THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST GEORGE THE MARTYR, SHIRLEY

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1134140

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2024

Administrative information

St George the Martyr, Shirley is situated in Shirley, in the London Borough of Croydon, It is part of the Diocese of Southwark, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St George the Martyr Church, Elstan Way, Shirley, Croydon CRO 7PR.

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, charity number 1134140.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2024 until the date of approval of this report are:

Helen Aylward*	Trustee	
Alexander Baldwin-Smith	Trustee	
Eric Baldwin-Smith	Non-Voting Secretary	
Heather Barker	Trustee and Churchwarden	Resigned 18 January 2025
Stephen Barker	Trustee and Interim Chairman	Resigned 9 December 2024
Margaret Elizabeth Bebington*	Trustee and Reader	Also Deanery Synod until 28 April 2024
Alan Chitty	Trustee and Treasurer	
Anne-Louise Clayton*	Trustee	Resigned 28 April 2024
Rev Hilary Fife	Trustee and Hon Curate	
Katarina Francis	Trustee	
Dr Oluwatoyin Magbagbeola	Trustee	
Janet Maureen Payne	Trustee and Churchwarden	
Evan Russell	Trustee	
Marjorie Russell	Trustee	Resigned 27 July 2024
Jan Turner	Trustee	
The Revd Jennifer Walpole	Trustee and Priest in Charge	Appointed 3 October 2024
Fay Westray *	Trustee	Elected 28 April 2024
Stephen Westray	Trustee	Elected 28 April 2024
Raymond Wheeler	Trustee and Reader	Elected to Deanery Synod 28
		April 2024
Susan Wheeler	Trustee	

^{*}These trustees have been elected as members of the Deanery Synod, and are also members of the PCC

Structure, Governance and Management

The membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, churchwardens, the Readers, and members elected by eligible members of the congregation (being those on the electoral roll). Members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions about the church, including deciding how to spend the funds of the church. The PCC met 9 times during 2024.

The charity's governing document is the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as Amended and Church Representation Rules.

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity is to promote in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Achievements and performance

Electoral roll

The electoral roll was revised in anticipation of the 2024 APCM. This indicates that there are currently 112 parishioners on the electoral roll, an increase of 2 from last year.

Safeguarding

The safety of our young people and vulnerable adults remains a priority and 'A Safe Church', the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy, continues to be adopted in full. The church has two Parish Safeguarding Officers. The church holds annually a "Safeguarding Sunday" to encourage all members of the congregation to continue to think about safeguarding. The church's safeguarding policies and procedures have been reviewed and updated in 2023.

Ecumenical relationships

The parish works with other parishes in the Croydon Addington Deanery and with other churches as part of Churches Together in Shirley.

Volunteers

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who give their time so generously to ensure the church remains a vibrant and welcoming community.

Review of the year

This year has again been a challenging year financially. The church launched the Parish Giving Scheme to the congregation in January 2024 with moderate take up. This has helped with cash flow, obtaining the Gift Aid monthly and reducing the need to bank in person.

The Parish was In Vacancy from July 2023 to 3 October 2024 when the Revd Jennifer Walpole was appointed as Priest-in-Charge.

The trustees continue to encourage the church EcoGroup. In December 2024 we applied for an A Rocha Gold Award, with the outcome pending later this year after an assessment visit. Enthusiasm remains high and ideas for further activities, including continuing the Parish quarterly Litter Picks, are being explored.

Worship remains central to church life and in addition to regular twice-weekly Eucharists, Morning Prayer is said daily on Zoom. Our Sunday Eucharist continues to be live-streamed, and we offer this facility to those arranging funerals and weddings. Junior Church continues to take place during the Eucharist on most term time Sundays, with one week a month being an All-Age Eucharist service. During 2024 a separate group meeting after church for those in Year 6 and above was initiated.

Weekly groups such as the Bible Study Group and Men of George's have continued online. The Little Dragons (toddlers with parents/carers) group and the Pop-In senior club meet weekly in person with numbers in both groups increasing. The Georgettes women's group and Book Reading Group meet on a monthly basis.

St George's has continued to support other charitable organisations through donations, in particular to overseas mission organisations, the Woodland Trust, and the local foodbank.

