



The Parish of St John the Baptist, Old Malden

Registered Charity No 1145155

Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended

31st December 2023

Incumbent

*The Reverend Michael Roper
Vicarage: 5, Vicarage Close, off Paddock Close
Worcester Park
KT4 7LZ*

Banks

*NatWest Bank plc Worcester Park Branch
Barclays Bank plc Worcester Park Branch*

Independent Examiner

Nilkunj Dodhia BSc FCA MBA

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	117,418	2,800	—	120,218	100,275
Income from charitable activities	1,453	5,046	—	6,499	8,762
Other trading activities	11,701	1,232	—	12,933	10,110
Investments	2,456	718	—	3,174	1,771
Total income	133,028	9,795	—	142,823	120,918
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	197	4	—	202	166
Expenditure on charitable activities	146,848	8,306	—	155,154	129,899
Total expenditure	147,045	8,310	—	155,355	130,066
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(14,018)	1,485	—	(12,532)	(9,148)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	730	—	—	730	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	(730)	—	(730)	—
Other recognised gains / losses					
Net movement in funds	(13,288)	756	—	(12,532)	(9,148)
Total funds brought forward	95,079	23,794	3,686	122,559	131,707
Total funds carried forward	81,791	24,549	3,686	110,027	122,559
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	55,976	—	—	55,976	59,364
Designated					
Christmas Day Event	813	—	—	813	1,356
Church Hall	25,000	—	—	25,000	25,000
Churchyard	—	—	—	—	114
Restoration (Formerly Church Building Major Works)	2	—	—	2	9,245
Restricted					
Angel Project Appeal	—	56	—	56	1,086
Bereavement Cafe	—	1,732	—	1,732	1,732
Bishop's Lent Appeal	—	893	—	893	286
Christian Aid	—	(19)	—	(19)	730
Christmas Day Event	—	601	—	601	—
Church Building	—	9	—	9	—
Churchyard	—	222	—	222	—
Harvest Appeal	—	76	—	76	76
MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal	—	16	—	16	61
Organ	—	19,137	—	19,137	18,112
Roy Clough	—	1,776	—	1,776	1,704
Scouts	—	49	—	49	8
Endowment					
Parish Endowment	—	—	3,686	3,686	3,686

Balance sheet

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	6,087	—
Heritage assets	25,000	25,000
Investments	32,933	42,862
	64,019	67,862
Current assets		
Debtors	15,225	14,269
Cash at bank and in hand	39,441	52,648
	54,665	66,917
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	8,658	12,219
	8,658	12,219
Net current assets less current liabilities	46,007	54,698
Total assets less current liabilities	110,027	122,559
Total net assets less liabilities	110,027	122,559
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
General fund	55,976	59,364
Designated		
Church Building	—	—
Parish Office Computer	—	—
Church Hall	25,000	25,000
Christmas Day Event	813	1,356
Vicar's Fund	—	—
Churchyard	—	114
Restoration (Formerly Church Building Major Works)	2	9,245
Restricted		
Bishop's Lent Appeal	893	286
Christmas Day Event	601	—
Churchyard	222	—
Restoration (Formerly Church Building Major Works)	—	—
MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal	16	61
Covid-19 Costs Grant	—	—
Harvest Appeal	76	76
Angel Project Appeal	56	1,086
Foodbank General Appeal	—	—
Agency collection	—	—
Bereavement Cafe	1,732	1,732
Christian Aid	(19)	730
Epiphany Gifts	—	—
Scouts	49	8
Ukraine Appeal 2022	—	—
Church Building	9	—
Organ	19,137	18,112
Roy Clough	1,776	1,704
Endowment		
Parish Endowment	3,686	3,686
Funds of the church	110,027	122,559

