sacred space for worship.
- Supporting members of our worshipping community within their homes; and
- Contributing to the spiritual and moral education of children and young people.

Please continue to give all the help that you can and as often as you can



**Andy Carter, Treasury Team Leader
On behalf of the PCC**

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

REPORT BY THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 10 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 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records.

It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

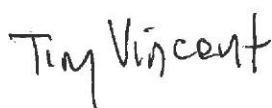
Independent Examiner's statement

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

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the
- requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.



Tim Vincent
Independent Examiner

GENERAL ACCOUNTS**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

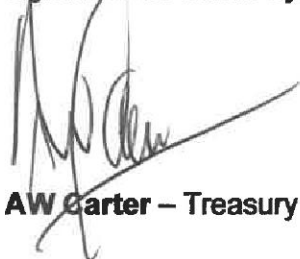
	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Incoming Funds			
Planned Giving, Gift Day, Tax claim, donations and cash collections	2	136,705	97,025
Operating activities			
Fundraising activities	2	9,436	694
Church activities	2	19,110	20,311
Investment income	2	2,473	2,021
Total Incoming funds		167,724	120,051
Expenditure			
Donations made	3	4,826	4,223
Church activities	3	113,070	117,775
Administration	3	6,123	4,192
Total expenditure		124,019	126,190
Transfer from (to) Restricted Funds	4	(42,122)	5,465
Net Incoming (outgoing) General funds		1,583	(674)
Gain (loss) on revaluation of investments	5	(2,809)	2,970
Net movement of funds		(1,226)	2,296
Funds b/fwd. at the start of the year		44,142	41,846
Adjustments in respect of prior years		-	-
Funds c/fwd. at the end of the year		42,916	44,142

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement of income and expenditure.

GENERAL ACCOUNTS**BALANCE SHEET**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Assets		
Investments		
Ministry Fund	20,919	23,728
Current assets		
Debtors	6,380	5,595
Cash at bank	103,636	95,049
	130,935	124,372
Current liabilities		
Creditors	4,515	8,454
Net assets	126,420	115,918
Unrestricted funds	42,916	44,142
Restricted funds	83,504	71,776
Total funds	126,420	115,918

The accounts on pages 10 to 15 were approved by the PCC on the 9th of May 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



AW Carter – Treasury Team Leader



Reverend R Mock – Vicar and Chairman of the Parochial Church Council

9th May 2023

The accompanying notes, on pages 12 to 15 are an integral part of these accounts.

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies, all of which have been applied, consistently throughout the year and the preceding year, are set out below.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Charities 2005.

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds.

- Restricted funds represent income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust and bequest and donations or grants received for specific objects or invited by the PCC for a specific object. As the funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given, any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund.
- Unrestricted funds represent moneys in general funds, which are used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming funds.

- Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received.
- Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming funds to which they relate are received.
- Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued.
- All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
- All incoming funds are accounted for Gross.

Expenditure.

- Giving is accounted for when due.
- The 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 as they are treated as inalienable property as are moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC.
- Expenditure on equipment has been written off.

Investments.

- Investments are valued at market value as at 31st December 2022.

2 Incoming funds

	2022 £	2021 £
Donations		
Planned giving:		
Standing orders and pink envelopes	64,440	63,064
Blue giving envelopes	1,666	1,549
Tax recovery	17,562	17,806
Collections (open plate)	3,416	2,415
Gift Day	19,222	6,432
Donations and legacies	30,399	5,759
	136,705	97,025
Fundraising events		
Concerts, social and other activities	7,309	694
Christmas Raffle and Gala Day	2,127	0
	9,436	694
Church activities		
Hall rents	11,001	5,103
Magazine sales and advertising	4,065	5,130
Wedding & funeral fees	4,044	10,078
	19,110	20,311
Investment income		
Field rent	825	660
Trust income - School Fund	466	454
Dividends and Interest	1,182	907
	2,473	2,021
Total Incoming funds	167,724	120,051