The Trustees are concerned to ensure that outreach to and connections with the local community are maintained and developed. We are pleased that we now provide the permanent office for the Shirley Neighbourhood Care Scheme (coordinating volunteer support services for local older people). Events such as the Christmas Market, Summer Fair, school visits and the regular groups using the hall such as a table tennis club, SlimmingWorld and whist drive, are valued as opportunities to welcome members of the community onto the site and build links.

The trustees still wish to invest in the future flexibility of the church site but due to rising costs, plans for the annexe to the church (with servery, additional and accessible toilet and a multi-use space) have not progressed as rapidly as was hoped. Council planning permission was granted in late 2023 and the faculty for the project was granted by the DAC in February 2024, subject to certain conditions, but when tenders for the work were obtained, it became clear that insufficient funds were available. Redevelopment of the church hall and adjoining land in partnership with the diocese remains under discussion. It is expected that the land will now be sold in 2025, and with this will come the demolition of the scout hut and other outbuildings, and possibly the current church hall.

Financial review

Income from donations and legacies was £86,733 in 2024 which was an increase compared to the £80,739 in 2023. Income from other trading activities increased from £23,418 in 2023 to £29,550 in 2024. This balance is largely made up of income from hall lettings and fundraising events. Expenditure in 2024 increased to £161,458 from £123,928 in 2023, and includes £54,041 spent against the designated fund for capital projects (£10,800 spent against this fund in 2023). This resulted in net expenditure before investment gains of £20,513 (2023: net expenditure of £4,731) and net decrease in funds of £20,106 (2023: net decrease of £3,569). Gains on investments were £407 (2023: gains of £1,162). As a result, unrestricted funds were £48,927 at 31 December 2024 (2023: £18,994). Designated funds at 31 December 2024 were £411,607 (2023: £459,439). Restricted funds were £7,165 (2023: £10,052) and endowment funds were £26,765 (2022: £26,085).

Reserves policy

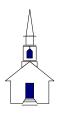
This charity's policy is to hold three months worth of running costs, which is £26,000. This figure includes 3 months worth of salaries, 3 months worth of Parish Share to honour St George's commitment to the diocese. It also includes provision for essential building repairs and depreciation to cover the loss of any tangible assets. In addition to this figure, a reserve of a further £4000 will be held for any major problem or unanticipated loss of key givers. The total held in reserve will be £30,000 for the year 2025. This policy is reviewed and agreed annually.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 4 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev Jennifer Walpole

Jul Walper

Chair



Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St George the Martyr, Shirley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 19.

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 for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the 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 records 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.

Eternal Excellency Ltd

Chartered Certified Accountants 20 Elmbourne Drive Belvedere, Kent, DA17 6JF

Date: 7th May 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowment	s from:					
Donations and legacies (note 1)	64,078	20,075	2,580	-	86,733	80,739
Income from charitable activities (note 2)	876	-	-	-	876	820
Other trading activities (note 3)	8,988	20,562	-	-	29,550	23,418
Investments (note 4)	23,674	-	112	-	23,786	14,220
Total income	97,616	40,637	2,692	-	140,945	119,197
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds (note 5)	12,850	21	675	-	13,546	13,591
Expenditure on charitable activities (note 6)	65,627	78,317	3,968	-	147,912	110,337
Total expenditure	78,477	78,338	4,643	-	161,458	123,928
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	19,139	(37,701)	(1,951)	-	(20,513)	(4,731)
Transfers						
Transfers between funds	10,794	(9,727)	(1,067)	-	-	-
Other recognised gains	/ losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	(404)	131	680	407	1,162
Net movement in funds	29,933	(47,832)	(2,887)	680	(20,106)	(3,569)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	18,994	459,439	10,052	26,085	514,570	518,139
Total funds carried forward	48,927	411,607	7,165	26,765	494,464	514,570