Statement of assets and liabilities

	This year	Last year
Heritage assets		
Church Hall		
Church Hall (Designated) -	25,000	25,000
	25,000	25,000
Total for Heritage assets	25,000	25,000
Investments		
CBF 637054001S		
Parish Endowment (Endowment) -	771	771
	771	771
CBF 137002132S		
Parish Endowment (Endowment) -	500	500
	500	500
CBF 637054001D (Roy Clough Legacy)		
Roy Clough (Restricted) -	1,662	1,590
	1,662	1,590
CBF 637054002D		
General fund (Unrestricted) -	30,000	40,000
	30,000	40,000
Total for Investments	32,933	42,862
Tangible assets		
Hot Cupboard		
Christmas Day Event (Designated) -	496	—
Christmas Day Event (Restricted) -	251	—
	747	—
Printer		
General fund (Unrestricted) -	5,340	—
	5,340	—
Total for Tangible assets	6,087	—
Cash at bank and in hand		
NatWest Current account		
Bereavement Cafe (Restricted) -	1,732	1,732
Bishop's Lent Appeal (Restricted) -	862	286
Christian Aid (Restricted) -	(38)	730
Epiphany Gifts (Restricted) -	(171)	—
Scouts (Restricted) -	47	8
Church Building (Designated) -	—	(6)
Organ (Restricted) -	2,958	2,085
Roy Clough (Restricted) -	114	114
Christmas Day Event (Designated) -	353	1,023
Churchyard (Designated) -	—	(271)
MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal (Restricted) -	(59)	58
Covid-19 Costs Grant (Restricted) -	—	79
Harvest Appeal (Restricted) -	31	31
Angel Project Appeal (Restricted) -	(231)	683
General fund (Unrestricted) -	6,183	(2,001)
Agency collection (Restricted) -	—	90
	11,782	4,641

	This year	Last year
Barclays Current Account		
Epiphany Gifts (Restricted) -	128	—
Parish Endowment (Endowment) -	2,415	2,415
Christmas Day Event (Designated) -	6	—
Churchyard (Restricted) -	113	—
Harvest Appeal (Restricted) -	75	72
Angel Project Appeal (Restricted) -	—	184
General fund (Unrestricted) -	2,625	10,835
	5,362	13,506
NatWest PGS Account		
General fund (Unrestricted) -	896	3,601
	896	3,601
NatWest Restoration Account		
Restoration (Formerly Church Building Major Works) (Designated) -	1	7,456
	1	7,456
NatWest Deposit Account		
Church Building (Designated) -	—	8
Church Building (Restricted) -	9	—
General fund (Unrestricted) -	3,923	3,778
	3,932	3,786
Barclays Number 4		
Organ (Restricted) -	16,179	16,027
	16,179	16,027
Barclays Number 6		
Churchyard (Designated) -	—	500
Churchyard (Restricted) -	2	—
Restoration (Formerly Church Building Major Works) (Designated) -	1	2,500
General fund (Unrestricted) -	505	1
	507	3,001
Cash in hand		
Christmas Day Event (Designated) -	500	600
General fund (Unrestricted) -	280	30
	780	630
Total for Cash at bank and in hand	39,441	52,648
Debtors		
Accounts Receivable		
Bishop's Lent Appeal (Restricted) -	31	—
Christian Aid (Restricted) -	19	—
Epiphany Gifts (Restricted) -	43	—
Scouts (Restricted) -	3	—
Church Building (Designated) -	—	101
Christmas Day Event (Designated) -	—	316
Christmas Day Event (Restricted) -	350	—
Churchyard (Designated) -	—	114
Churchyard (Restricted) -	108	—
MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal (Restricted) -	75	3
Harvest Appeal (Restricted) -	—	3
Angel Project Appeal (Restricted) -	596	419
General fund (Unrestricted) -	14,001	12,805
Agency collection (Restricted) -	—	508
	15,225	14,269
Total for Debtors	15,225	14,269

