



# PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN

CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

## **Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

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*Incumbent:* The Rev'd C. Peter Molloy, The Rectory, Church Road, Buxted, Uckfield, TN22 4LP

*Churchwardens:* Mrs Margaret Scott, 5 Totease Mews, Church Road, Buxted, TN22 4AF

Mr. Martin Shaw, Coopers Green House, Coopers Green, Uckfield, TN22 4AT

*Bankers:* HSBC Bank plc, 63 High St., Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XQ

*Indep. Examiner:* Mr Peter Haining FCA, Horns Lodge, Meres Lane, Cross-in-Hand, TN21 0TY

*Churches:* St. Margaret's Church, Buxted Park, Buxted  
St. Mary's Church, Church Road, Buxted  
St. Mark's Church, Main Road, Hadlow Down

*Website:* [www.bhdchurches.co.uk](http://www.bhdchurches.co.uk)

**Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down**  
**Trustees' Annual Report**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

In some ways 2023 has been a season of considerable change and uncertainty: we gathered to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles and the ushering in of a new era; we witnessed the beginning of yet another tragic war; we, with most of the Western world faced unprecedented cost of living increases with the rising cost of energy and borrowing rates.

Through it all, we carried on in the parish with the work which has been our task here since 1250- proclaiming the good news that Jesus Christ has died and rose again. That through him we have been set free to live and love according to his pattern, and we also have the assurance of eternal life after death again following our Lord. We give thanks for the heritage of faith that has been passed on by those who have gone before us, and we pray that through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we will be faithful in our day as they were in theirs. The following aims and objectives guided our activities in 2023.

**Our aims and purposes as a charity**

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical within the parish.
- Working to know Jesus better and making Him better known;
- Giving practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay;
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

**What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives**

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC continued to consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

In 2023, we endeavoured to continue with the following objectives to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible both to worship at our churches and to become part of the parish community in Buxted and Hadlow Down.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish, whilst considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, including the sick, elderly and bereaved
- Helping the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants / collections to missionary organisations and other charities
- Reaching out to the unchurched through involvement in village activities and events, by social events organised by the PCC and by use of parish/village magazines, emails and Facebook
- Maintaining the fabric of the church buildings as historic centres, focuses of life in the parish and sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation

## **What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives**

### ***Attendance at worship***

We have been grateful to see new families and people join us in 2023, and mourn the loss of some who have gone to their eternal reward. The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and we are pleased to welcome people from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

At 31 December 2022, there were 182 parishioners on the electoral roll, of whom 62 were not resident within the parish. During 2023, 6 names were added and 11 removed, due to death or leaving the parish.

The average regular weekly attendance across the parish, over the year, was 86 adults and 12 children (excluding school services).

We continued a full complement of Services at Christmas and Easter. Happily, these numbers continue to increase.

Our Director of Music has led the choir at St. Margaret's in providing a high-quality music program and engaged with Buxted Primary School, providing music for school assemblies.

Our Sunday School Program at St. Margaret's continues to bless the congregation with a growing number of young families. 2023 also saw 2 additional servers join our Youth Server's Guild, taking our total number to 5.

### ***Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers***

In 2023, we had 8 Baptisms, 8 weddings, 1 blessing, 14 funerals, 4 Memorial Services, 1 Crematorium service and 3 Burials of Ashes. We maintained the existing pattern of 4 services on a Sunday in the parish (with the exception of 5th Sundays and Patronal feasts where we gathered for united worship). In addition, special services were arranged including; The Cross in Words and Music on Good Friday, A Service Commemorating the Coronation of King Charles III, Royal British Legion Remembrance Services and Lessons and Carols.

### ***Outreach***

We were pleased to see an increase in Outreach activities in 2023. St. Mary's hosted a Lenten Quiet Day with the Bishop of Lewes speaking. We had a well-attended Open Day and Craft Fair at St Mary's. St. Margaret's hosted a new initiative with a very successful Open Day in October. We had a lovely garden party in Coopers Green and a Harvest Supper and Lunch. We were pleased to welcome Nicola Stock back for a concert also in October. The Social Committee has already set an ambitious calendar for 2024 and we hope to grow in this area.