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets						
Tangible Assets (note 9)	-	61,774	-	-	61,774	67,338
Investments (note 10)	22,224	15,769	4,476	26,765	69,234	68,827
Total fixed assets	22,224	77,543	4,476	26,765	131,008	136,165
Current Assets						
Cash at bank and in hand (note 12)	13,321	332,845	3,109	-	349,275	376,136
Debtors (note11)	14,623	5,000	-	-	19,623	5,359
Total current assets	27,944	337,845	3,109	-	368,896	381,496
Current liabilities						
Creditors (note 13)	(1,241)	(3,781)	(420)	-	(5,442)	(3,090)
Net current (liabilities) assets	26,703	334,064	2,689	-	363,454	378,405
Net total assets	48,927	411,607	7,165	26,765	494,464	514,570
Represented by		:-		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Funds (note 14)						
General Unrestricted	48,927	-	-	-	48,927	18,994
Designated funds	-	411,607	-	-	411,607	459,439
Restricted funds	-	-	7,165	-	7,165	10,052
Endowment funds				26,765	26,765	26,085
Total	48,927	411,607	7,165	26,765	494,464	514,570

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 4 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Jul Walper

Rev Jennifer Walpole, Chair

Principal Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 together with applicable standards and Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on the going concern basis, and have determined that there are no material uncertainties in respect of going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of more than 12 months from the date of signature of these financial statements.

Income

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the general income recognition criteria are met.

Tax reclaims on donations and gift

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor.

Income from interest, royalties and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

Settlement of insurance claims

Insurance claims are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the general income recognition criteria are met and are included as an item of other income in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised gains or losses on the sale of investments, and any gain or loss resulting from the revaluation of investments to market value at the end of the year.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Governance and support costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Redundancy costs

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

Basic financial instruments

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 of the Charities SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19 of the Charities SORP.

Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. Assets are included in the accounts at costs and are depreciated over the following term:

Fixtures and fittings (sound system and livestreaming equipment) – over 10 years on a straight line basis

Fixtures and fittings (chairs, trolleys and tables) - over 15 years on a straight line basis

Costs for the proposed North Wall Annexe project will be capitalised once the buildings works commence.

Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

VAT

All expenditure is stated inclusive of VAT. The PCC has successfully applied for a VAT exemption for the new annexe. Future build costs for the annexe will be stated net of VAT.

Notes to the accounts

1. Income from donations and legacies

General funds Designated funds Restricted funds Endowment funds Total 2024 Total 2023

	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	50,860	5,075	1,700	-	57,635	69,199
Gift aid	10,218	-	-	-	10,218	8,633
Legacies	-	15,000	-	-	15,000	-
Grants	3,000	-	880	-	3,880	2,907
Total	64,078	20,075	2,580	-	86,733	80,739

In 2023, all income from donations and legacies was unrestricted except for £2,408 of restricted donations income, and £2,907 of restricted grants.

2. Income from charitable activities

	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fees	876	-	-	-	876	820
Total	876	-	-	-	876	820

In 2023, all income from charitable activities was unrestricted.

3. Income from other trading activities

	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising income from hall lettings	100	20,562	-	-	20,662	19,694
Magazine	621	-	-	-	621	405
Other	8,267	-	-	-	8,267	3,319
Total	8,988	20,562	-	-	29,550	23,418

In 2023, all income from other trading activities was unrestricted.

4. Income from investments

	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest income	20,218	-	-	-	20,218	10,356
Dividend income	3,320	-	112	-	3,320	3,614
Rental and leasing income	136	-	-	-	136	250
Total	23,674	-	112	-	23,786	14,220

In 2023, all income from investments was unrestricted, except for £117 of restricted interest income.

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	11,335	-	-	-	11,335	10,315
Other trading activities	1,515	21	675	-	2,211	3,276
Total	12,850	21	675	-	13,546	13,591

In 2023, all expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted, except for £601 spent on other trading activities.

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Contribution to Parish Support Fund	37,200	-	-	-	37,200	36,000
Church running costs	12,838	3,443	425	-	16,706	23,936
Hall running costs	-	10,008	346	-	10,354	12,686
Clergy expenses	348	-	-	-	348	1,495
Staff costs	5,776	-	-	-	5,776	5,408
Church expenses	4,176	2,559	1,097	-	7,832	6,370
Administrative expenses	4,819	120	-	-	4,939	3,390
Governance costs	350	-	-	-	350	350
Donations	120	2,582	-	-	2,702	3,898
Capital project fund expenses	-	54,041	2,100	-	56,141	11,240
Depreciation	-	5,564	-	-	5,564	5,564
Total	65,627	78,317	3,968	-	147,912	110,337

In 2023, all expenditure on charitable activities was unrestricted, except for £2,100 spent on church running costs, £420 spent on hall running costs , £2.402 spent on church expenses, and £440 spent on capital project fund expenses.