3 Expenditure

	2022	2021
	£	£
Giving		
To secular charities	2,971	2,571
To Christian charities	1,855	1,653
	<u>4,826</u>	<u>4,223</u>
Church activities		
Parish Share to diocese	69,667	67,283
Vicarage costs	4,898	4,199
Clergy expenses	1,247	917
Church Services	6,177	5,449
CDBF Assigned Fees	2,459	4,676
Junior church & youth group	122	340
Church operating costs	4,883	5,956
Church maintenance	3,888	7,067
Magazine production costs	3,416	3,560
Outreach	81	5,905
Hall operating costs	11,665	8,833
Hall maintenance	4,567	3,589
	<u>117,896</u>	<u>121,998</u>
Administration		
Administration costs	4,406	1,359
Photocopying	450	1,783
Bank charges	982	868
Telephone	285	182
	<u>6,123</u>	<u>4,192</u>
Total outgoing funds	<u>124,019</u>	<u>126,190</u>

4. Transfers from (to) Restricted Funds

Moneys raised for Specific Projects are transferred to Restricted Funds. When this money is spent on agreed Capital Projects it is not included in the Income and Expenditure Account. For Revenue expenditure it is included, and this then results in a transfer from Restricted Funds.

	2022	2021
Transfers to Restricted Funds	42,122	0
Transfers from Restricted Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>5,465</u>
Net Transfer	<u>(42,122)</u>	<u>5,465</u>

5. Gain / (Loss) on revaluation of Investments

	2022	2021
Unrestricted funds – Ministry Fund	(2,809)	2,970

6. Related party transactions:

PCC members have during the year received reimbursement of items of expenditure properly incurred upon the business of the PCC.

7. Related trusts:

The Vicar and Churchwardens are trustees of the school fund set up on the sale of the premises which were originally the Church school. The school fund comprises 762 income shares in the CBF Church of England Investment fund; the shares originally cost £5,073 and have a current market value on 31 December 2022 of £15,744 (2021 £17,845). The capital is not shown on the Balance Sheet as under the terms of the trust only the dividends from the fund are mandated to the PCC and must be used for "Youth and Junior Church" purposes only.

8. The Ark Café

The Ark Café is non-profit making with any surplus being used to help the community. Following the Covid pandemic the Ark was open for most of the year in 2022 and had another very successful year, reserves at the end of 2022 were over £8,000, £800 was paid to local good causes during 2022 and a further £1,000 paid out in early 2023.

BUILDINGS DEVELOPMENT APPEAL FUND

REPORT BY THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

I have examined the Building Fund Financial Statements for 2022 which are set out on page 17.

No matter has come to my attention:

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the
- requirements of the Act and the Regulations

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.

Tim Vincent

Tim Vincent
Independent Examiner

BUILDINGS DEVELOPMENT APPEAL FUND

Income and Expenditure

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	257	10
Expenditure	0	(420)
Net Incoming (Outgoing) funds	257	(410)
Funds b/fwd. At the start of the year	22,723	23,133
Funds c/fwd. At the end of the year	22,980	22,723

Represented by:

Current Assets

Debtors	0	0
CCLA Deposit account	19,796	19,539
Bank balances	3,184	3,184
	22,980	22,723

Current Liabilities

Creditors	0	0
Net Assets	22,980	22,723

Note: The Building Fund was transferred to its own set of accounts in 2010



*St John's Church,
Sandiway
Activities in 2022*

Vicar's Report

Looking back at 2022 the overriding themes for me are “connections” and “rebuild” as we sought to live out our mission to worship God and share his love. It was a year when I was reminded of the wider connections and the privilege we hold as a state church as we joined with the wider village to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June. At St John’s we hosted a joyful ecumenical Songs of Praise Service and provided refreshments from our stall at Gala Day. A few months later, in September we joined with the village to mourn the Queen’s death as we opened the church doors for 10 days to offer people the opportunity to sign a condolence book or simply come and sit in the quiet church and light a candle in moments of grief. We also held special services to remember and give thanks for the Queen’s life. We had over 200 visitors who took the opportunity to visit during the period of mourning – many shared their own stories of grief and loss with our volunteers on duty. At moments of national significance, we are here to support and reassure, not just our regular congregation but anyone within the wider parish who needs us.



Worship Services

As the threat of Covid receded, we reviewed our worship and looked for opportunities to rebuild our congregations. Like many churches, our work with families and children had been severely disrupted during the pandemic and whilst many families were bringing children for baptism, we wanted to ensure that there were also Sunday services where children and their parents felt comfortable.

Vicar's Report

In February we started a new monthly service called Breakfast Church, aimed specifically at families with children, but open to all who were happy to worship in a relaxed café style environment. We meet around tables in the church hall joining in with creative worship, including crafts and discussion whilst our Breakfast Band led our worship. During the summer months we moved outside for Muddy Church, an open-air service making the most of the church grounds, retaining a pattern that had been developed during the Covid lockdowns. Both these services attracted new families and other individuals who felt comfortable worshipping at a relaxed, intergenerational service.