The parish has strong links with both Buxted School and St. Mark's School Hadlow Down. Both schools usually hold services, at least twice a term in St. Margaret's, or once a week at St. Mark's. While St. Mark's has always enjoyed a good relationship with the school, St. Margaret's has seen a real boost since the arrival of the new Head of Buxted School. The Rector is ex-officio a Governor of both schools and Lara Roberts is a Foundation Governor at Buxted School. The PCC Foundation Governors at St. Mark's, for all or part of the year, were, Andy Cook, Sue Willmott, Dick Brown, and Diana Midson.

The Buxted Messenger continued to provide monthly details of parish and community news and events. The monthly print run is 440 copies and the magazine is available on subscription or to purchase in various places in Buxted and Five Ash Down. The Hadlow Down magazine, which is delivered to all households in the village, also includes details of parish and church matters.

### ***Provision of the church buildings and churchyards for people to enjoy***

We are proud of the fact that all three of our churches are usually open each day, for all to enjoy; whether as a visitor or seeking a quiet place for prayer and contemplation. The comments from visitors are universally appreciative of the fact that they are open, show that they are cared for and provide a tranquil space. Whilst their central role is as a place of worship, we have also used them as facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The fact that our churches and their churchyards remain open, and in a good state of repair, is thanks to the ongoing support and hard-work of so many people; but having the benefit of historic buildings brings with it responsibilities. This year we underwent a new round of quinquennial inspections, while there are no major issues, all of our churches require upkeep and we will need to move forward with those recommendations as soon as reasonably practicable, and have already made good progress. Our churchyards also benefit from the attendance of a number of volunteers, both regular and those at ad hoc working parties.

Issues of Health & Safety are taken seriously, with matters resolved as they arise. No significant issues were reported in the year.

We are grateful to the Friends of St. Margaret's for grants to enable the works to be undertaken without undue pressure on the parish's funds. This year St. Margaret's saw repairs to the boiler house roof, and repairs to the two south doors.

St Mark's has a number of maintenance issues that need to be addressed. Some critical repair to stonework took place this year. We have also been grateful for the interim Head at St. Mark's CEP School, who has been addressing the drainage issue which had caused flooding in the St. Mark's Churchyard and created damp in the church. The bulk of that work will be completed in the summer of 2024, and we can then look at remedying some of the damage to the church after that.

St. Mary's underwent some tile replacement work on the spire and vestry roofs, and a re-securing of the lightening rod. Funds were raised for the restoration of the mural. These did not reach the point of initiating a fundraising campaign for a substantial restoration, but they are being held with the hope that the existing murals can be preserved.

St Mary's Church Hall has been steadily increasing its use and is becoming a source of income for the parish as well as a great resource for the community. We were pleased to offer the Hall free of charge as a gathering place for the Ukrainians living in Buxted and broader area.

### ***Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish***

The pastoral work in the parish remained an ongoing focus during the past year. We are grateful to Fr. David Milnes for working with the Rector. We were also joined by Fr. Simon Hobbs, this year as both priest and organist. He is currently assisting with some vacancies in the Heathfield area, but we hope to see him return soon.

The Lunch Club has continued to operate. This has been aimed at the elderly and those living alone and regularly provided a hot Sunday lunch to approximately 30 people.

We were also able to make a substantial gift to support a family facing considerable health issues in the parish. Through the raising of private funds and through the gift from the PCC.