	This year	Last year
Agency accounts		
Agency collections		
Agency collection (Restricted) -	—	(598)
	—	(598)
	<hr/>	
Total for Agency accounts	—	(598)
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year		
Accounts Payable		
Church Building (Designated) -	—	(104)
Christmas Day Event (Designated) -	(542)	(583)
Churchyard (Designated) -	—	(229)
Restoration (Formerly Church Building Major Works) (Designated) -	—	(711)
Covid-19 Costs Grant (Restricted) -	—	(79)
Harvest Appeal (Restricted) -	(30)	(30)
Angel Project Appeal (Restricted) -	(320)	(200)
General fund (Unrestricted) -	(7,766)	(9,685)
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Total for Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	(8,658)	(11,621)
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Grand total	110,027	122,559
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Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Journals	Closing
BLA - Bishop's Lent Appeal							
Restricted	286	608	—	—	—	—	893
Sub-total for BLA	286	608	—	—	—	—	893
Bereavemen - Bereavement Cafe							
Restricted	1,732	14	14	—	—	—	1,732
Sub-total for Bereavemen	1,732	14	14	—	—	—	1,732
CAid - Christian Aid							
Restricted	730	892	910	(730)	—	—	(19)
Sub-total for CAid	730	892	910	(730)	—	—	(19)
Epiphany - Epiphany Gifts							
Restricted	—	1,094	1,094	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for Epiphany	—	1,094	1,094	—	—	—	—
Scouts - Scouts							
Restricted	8	43	1	—	—	—	49
Sub-total for Scouts	8	43	1	—	—	—	49
ChurchBldg - Church Building							
Designated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted	—	580	571	—	—	—	9
Sub-total for ChurchBldg	—	580	571	—	—	—	9
ChurchHall - Church Hall							
Designated	25,000	—	—	—	—	—	25,000
Sub-total for ChurchHall	25,000	—	—	—	—	—	25,000
Organ - Organ							
Restricted	18,112	1,312	286	—	—	—	19,137
Sub-total for Organ	18,112	1,312	286	—	—	—	19,137
RoyClough - Roy Clough							
Restricted	1,704	71	—	—	—	—	1,776
Sub-total for RoyClough	1,704	71	—	—	—	—	1,776
Endowment - Parish Endowment							
Endowment	3,686	—	—	—	—	—	3,686
Sub-total for Endowment	3,686	—	—	—	—	—	3,686
XmasEvent - Christmas Day Event							
Designated	1,356	—	542	—	—	—	813
Restricted	—	850	249	—	—	—	601
Sub-total for XmasEvent	1,356	850	791	—	—	—	1,414
ChrchYd - Churchyard							
Designated	114	—	114	—	—	—	—
Restricted	—	477	255	—	—	—	222
Sub-total for ChrchYd	114	477	370	—	—	—	222
Restn - Restoration							
Designated	9,245	10	9,253	—	—	—	2
Restricted	—	25	25	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for Restn	9,245	35	9,278	—	—	—	2

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/ losses	Journals	Closing
MPSBIBLES - MPS School Leavers'							
Restricted	61	348	393	—	—	—	16
Sub-total for MPSBIBLES	61	348	393	—	—	—	16
Harvest - Harvest Appeal							
Restricted	76	—	—	—	—	—	76
Sub-total for Harvest	76	—	—	—	—	—	76
ANGEL - Angel Project Appeal							
Restricted	1,086	3,482	4,511	—	—	—	56
Sub-total for ANGEL	1,086	3,482	4,511	—	—	—	56
General - General fund							
Unrestricted	59,364	133,017	137,135	730	—	—	55,976
Sub-total for General	59,364	133,017	137,135	730	—	—	55,976
Grand total	122,559	142,823	155,355	—	—	—	110,027