At 10.15am services in the church hall we have been able to re-introduce sessions for children that run alongside our Morning Praise services. Alison Harris has led Godly Play, a creative and child centred session that encourages children to ask their own questions as they listen and respond to Bible stories.

At 6.30pm on Sunday evenings we trialled a Celtic Communion service, using liturgy from the Iona Community as we shared bread and wine together. The choir lead our worship with hymns and Taize chants and the service has been well received.

Open House – an evening café style service that takes place on the 5th Sunday of the month. This year guests included Archdeacon of Chester, Ronya Macleod and Rev Derek Guest.



Vicar's Report

Festival Services

This was the first year since 2019 that our festival services at Easter, Harvest and Christmas were well attended by regular congregation and other visitors. We welcomed people to our carol service, crib service and Christmas Communion services where the choir sang beautifully as they led us in seasonal worship; once again I am grateful to Kathryn Holmes as Director of Music for her ongoing enthusiasm and dedication to music here at St John's.

Special Services



We welcomed Bishop of Chester, Rt Revd Mark Tanner to lead a service of Confirmation and Baptism in September and the Bishop of Birkenhead visited in early October as I was licensed as Rural Dean for Middlewich Deanery.



Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals.

There were 18 baptisms and 1 wedding at St John's in 2022. There were 13 funerals conducted by the Ministry Team during the year: 10 were held in church, and 3 took place at the crematorium.

Vicar's Report

Maintaining and Redeveloping St John's Church

In 2022 we developed a clear, phased plan for ongoing redevelopment of the church called the **Heritage Building Project**, that was launched at our Annual Meetings in May. This is a two phased plan, that will retain and enhance many of the original features of the John Douglas building whilst also offering the facilities to make the church more welcoming and accessible.

Phase 1 –

- Installation of a ramped access at the main door to facilitate access.
- Removing the front 2 rows of pews at the front of the nave to create space for wheel-chairs, and enhance the space available for concerts, weddings & funerals.
- Adding pew cushions to make the pews more comfortable to use
- Installing hand rails on the chancel steps



Phase 2 –

- Building a new annexe on south side of the church that will include a kitchen/ servery, a toilet with baby changing facilities, and a meeting space.
- Glass doors from the annexe that will open out to the Church Garden
- Internal access via a new door at the back of the nave along with permanent disabled access ramp into the annexe.

The plans have been welcomed and supported by our congregations and our annual Gift Day in July raised £18,000 for the project. I am very grateful to John Goulden for leading the project along with a small team that reports to the Parochial Church Council.

Vicar's Report

There has been considerable progress already:

- In June the Baptistry was cleared and restored for use
- Cushions fitted to make the pews more comfortable
- The sound system has been upgraded and improved
- New tarmac on path from Lych Gate
- In December scaffolding was finally put in place for much needed repairs to the Tower.



Our listed building status is both a joy and a challenge to work with; cost of work is often much higher than anticipated and there have been set backs as we work through the permissions needed from the Diocese and the Local Authority.

For example, we were not successful in securing permission to install a temporary ramp at the main church door and have had to look at more expensive solutions for permanent ramped access. In November we began a fundraising campaign specifically for this. I am very grateful for the dedication of our Social and Fundraising Team and the generosity of so many people in our congregations and beyond who support the maintenance and redevelopment of the building.

Work with schools

I have enjoyed welcoming children from our local primary schools to visit St John's during the year. Some classes came to learn about the history of the building and it is always exciting to share information with children as they learn about St John's. This year we also offered special sessions to help children understand why Christians celebrate at Easter and Christmas. The children who visited Experience Easter in March and Experience Christmas in December, showed an eagerness to listen and participate in the interactive learning.



Vicar's Report cont.

Governance

Two new church wardens were appointed at the Annual Meetings in May and I'm very grateful for the support of John Fraser and Alison Fletcher as they took up these positions. They have both worked with energy and enthusiasm and have been a great addition to the leadership team. I am also grateful to our trustees who meet regularly in our Parochial Church Council (PCC) to oversee our mission and ministry within Sandiway and Cuddington. As Charity Trustees when planning the objectives for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In 2022, the trustees devoted considerable time to discussing the redevelopment of the church as we revised our plans for the church building and developed a phased plan of work.