### **Financial review - General Fund**

The classification of receipts and payments continues to follow the latest Charity Commission and Church of England directives. The financial results of "The Friends of St Margaret the Queen Buxted" are not included, as this is a separately registered charity. The following are the items for the fiscal year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023:

- Before extra-ordinary items, total receipts
  - 2023: £106,345 (2022: £101,192)
- Before extra-ordinary items, total payment
  - 2023: £110,004 (2022: £105,193)
- Discussion of Key Payments in 2023:
  - Water, Gas Electricity & Oil: Utility costs rose by circa 57% to £9,368 compared with £5,970 in 2022. Fortunately, in October 2023 our annual fixed energy tariffs, purchased through the Parish Buying Scheme, dropped significantly, so it is anticipated that utility costs will decrease for 2024 as a whole.
  - Trustee payments and expenses: The PCC supported the incumbent by paying £1,992.00 (2022 £1,794). No payments were made to other PCC members.
  - Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester: The PCC committed to a parish share for 2023 of £52,000 (2022: £57,861), this being circa 67.6% of the amount budgeted by the diocese. The largest expenditure of the PCC, the parish share is paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the stipend, pension, and housing costs of the incumbent and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. We have not been able to afford to meet 100% of our parish share since 2020, but the PCC has increased its pledge to £54,600 for 2024 (circa 69.3% of the amount budgeted by the diocese).
- Net Surplus / (Shortfall): After extra-ordinary items, transfers between funds and a December appeal for funds (which raised circa £8,000), the General Fund showed a net shortfall of £458 (2022: £6,029 shortfall).
- Bank/deposit Accounts: The General Fund showed an increase in cash balance to £28,972 at the end of 2023 from £11,783 at the end of 2022 due to the sale of investments from the Edentree account.

## **Financial review - Designated Funds**

The designated projects funds for each church holds legacies and other donations that were felt by the PCC to have been given for that church or were general reserves of that church when the single parish was created. In 2023 funds were spent at St Margaret's on the installation of a new audio system, a new rectors board, improvements to lighting, architect's fees towards re-ordering plans and further assessment of the reuse of the burial ground. Wherever possible, the PCC respects donors' wishes and uses the funds for one-off projects at the specified church.

## **Financial review - Restricted Funds**

At St Margaret's, the final phase of extensive cleaning and general overhaul of the Bevington Pipe Organ was carried out in February 2023. At St Mark's, there was expenditure on maintenance of the churchyard and repayment of the balance of an archdeacon's loan, which was taken out in 2016 to pay for the vestry conversion and roof repairs. Other restricted funds are used, wherever possible, for the purposes intended, particularly where the endowments provide income.

## **Why we hold some money in reserve**

The PCC's policy is to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to cover three months of revenue expenditure and known commitments in the medium term, including:

- Expected capital expenditure for maintaining the physical state of the three listed church buildings over the next five years.
- Other commitments of expenditure linked to mission.

The PCC believes that, whilst our reserves currently exceed our minimum requirements, uncertainty over future revenue streams suggest that this is an appropriate and prudent policy to maintain.

Funds over and above day-to-day working requirements are deposited in CBF Church of England deposit accounts. This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis.

## **Structure, governance and management**

The Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down is a single parish with three parish churches. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. (Reg. No. XT7790) Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

A separate registered charity, *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted* (Reg. No. 282334) raises funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and churchyard at St Margaret's Church.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC membership consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the licensed reader, members of the Deanery Synod and church members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish. Regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC, or to join one of the three church committees / parish groups, where we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and safeguarding of children and adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of parish finances.

The PCC met seven times during the year with an average level of attendance of 65.2%. One of these meetings were inquorate. The individual Church Committees met as needed and the appropriate Deputy Warden subsequently drew the attention of the PCC to matters discussed and decisions made at local level, or to be agreed by the full PCC.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent Rev. Peter Molloy\* Chairman

Licensed Lay Reader Mr John Thorpe

Churchwarden Mrs Margaret Scott\*

Churchwarden Mr Martin Shaw\*

Treasurer Mr. Justin Roberts

Deanery Synod Representative Mrs Patricia Weeks

Deanery Synod Representative Ms Lesley Watson

Elected laity members: Mr Anthony Arratoon

Mrs Valerie Banks

Mrs Samantha Butler

Mrs Diana Midson

Mr John Palmer\*

Mrs Janet Tourell\*

Paul Dillon-Robinson

Mrs Sue Willmott

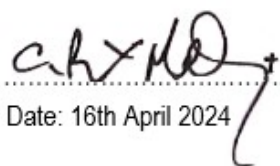
Mrs Allison Ledward

Note: Maximum of 12 permitted

\* Standing Committee Members. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 signed on its behalf by:

Rev. C. Peter Molloy - Chair and Incumbent



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Date: 16th April 2024

## Summary of Receipts and Payments

	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations and legacies		67,437	1,000	6,171	<b>74,608</b>	68,652
Government grants		6,716	457	3,172	<b>10,345</b>	10,416
Charitable activities		8,082	-	-	<b>8,082</b>	6,498
Other trading activities		22,975	-	-	<b>22,975</b>	18,241
Investments		1,135	3,679	7,968	<b>12,782</b>	12,222
<b>Total before extra-ordinary receipts</b>	4	<b>106,345</b>	<b>5,136</b>	<b>17,311</b>	<b>128,792</b>	116,029
Extra-ordinary receipts		9,816	-	-	<b>9,816</b>	29,974
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>116,161</b>	<b>5,136</b>	<b>17,311</b>	<b>138,608</b>	146,003
<b>Payments</b>						
Cost of raising funds		1,575	-	-	<b>1,575</b>	925
Charitable costs		100,062	4,054	8,235	<b>112,351</b>	103,253
Trading costs		8,367	-	-	<b>8,367</b>	6,529
<b>Total before extra-ordinary payments</b>	6	<b>110,004</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>122,293</b>	110,707
Extra Ordinary Payments		8,716	14,712	11,568	<b>34,996</b>	42,062
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>118,720</b>	<b>18,766</b>	<b>19,803</b>	<b>157,289</b>	152,769
Net surplus/(shortfall) before transfers		(2,559)	(13,630)	(2,492)	<b>(18,681)</b>	(6,766)
Transfers between Funds	7	2,101	-	(2,101)	-	-
<b>Net surplus/(shortfall) after transfers</b>		<b>(458)</b>	<b>(13,630)</b>	<b>(4,593)</b>	<b>(18,681)</b>	(6,766)
Sale of Investments - Q Organ Fund		172	-	9,777	<b>9,949</b>	-
Sale of Investments - Edentree	5	17,475	34,997	-	<b>52,472</b>	-
Bank/deposit accounts at 1 January		11,783	21,595	23,130	<b>56,508</b>	63,274
<b>Bank/deposit accounts at 31 December</b>		<b>28,972</b>	<b>42,962</b>	<b>28,314</b>	<b>100,248</b>	56,508

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
		General Fund	Designated Funds				
Bank Current Account		13,738	-	-	-	13,738	9,973
CBF C of E Deposit Funds		15,234	42,962	28,314	-	86,510	46,535
<b>Total Bank &amp; Deposit Accounts</b>		<b>28,972</b>	<b>42,962</b>	<b>28,314</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,248</b>	<b>56,508</b>
E - 2023 Heating costs (Costello Trust)		1,250	-	(1,250)	-	-	-
CCLA Q4 2023 Interest		201	320	360	-	881	-
Gift Aid recoverable		3,815	159	-	-	3,974	2,032
VAT recoverable (by grant)		580	-	-	-	580	446
<b>Total Debtors</b>		<b>5,846</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>(890)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,435</b>	<b>2,478</b>
Investments at Market Value		-	35,501	53,826	123,513	212,840	271,836
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>34,818</b>	<b>78,942</b>	<b>81,250</b>	<b>123,513</b>	<b>318,523</b>	<b>330,822</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
2024 & 2025 -Wedding & Blessing Deposits		400	-	-	-	400	800
December 2023 - Utilities		687	-	-	-	687	2,307
V - Churchyard Maintenance		620	-	-	-	620	-
E - Stonework Repairs		420	-	2,098	-	2,518	-
E - Electrical Condition Report		828	-	-	-	828	-
Archdeacon's Loan 8		10,000	-	-	-	10,000	15,000
Q - Audio System		-	7,141	-	-	7,141	-
Parish Share 2022		-	-	-	-	-	13,954
Q - Architects Fees re Reordering		-	-	-	-	-	2,773
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>12,955</b>	<b>7,141</b>	<b>2,098</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,194</b>	<b>34,834</b>