Analysis of income and expenditure

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Total This year</u>	<u>Last year</u>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Donations and legacies						
Donations under Gift Aid by Bank or PGS	76,692	—	—	—	76,692	65,169
Donations under Gift Aid by Envelopes	1,065	—	—	—	1,065	1,008
Other planned giving (not gift-aided)	630	—	—	—	630	520
Loose plate collections	3,204	—	—	—	3,204	1,942
Donations by Church Groups	62	—	—	—	62	68
One-off Gift Aid gifts	8,058	—	1,224	—	9,282	6,825
Donations appeals etc.	2,939	—	363	—	3,302	2,672
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	23,462	—	810	—	24,272	18,373
Legacies	—	—	—	—	—	3,000
Non-recurring one-off grants	1,200	—	—	—	1,200	200
Other funds generated	107	—	402	—	510	498
Total	117,418	—	2,800	—	120,218	100,275
Income from charitable activities						
Angel Project Appeal Donations	(11)	—	2,520	—	2,508	2,169
Fees for weddings and funerals	1,371	—	—	—	1,371	2,567
Christmas Day Event Donations	—	—	850	—	850	485
Christian Aid Appeal Donations	—	—	800	—	800	703
Bishop's Lent Appeal Donations	—	—	577	—	577	284
MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal Dons	93	—	260	—	353	326
Scouts Appeal Donations	—	—	40	—	40	152
Harvest Appeal Donations	—	—	—	—	—	10
Ukraine Appeal 2022 Donations	—	—	—	—	—	2,067
Total	1,453	—	5,046	—	6,499	8,762
Other trading activities						
Maeldune Fair	2,626	—	—	—	2,626	3,302
Christmas Fair	1,885	—	—	—	1,885	1,290
Other Fund Raising	5,607	—	1,232	—	6,839	3,682
Online Store	90	—	—	—	90	9
Bookstall sales - fund raising	5	—	—	—	5	—
Magazine income - advertising	790	—	—	—	790	862
Parish magazine sales	697	—	—	—	697	965
Total	11,701	—	1,232	—	12,933	10,110
Investments						
CBF Deposit Interest	2,313	—	517	—	2,829	1,616
Rent from lands or buildings	130	—	—	—	130	130
Bank and building society interest	3	10	201	—	214	26
Total	2,446	10	718	—	3,174	1,771
INCOME TOTAL	133,017	10	9,795	—	142,823	120,918

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
EXPENDITURE						
Raising funds						
Fees paid to fund raisers	69	—	4	—	74	77
Costs of fetes & other events	128	—	—	—	128	89
Total	197	—	4	—	202	166
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Parish Support Fund	72,000	—	—	—	72,000	72,000
Restoration Costs – Professional Fees	24,551	9,253	29	—	33,833	5,950
Salary of parish administrator	10,639	—	—	—	10,639	9,732
Church running - electric	3,249	—	—	—	3,249	2,097
Church running - gas	4,237	—	—	—	4,237	2,277
Church running - water	197	—	—	—	197	111
Church running - insurance	2,043	—	—	—	2,043	1,924
Music	6,124	—	—	—	6,124	4,972
Organ / piano tuning	1,216	—	286	—	1,502	1,168
Church maintenance	5,397	—	567	—	5,964	10,538
Administration	2,418	—	—	—	2,418	2,092
Mission giving to charities	1,610	—	5,421	—	7,031	7,235
Upkeep of services	1,523	—	1,094	—	2,618	1,714
Upkeep of churchyard	1,036	114	255	—	1,405	6,139
Costs of Christmas Day Event	—	542	—	—	542	836
Home mission	—	—	389	—	389	452
Working expenses of incumbent	285	—	—	—	285	39
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	—	—	249	—	249	—
Working expenses of other ministry team	118	—	—	—	118	142
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—	66
Children's Ministry	196	—	—	—	196	315
Costs of Bereavement Café	—	—	14	—	14	—
Magazine expenses	100	—	—	—	100	100
Total	136,938	9,910	8,306	—	155,154	129,899
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	137,135	9,910	8,310	—	155,355	130,066
GRAND TOTAL	(4,118)	(9,900)	1,485	—	(12,532)	(9,148)

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting basis

These accounts have been prepared using the Historical Cost Convention, under which the value of assets on the balance sheet is based on their original cost when acquired. We have also employed accruals-based accounting in which revenues and expenses are recorded when revenue is earned or when expenses are incurred, whether or not cash has been received or paid. Accordingly, we have provided for costs and income relating to 2022 but which had not been paid or received as at the 31st of December 2022.