Looking Ahead – Priorities for 2023 and beyond

- Continuing work on our Heritage Building Project with the internal re-ordering of the church
- Installing permanent ramped access to the main door of the church
- Developing Heritage materials to celebrate the John Douglas Building
- Considering how to welcome everyone in the name of Jesus Christ so that barriers to inclusion are removed

I would like to thank everyone who volunteers their time and talents to support our mission and ministry within Sandiway and Cuddington. There are so many people who use their gifts and talents at St John's that it's impossible to name them all individually but thank you to the lay ministers, the members of the PCC and the dedicated teams whose creativity and skills enhance our life together.

Revd Ruth Mock



Activities at St John's



The Ark

It was great to have The Ark back after lockdown. Customers and volunteers alike had missed Friday's chats and refreshments particularly Jane's cakes. We hosted a photographic exhibition 'Life in Lockdown' which is touring the country. Through the year we were able to support Ukrainian families in the locality with free meals on Fridays plus three hospitality events which included a meal. In December, Father Christmas visited with gifts.

We supported both Macmillans, with a coffee morning raising £255, and one for Save the Children which raised £80. At the year end we were able to give Cuddington and Sandiway 2nd Guide Company £500 for camping equipment and £500 for St John's ramp appeal. We also paid for The Ark to be decorated.



Arts in The Ark



Arts in the Ark has grown and thrived this last year. We have new members and a wide variety of arts and crafts take place each week. In summer we had extension activities during the school holidays including a visit to a cottage garden for sketching and photography, a course for making crochet bowls and two days on textile art. Our thanks go to our accomplished guitarist playing each week to enhance the peaceful atmosphere that people like so much.



Book groups

Three book groups continue to meet and are enjoying interesting and sometimes challenging recommendations.

Activities cont.

Charitable Giving

A meeting was held to discuss possible charitable causes to receive bimonthly donations of £500 representing a percentage of our outward giving for the year. Suggestions from the congregation were considered and a list drawn up reflecting a balance of worldwide, nationwide and local charities to be finally approved by the Vicar and PCC members.

Examples of chosen charities include United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG), a major Anglican missionary agency, Mary's Meals, working in 19 countries providing life changing meals for some of world's poorest children everyday they attend school and Asylum Link Merseyside, an organization dedicated to assisting asylum seekers and refugees in Liverpool.

A file containing current information, newsletters and acknowledgements is compiled annually and placed in Church for reference.

Christian Aid

One of the charities we support every year is Christian aid, one of the largest British aid charities which helps some of the poorest people in the world, campaigns for justice and responds with immediate help for the victims of natural disasters: earthquakes, hurricanes, floods etc. It works with other charities with similar aims and is supported by most church denominations in this country.

In 2022 Christian Aid Week highlighted its work with people increasingly affected by drought in Zimbabwe as a result of climate change which has made it more of a struggle for the poorest people to grow crops and provide for their families. Christian Aid has helped people like Jessica (pictured) to grow drought-resistant crops, to provide a water supply to her farm and to farm in a more fruitful way.

Our morning worship on Sunday 15th May focused on Christian Aid and featured Jessica in particular. People were invited to give on line or by cash/cheque and/or to support by taking part in a sponsored all-age walk and lunch after church on Sunday 22nd May. The response was magnificent and we raised £1040 for Christian Aid work with £115 to add through Gift Aid.

Activities cont.

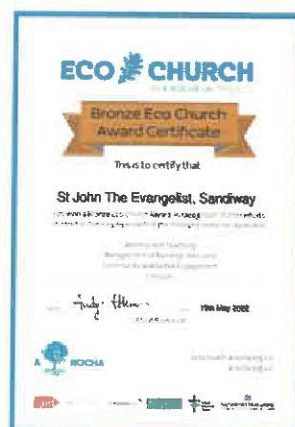
Choir

It was good to be back in the choir stalls. All had missed singing as a choir. We said goodbye to Jess Boot Cowie and Jess Lilley who both moved on to University but managed to get back for Christmas Eve. The choir sing at 6.30pm services, once a month at Choral Matins and at Festival services. We are very fortunate to have a four-part choir, a rare thing these days. New members are always welcome.