## Statement of Funds

Designated Funds	Deposit Accounts					Investments @ mkt. val.
	Jan 1	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Dec 31	
Q - Projects Fund	12,166	38,570	(18,767)	-	<b>31,969</b>	35,501
V - Projects Fund	2	-	-	-	<b>2</b>	-
E - Projects Fund	9,427	1,564	-	-	<b>10,991</b>	-
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>21,595</b>	<b>40,134</b>	<b>(18,767)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,962</b>	<b>35,501</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Q - Organ/Music Fund	797	13,045	(8,797)	-	<b>5,045</b>	28,938
V - Fabric Fund	1	2,575	-	(1,153)	<b>1,423</b>	-
E - Churchyard Fund	3,855	2,705	(2,488)	-	<b>4,072</b>	24,888
V - Churchyard Fund	806	26	-	-	<b>832</b>	-
E - Costello Trust	17,671	5,219	(5,000)	(948)	<b>16,942</b>	-
Charity Collections	-	2,570	(2,570)	-	<b>-</b>	-
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>23,130</b>	<b>26,140</b>	<b>(18,855)</b>	<b>(2,101)</b>	<b>28,314</b>	<b>53,826</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>						
Abdelnoor Trust (E)						10,970
Costello Trust (E)						112,543
<b>Total Endowment Funds</b>						<b>123,513</b>

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2023, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Signed: 



# Notes to the Annual Financial Report

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. The financial statements do not include the results of *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen Buxted*, a separately registered charity, which raises funds and makes grants to the PCC against specific fabric and churchyard expenditure at St Margaret's Church.
3. The PCC maintains a designated fund for each church, primarily to earmark funds specifically donated to that church from legacies, etc.

4. Analysis of total receipts					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl tax refunds)	24,909	-	-	<b>24,909</b>	24,796
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	1,954	-	-	<b>1,954</b>	2,106
Loose cash collections	15,911	-	-	<b>15,911</b>	17,084
Gift Aid recovered	10,270	-	-	<b>10,270</b>	10,397
Legacies	-	1,000	-	<b>1,000</b>	-
Grants - non-Government	720	-	-	<b>720</b>	5,207
Other donations	13,673	-	3,601	<b>17,274</b>	7,957
Charitable donations	-	-	2,570	<b>2,570</b>	1,105
<b>Total donations and legacies</b>	<b>67,437</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>6,171</b>	<b>74,608</b>	68,652
Grants - Central Government	4,386	457	1,294	<b>6,137</b>	7,492
Grants - District Government	-	-	1,878	<b>1,878</b>	1,674
Grants - Local Government	2,330	-	-	<b>2,330</b>	1,250
<b>Total Government Grants</b>	<b>6,716</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>3,172</b>	<b>10,345</b>	10,416
Fees for weddings and funerals	8,082	-	-	<b>8,082</b>	6,498
<b>Total charitable activities</b>	<b>8,082</b>	-	-	<b>8,082</b>	6,498
Fund-raising events	5,235	-	-	<b>5,235</b>	3,819
Buxted Messenger receipts	4,462	-	-	<b>4,462</b>	4,233
St. Mary's Hall receipts	9,694	-	-	<b>9,694</b>	7,679
Other Church events	3,584	-	-	<b>3,584</b>	2,510
<b>Total trading activities</b>	<b>22,975</b>	-	-	<b>22,975</b>	18,241
Dividends on investments	1,049	3,102	7,112	<b>11,263</b>	11,610
Deposit Interest	86	577	856	<b>1,519</b>	612
<b>Total Investment income</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>3,679</b>	<b>7,968</b>	<b>12,782</b>	12,222
<b>Total receipts (before extra-ordinary)</b>	<b>106,345</b>	<b>5,136</b>	<b>17,311</b>	<b>128,792</b>	116,029
<i>Extra-ordinary receipts</i>					
Grants from The Friends of St. Margaret's	8,716	-	-	<b>8,716</b>	29,974
Insurance Claim - Q	1,100	-	-	<b>1,100</b>	-
Sale of Investments - Wyvern Organ	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Extra-ordinary receipts</b>	<b>9,816</b>	-	-	<b>9,816</b>	29,974
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>116,161</b>	<b>5,136</b>	<b>17,311</b>	<b>138,608</b>	146,003

- 5 Edentree Investment Management closed the Amity Balanced Fund in September 2023, in which we had invested General and Q Projects Funds. The liquidated proceeds were transferred to interest bearing CCLA deposit accounts.