2. Gift Aid Tax Reclaims

During 2023 two quarterly claims were completed, including one relating to donations received in the fourth quarter of 2022. At the 2023 year-end we have therefore accrued a total of £10,927, in respect of the final claims for the second, third and fourth quarters of 2023 and the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme for the tax year 2022-23. These claims were in the process of being formulated for submission during the preparation of these accounts.

3. Parish Support Fund

The Parish Pledge to the Diocese of Southwark for 2023 of £72,000 was paid in full for the year. The Pledge for 2024 as approved by the PCC is £72,000.

4. Property

Property is shown at its historical cost. The hall is owned by the Parish, but day-to-day management and financing is governed by a separate charitable trust and the hall is used for the benefit of the local community, as well as for Parish events.

5. Building Works

Following observations made in the last quinquennial report the parish is embarking on a programme of major building works, known as the Restoration Project. This will require significant funds, which in turn will need specific fundraising. A donation of £10,000 made in late 2019 was designated to start the Fund for these works. A further one-off private donation of £15,000 was received during 2021 which the donor wished the PCC to determine the purpose for which it was to be allocated and which the PCC designated to the Fund. Two legacies were received in 2022 and the PCC decided to allocate these and future legacies (until further notice) to the newly renamed Restoration Fund (previously known as the 'Major Building Works Fund').

During 2023 the Parish incurred Restoration Costs including architect's fees of £33,833 in relation to the Restoration. Of these, £9,253 were borne by the Restoration Fund which at the end of 2023 had been fully depleted. The balance of costs was borne by the General Fund. The Parish is engaged in seeking grants for the major part of the work that it looks to carry out.

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets held for the Parish's own use are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. The minimum value for capitalizing such assets is c£1,000. Annual depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on a straight-line basis. Normally depreciation will be charged at 25% as standard. At each balance sheet date, we review the net value of each tangible fixed asset to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered impairment and the net value in the accounts adjusted accordingly.

In 2023 we acquired a new 'hot cupboard' catering trolley, at a cost of £996, to support the Christmas Day Event the Fund for which bore this cost. At the 2023 year-end this capitalised asset was depreciated by 25%.

We also acquired and capitalised a new printer in 2023, replacing the previous printer which had been in use for over a decade, and which had been fully written off in earlier years. The cost of the new printer was £5,340, which was borne by the General Fund, was paid in 2024 and was therefore accrued in 2023 as the printer was held and owned by the Parish from mid-December 2023. However, the new printer had not been appreciably used as at 31.12.2023, so no depreciation was charged this year. The depreciation rate for this asset is also planned at 25%.

7. Investments

Investments with the Central Board of Finance:

Share Income Investments (shown at historical cost in the accounts)

	<i>Units</i>	<i>Historical Cost</i>	<i>Market Valuation 2023</i>	<i>Market Valuation 2022</i>
		£	£	£
CofE Investment Fund Income Shares	1,000	771	22,605	20,661
Fynes Clinton Grave Trust	732	500	16,547	15,124
Total		1,271	39,152	35,785

Deposit Income Investments

	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>
	£	£
Roy Clough Bequest Fund Deposit	1,641	1,590
General Fund Deposit	30,000	40,000
Total	31,641	41,590

Overall Total Investments

- As shown in the accounts	32,912	42,841
- At market value as at 31/12	69,793	77,375

8. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift Aid Tax to be claimed from HMRC (various funds)	10,921	8,645
Scouts re legal fees relating to renegotiating of hall site hut lease	2,804	2,804
2023 Angel Appeal Donation received in 2024	130	-
2022 Funeral Fees due from Funeral Directors, received in 2023	-	647
Investment Income relating to 2022 received in 2023	582	532
Unrestricted Donations relating to 2022 received in 2023	-	1,230
Christmas Day Event Donations	350	210
Sundry Other	438	201
Overall Total Debtors	15,225	14,269

Debtors as at 31 December 2022 relate primarily to the Gift Aid Tax reclaims referred to in Note 2 above, together with a payment made to settle legal fees in relation to the renegotiation of the lease on the scout hut, which is expected to be recouped from the scout troop. In addition, there were a number of donations and income received or confirmed prior to the year-end but banked or received in early 2024.

9. Creditors

	2023	2022
	£	£
<i>Amounts collected on behalf of others ('agency collections')</i>		
Diocesan service fees & other amounts due	-	97
Charitable donations	-	10
<i>Total Agency Collections</i>	-	107
<i>Deferred Income</i>		
Diocesan Grant made in 2022 for the alleviation of energy costs	-	1,200
<i>Accrued expenditure</i>		
Cost of new Printer	5,340	-
Tree Felling costs	-	5,500
Utilities and Admin	967	1,599
Upgrade to WiFi facility costs	-	840
Restoration costs	-	711
Incumbent Costs and Reimbursables	624	622
Church Building Maintenance	403	-
Christmas Day Event Expenses	543	583
Organ Maintenance	286	286
Outreach & Home Mission	-	230
Wedding Fee Deposit	100	-
Other	395	50
<i>Total Accounts Payable</i>	8,658	11,621

10. Maeldune and Christmas Fairs

	Maeldune Fair		Christmas Fair	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Gross Income	2,626	3,302	1,885	1,290
Gross Expenses	71	89	57	-
Net result	<u>2,555</u>	<u>3,213</u>	<u>1,828</u>	<u>1,290</u>

In 2023 we were again pleased to be able to hold both the annual Maeldune Fayre in June and the Autumn/Christmas Fair in late November having had to shelve or curtail plans in some recent years during periods of Covid restrictions. The Fundraising Team, together with many others, worked hard to make these community events, on Plough Green and in the Church Hall respectively, very successful.

11. Christmas Day Event

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross Income	350	485
Gross Expenses	542	836
Depreciation of 'Hot Cupboard' Fixed Asset	249	-
Net	<u>(441)</u>	<u>(351)</u>

This year we invested in a new 'Hot Cupboard' catering kit at a cost of £996 (see note 6 above relating to Fixed Assets). In previous years we have hired equivalent resources, at considerable and increasing cost and difficulty in sourcing. This purchase will help us to reduce running costs over time and will ease the organizing of the event, whilst also having a useful asset for other occasions. Donations on the day and in advance boosted the overall income for the event by £350, all of which is held within a restricted fund from which expenses are paid. The Fund balance has accumulated over many previous years and is currently able to absorb recent annual deficits.

Annual Report

2023 was the first fully post-Covid year for St John's, with a full range of mission and activity possible, not that these have 'returned to normal', since patterns of life and opportunities have changed permanently in the years since early 2020 and we continue to adapt financially. As a result of a successful Stewardship campaign in the middle of the year, regular giving has shown a significant rise for the first time in many years. Fundraising events have once again generated significant income, and we have received generous one-off donations. We have continued to manage and control our day-to-day costs carefully, including our contribution to the Diocese's Parish Support Fund as was made in in previous years, £72,000. This has allowed us to make very significant payments, amounting to £33k, largely from our General Funds, to act as 'seed money' for our Restoration Project.

The Finance Committee has continued to meet very regularly to monitor the financial status of the Parish and to report and make recommendations to the PCC. The Parish's reserves are reasonable and as a result the Parish must be considered a 'going concern', but very careful management by and on behalf of the PCC of the Restoration Project will be necessary, since our reserves at the end of 2023 will not allow for significant further disbursements without careful 'forward' financial planning and equally significant fundraising for this purpose.