Eco Church

In May 2022 St John's gained a Bronze Eco Church Award. Our church registered with the scheme in May 2021 and the whole church community spent the next twelve months working through the questions in the on-line survey to assess our progress towards an award. The survey covers five key areas of church life: worship and teaching, management of church buildings, management of church land, community and global engagement, lifestyle. Completing the questionnaire enabled our church to record what we are already doing to care for God's earth and to reflect on what further steps we can take and then act accordingly.

Achieving Bronze Eco Church Award has been made possible by the wholehearted support and commitment of our church community. We will continue to work together as a church to complete further actions to care for our precious earth progressing towards a Silver and, hopefully (eventually), a Gold Eco Church Award.



Activities cont.

Godly Play

In Godly Play sessions which usually take place in The Ark twice a month alongside the 10.15 service the children aged 3 and over are given space to explore either a story from the Bible or a story about an aspect of Church life. The story is told using either 2 or 3 dimensional materials after which there is a time of 'wondering conversation' – *I wonder which part of this story you like the best? I wonder which part of this story is most important? I wonder where you are in this story?* The children are given space to explore and there is no expectation that we are looking for right answers. They certainly challenge the storyteller with their insights and questions. The group continue their wondering through the practical activities we have set out; there is then a short time of prayer before we rejoin the rest of the congregation.

Our grateful thanks go to a good team of adults who help set up the room and clear away afterwards, who share in conversations with the whole group and with individual children if they want to talk.

Home Groups

Our six Home Groups (3 afternoon and 3 evening) welcomed meeting again in person following the restraints caused by Covid. The groups continue to follow different paths as they provide opportunity and exploration of faith as well as pastoral support and fun.



JIMS

The group met twice a month from April onwards playing songs from different eras and various genres. It remains a very relaxed atmosphere to come and play in. All players and instruments are welcome. Numbers are very encouraging with an average attendance of 14 players and singers.



Activities cont.

Mothers' Union

We have had a very happy and successful year with a wide range of excellent speakers and fruitful fund raising events. We have continued to give small children's Bibles to all children baptized at St John's. We have also continued to send as much as we can to Mothers' Union charity funds. Although we have lost four members this year we have happily gained five and membership now stands at 22. Many thanks to our Secretary, Treasurer and committee for all their hard work and to the members for their faithful attendance and support.

Music

For over twenty years we've had an evening concert series at St John's with a wide variety of musicians and ensembles. After lockdown we decided to try a monthly lunchtime series followed by a soup lunch. The last two years have been particularly hard for young musicians starting out on their careers and RNCM were very appreciative of the opportunity for students to perform at St John's. We've also had established musicians.

The venue is perfect, new people see St John's, a high standard of musicianship is enjoyed at a low ticket price and much needed funds are raised.

The audience support has increased monthly and a wide variety of ensembles and soloists has performed for us: harps, violin, piano, singers, bassoon to name a few. The soup lunch has been an opportunity for people to meet and to socialize. Thanks to all the soup makers.



Activities cont.

Praise and Play

The group for babies, pre-school children and their parents/carers meets each Thursday afternoon in term time (1.45 – 3.00); in an informal, friendly space where everyone feels comfortable we gently explore some things about church and the Christian faith. After an informal time of 'catching up' and free play we gather for songs with instruments, actions or parachute; we have a story which could be from the Bible or a children's story from which we can draw some Christian significance. After short prayers and a celebration of a special time (birthdays perhaps) families enjoy the play activities set around the hall and continue to catch up over a cup of tea/coffee.



Grateful thanks go to the good team of adults who set everything up, supervise activities when needed, make the tea, chat with adults and children and help clear away at the end.

Prayer Support

Hilary Chambers stepped down as leader of the Prayer Group this year; we are very grateful for her inspiration and guidance for over 10 years. Hilary is still a valued member of the renamed 'Prayer Support' alongside Sue Haddon, Jill Carter, Margaret Byrne, Fiona Goulden and Sandra Stevenson.



Our aim is to support and encourage individuals, the church and the community in prayer.

Our 'Recycled Love' weekend in September 2022 achieved just that with the amazing display of over 700 hearts in church, 300 visitors and 200 bags distributed.

The 200 Advent Ribbons that were distributed were as popular and as encouraging as ever.

Saturday Sanctuary which has now returned to two hours is proving popular for both prayer and company and hot drinks.