## Notes to the Annual Financial Report (continued)

<b>6 Analysis of total payments</b>					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising expenses	1,575	-	-	<b>1,575</b>	925
<b>Total cost of raising funds</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,575</b>	925
Charitable grants and donations	1,000	-	2,570	<b>3,570</b>	1,105
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	52,000	-	-	<b>52,000</b>	57,861
Insurance of churches	7,164	-	-	<b>7,164</b>	6,513
Clergy expenses	7,466	-	-	<b>7,466</b>	7,456
Sunday school/Children's work	475	-	-	<b>475</b>	486
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	9,368	-	-	<b>9,368</b>	5,970
Printing & photocopying	2,020	-	-	<b>2,020</b>	1,676
Other regular church running costs	8,178	-	1,883	<b>10,061</b>	6,791
Church events	1,349	-	-	<b>1,349</b>	1,351
Church maintenance & redecoration	10,045	3,094	3,782	<b>16,921</b>	11,630
Miscellaneous costs	997	960	-	<b>1,957</b>	2,414
<b>Total charitable costs</b>	<b>100,062</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>112,351</b>	103,253
Church hall expenses	5,293	-	-	<b>5,293</b>	3,409
Magazine printing and other costs	3,074	-	-	<b>3,074</b>	3,120
<b>Total trading costs</b>	<b>8,367</b>			<b>8,367</b>	6,529
<b>Total payments (before extra-ordinary)</b>	<b>110,004</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>122,293</b>	110,707
<b>Extra-ordinary payments</b>					
Fabric & ch'yard costs Q - "Friends"	8,716	-	-	<b>8,716</b>	29,974
Q - Audio System	-	7,093	-	<b>7,093</b>	-
Q - South Aisle Redevelopment	-	3,773	-	<b>3,773</b>	5,344
Q - Electrical Lighting upgrades	-	3,846	100	<b>3,946</b>	-
Q - Wyvern Organ	-	-	-	<b>-</b>	568
Q - Pipe Organ Repairs & Cleaning	-	-	6,468	<b>6,468</b>	3,326
V - Mural Repairs	-	-	-	<b>-</b>	2,850
E - Archdeacon's Loan repayment	-	-	5,000	<b>5,000</b>	-
<b>Total Extra-ordinary payments</b>	<b>8,716</b>	<b>14,712</b>	<b>11,568</b>	<b>34,996</b>	42,062
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>118,720</b>	<b>18,766</b>	<b>19,803</b>	<b>157,289</b>	152,769

<b>7 Transfers between funds</b>				
E Heating Costs 2022				
- Costello Trust Deposit Account			(948)	(948)
- CBF Deposit 1D	948			948
V Mural Repairs 2022				
- V Fabric Fund			(1,153)	(1,153)
- General Funds	1,153			1,153
<b>Total transfers between funds</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,101)</b>	<b>0</b>

8 An Archdeacon's loan of £20,000 was received in 2016 to help fund the roof repairs and vestry conversion at St Mark's. The remaining balance of £5,000 was repaid in 2023. An additional loan of £10,000 was received in 2019, to help fund the gutter repairs at St Mary's - the interest free loan is repayable by April 2026.

KEY: Q = St. Margaret the Queen V = St. Mary the Virgin E = St. Mark the Evangelist

# **Independent Examiner's Report**

**to the members/trustees of the Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

## **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required 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 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

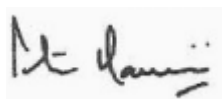
## **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

## **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 recordshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Peter Haining FCA**

The Kings Mill Practice

Horns Lodge

Meres Lane

Cross-in-Hand

Heathfield

East Sussex

TN21 0TY

Date: 5th April 2024