Income

Donations

Regular donations to the Parish by bank or envelope increased very significantly since 2022 as a result of the Stewardship Campaign run in the first half of the year, with some 15 new donors and 38 of our 100+ donors electing to move to the CofE Parish Giving Scheme. This scheme is very helpful in reducing the demands on our administrative efforts, and also providing gift aid claim monies in the same month as the donations.

During 2023 one-off donations, many given under gift aid, rose to higher levels than in 2022 and for this we are very grateful. These include gifts totaling over £1k under the Epiphany Gifts Appeal to cover sacristy costs. We remain very tax-efficient, with a very high level of gift aid claim across regular donations, one-off gifts as well as appeal donations.

We released the balance of a generous grant received from Southwark Diocese made in late 2022 to help cover the cost of increased energy costs. This has helped us cope with the sever increase seen in October 2022.

This year contactless and cashless giving, which we started in 2021, has continued to be very buoyant, largely replacing cash donations by using the contactless kit in church and donate buttons on the Parish website, and through the services of the providers SumUp and GiveALittle, as recommended by the Church of England. Although this development was already part of Parish plans, as with so many other social trends, the pandemic accelerated these as the move away from cash increased along with the reduced ability to attend church in person.

Income from Charitable Activities

As in 2022, the parish ran several very successful campaigns, largely online and on a cashless basis, for Christian Aid and the Christmas Angel Project for local school children. The online nature of these appeals, using SumUp and GiveALittle, lend themselves to social media and gift aid donation, and the income and expenditure for each of these now feature as both income and expenditure under the general banner of Home Mission.

Fees for weddings, funerals and burials of ashes are set by the Church of England and are charged accordingly. Since 2020, parishes receive no income from funerals conducted purely at crematoria; these are passed to the Diocese in full (other than small donations that may occasionally be paid by funeral directors to cover incidental

costs such as travel). Two weddings took place (2022: one); three funeral services were held in church (2022: seven) and three burials of ashes took place in the churchyard (2022: four).

Other 'Trading' Activities

The Fundraising Team continued to work hard to raise funds and were able to run a full programme of events including the Maeldune Fair in June and a busy Christmas Fair in late November. The annual Story Tent event was held in person just before Christmas once again, a jumble sale and organ recitals took place, and a '£10 Challenge' attracted over 30 members of the congregation, who raised over £2,800 over the summer months.

Sales income and advertising from Old Malden News both dropped again significantly; paper copies have proved less popular, and the magazine is fully available online for free as an important means of communication and outreach.

Investment income

Investment income from our various CBF/CCLA deposits increased significantly as interest rates rose steadily from historically low levels.

Overall, income has risen very significantly (by almost £23k) over 2022, partially because of increased appeal donations, but primarily as a result of new and generous regular donations.

Expenditure

General Comments

In order to meet its commitments and the ongoing circumstances of the pandemic, the PCC budget for 2023 once again forecast a significant deficit for the year (over £22k) and as in previous years this guided the PCC and its Finance Committee as they managed the finances through the year. The more notable variances between 2020 and 2021 are drawn out below.

Parish Support Fund (Diocesan Contribution)

The Parish's contribution to the Diocese has now remained at £72k for a number of years as St John's steadies its finances. Payments were made in full (as referenced in note 3 to the accounts) and given the budgetary challenges our pledge for 2024 remains at £72,000. Meanwhile the average cost to the Diocese for a parish priest, including accommodation, pension, training and all the parish support that we receive, has risen beyond £84k. The shortfall in our contribution to the full estimated cost remains a concern for the PCC.

Restoration Costs

During 2023 we incurred £33,833 of architect's and surveyor's fees in relation to the planning for the Restoration Project. Of these c£9,300 were borne by designated funds set aside by the PCC in earlier years specifically for the Project. The balance was borne by the General Fund.