Social and fundraising events

These have been particularly well supported as people wanted to stay local in as safe a place as possible and gradually get used to going out again. Thanks to all who have entertained us with singalongs, musical evenings and quizzes. Amazing high quality meals have been enjoyed, all made by St John's church family. Funds have been raised and with several different congregations worshipping, the social events help keep us together and are an opportunity to bring friends along too.



Youth Group

Dave Mock took over leadership of the group in Autumn 2022. There is an experienced volunteer team of leaders who all help to make the sessions safe, properly resourced and, most importantly, fun! The group meets each month usually on the 4th Sunday and activities are planned on a termly basis. No two sessions are the same. The aim is for the kids to have a good time and learn a little about the Christian faith as they go along. Every session includes lovely food including 'doorbells'. Our thanks to all involved in any way.



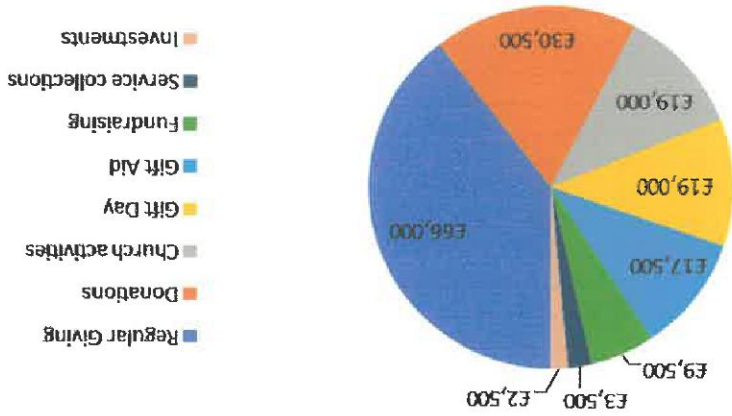
If you are interested in coming along to any of these activities or groups, you would be very welcome! Please see the magazine or website for details, or contact **XXX**

Events in 2022:

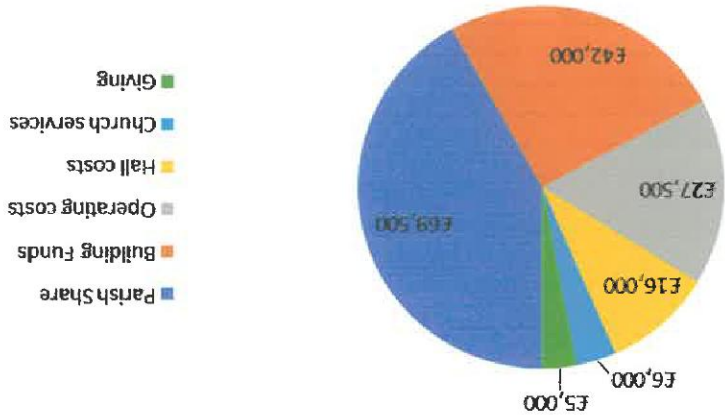
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services continued
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast Church started • Godly Play started • Monthly Lunchtime Concerts restarted • Monthly Family Wildlife Activities started
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lent group • Lent reflections • Lent appeal for Afghanistan & Ukraine
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience Easter • Easter services in church
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come & Sing Joseph & the Technicolour Dreamcoat • Christian Aid sponsored walk • Annual Meeting - launch of Heritage Building Appeal
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platinum Jubilee Service of Thanksgiving
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original Panama Jazz Band Concert • Heritage Gift Day & Family BBQ • Parish Social
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Morning
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation Service • Church open for commemoration • Prayer Weekend "Recycled Love"
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest Festival • Harvest Soup Lunch raises money for MidCheshire Foodbank • Commissioning of Ruth as Rural Dean • Clothes Swap • Italian Evening
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Warmer with the Three Mojitos
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir sang carols at White Barn, Blue Cap & Toolerstones • Christmas with JIMS • Saturday Sanctuary renamed • Experience Christmas • Christmas Singalong • Christmas Services

Finances

Where does our money come from?



Where does our money go?



Thank you to everyone who has continued to contribute to our finances through planned giving, donations and collections, despite another difficult year for so many.

For more financial information, please see the 2022 Business & Financial Annual Report.

St John's registered charity no. 1135082



Safeguarding Statement
At St John's, we take extremely seriously our duty and obligation to protect all. We have adopted the Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines, and in all our activities have given due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults. You can find out more at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Julie Westgate (07713 813147) or Mandy Shaw, our Assistant Safeguarding Officer (07504 504087).