Church Running Costs

These have risen in line with inflation and consumption as the building has been in greater use than 2020.

Administration and Administrator salary

The PCC agreed to an inflationary rise for the salary of our Administrator. Other Administrative costs have remained consistent, except for the cost of a projector as budgeted (with the excess of the cost donated). This asset was not capitalised on account of its relatively low cost.

Church Running Costs

Gas and Electricity costs rose substantially in October 2022, such that we experienced the bulk of the increase across 2023. Unit charges fell somewhat in October 2023 at their annual resetting, and we therefore expect to see a drop for 2024, depending on consumption. In 2023 we released the main part of a standard parish grant that we received in 2022 from Southwark Diocese to help in the then rising cost of energy.

Music & Organ

The PCC also agreed to an inflationary rise in our Choir Director's and Organists fees, the service of both of whom is provided on a self-employed contractual basis. Other music costs marginally less restricted than in 2022, but also include CCLI licence fees of £500 that in 2022 were charged to the Upkeep of Services. We had to replace an internal support within the organ, leading to an additional cost of £286, borne by the Organ Restricted Fund.

Church Maintenance

In 2023 the vestry lavabo and worktop had to be replaced during the year at a cost of c£400. Exceptional costs in 2022 included water and drainage surveys conducted to determine in some detail the topographical layout and work that will be required at some stage to stem the challenges of damp in the church building. 2023 costs also included Quinquennial fees of £2.5k for the review of the church and the church hall.

Upkeep of Services

These costs have increased over 2022 as we moved back into a full pattern of services for the year and replenished run-down stocks. Over £1k of these costs were borne by the Epiphany Gifts Appeal Restricted Fund.

Upkeep of Churchyard

Day-to-day churchyard costs continued to be pegged back, whereas in 2022 costs included the cutting up and removal of a large oak tree on the churchyard boundary.

Upkeep of Services

In 2020 our ongoing costs for services have remained low. Those in 2020 included significant expenses for reopening the church and the costs of kit for livestreaming services, all of which are covered by the Covid-19 grant referred to in the income review.

Mission Giving

The charitable and mission giving payments that we undertook during the year as approved by the PCC were:

	2023		2022
	£		£
<i><u>From general funds as our mission giving</u></i>			
Care International	300	KCAH	750
Young Minds	300	Kingston Foodbank	750
Re-Engage	300		
KCAH	300		
Kingston Foodbank	300		
	<u>1,500</u>		<u>1,500</u>
The Royal British Legion, Worcester Park	60	The Royal British Legion, Worcester Park	60
	<u>1,560</u>		<u>2,060</u>
 <i><u>Home Mission collections and appeals</u></i>			
Angel Appeal	4,512	Angel Appeal	2,770
		Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal	2,175
Christian Aid Appeal & Brekkie	910	Christian Aid Appeal & Brekkie	730
MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal	389	MPS School Leavers' Bibles Appeal	300
Scouts Appeal	50	Scouts Appeal	152
Winter Appeal for Kingston Foodbank	304	Spring Foodbank Harvest for K Foodbank	30
Bishop's Lent Appeal	178	Bishops Lent Appeal	286
	<u>6,343</u>		<u>6,443</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St John the Baptist Church, Old Malden

Basis of this Report

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on the accompanying pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the regulations') and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('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 section 144 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

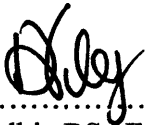
Independent Examiner's Report

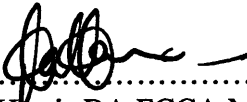
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting 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 accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently 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 130 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.

Signed.....
Nilkunj Dodhia BSc FCA MBA
Independent Examiner
Date..... 23rd March 2024.....

Signed.....
Alastair G Harris BA FCCA MCISI
Parish Treasurer
Date..... 23rd March 2024.....

Signed.....
PCC Chairman

Date..... 19th April 2024.....