7. Fees for examination of the accounts

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	500	350
Total	500	350

8. Staff costs

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	17,111	15,723
Total	17,111	15,723

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000 (2023: no employees).

For amounts paid to trustees as part of staff costs, see the related party transactions note.

The average headcount in the year was as follows:

	Total 2024	Total 2023
Fundraising	1.4	1.4
Charitable activities	0.6	0.6
Total	2.0	2.0

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total £
Cost at 1 January 2024	78,466	78,466
Cost at 31 December 2024	78,466	78,466
Accumulated depreciation at 1 January 2024	11,128	11,128
Charge for the year	5,564	5,564
Accumulated depreciation at 31 December 2024	16,692	16,692
Net book value at 31 December 2023	67,338	67,338
Net book value at 31 December 2024	61,774	61,774

10. Investments

Total

		Total 2024
		£
Market value at 1 January 2024		68,827
Unrealised gain/(loss)		407
Market value at 31 December 2024		69,234
In both 2024 and 2023, all investments were listed investment	nts held at fair value.	
11. Debtors		
	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	19,623	5,359
Total	19,623	5,359
12. Cash at bank and in hand		
	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	349,275	376,136
Total	349,275	376,136
13. Creditors due within one year		
	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	5,442	3,090

In 2024, £5,271 of income was deferred where lettings income was received in advance for bookings. £420 was held in deferred income for 2025 hall 100 club payments. There was no such deferred income as at 31 December 2023.

5,442

3,090

14. Movement in funds

	As at 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, gains and losses	
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	18,994	97,616	(78,477)	10,794	48,927
Designated funds					
Building fund	3,454	1,127	(3,403)	-	1,178
Overseas missions fund	601	150	(500)	-	251
Church flower fund	527	470	(582)	2	417
Pop In fund	1,076	1,855	(1,245)	(120)	1,566
Church hall general fund	3,179	20,562	(10,190)	(11,409)	2,142
Bequests fund	16,173	15,000	-	(404)	30,769
Gift day fund	7,565	-	-	-	7,565
Capital projects fund	359,059	-	(54,041)	-	305,018
Tangible fixed asset fund	67,338	-	(5,564)	-	61,774
Eco Group fund	113	323	(100)	-	336
Food Bank fund	354	1,150	(2,713)	1,800	591
Endowment funds					
CK endowment fund	26,085	-	-	680	26,765
Restricted funds					
Church hall appeal fund	4,082	680	(3,121)	(1,131)	510
Capital projects restricted fund	-	20	-	-	20
Garden Fund	-	1,000	(425)	-	575
Missen Fund	5,758	212	(415)	195	5,750
Pop In restricted fund	212	780	(682)	-	310
Total	514,570	140,944	(161,458)	407	494,464

	As at 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, gains and losses	
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	3,637	83,067	(82,656)	14,946	18,994
Designated funds					
Organ and music fund	88	-	-	(88)	-
Building fund	-	6,554	(3,100)	-	3,454
Overseas missions fund	1,363	495	(1,257)	-	601
Church flower fund	634	498	(710)	105	527
Pop In fund	1,191	945	(960)	(100)	1,076
Church hall general fund	9,255	19,694	(12,316)	(13,454)	3,179
Amity balanced fund	14,628	-	-	1,545	16,173
Gift day fund	7,565	-	-	-	7,565
Capital projects fund	369,859	-	(10,800)	-	359,059
Little dragons fund	161	655	(15)	(801)	-
Tangible fixed asset fund	72,902	-	(5,564)	-	67,338
Eco Group fund	-	323	(210)	-	113
Other	-	549	(105)	(444)	-
Food Bank fund	-	985	(631)	-	354
Endowment funds					
CK endowment fund	26,712	-	-	(627)	26,084
Restricted funds					
Church hall appeal fund	3,242	1,860	(1,020)	-	4,082
Capital projects restricted fund	-	440	(440)	-	-
Missen Fund	5,652	1,015	(988)	80	5,758
Buildings restricted fund		2,100	(2,100)	-	-
Other	-	17	(17)	-	-
Pop In restricted fund	1,250	-	(1,038)	-	212
Total	518,139	119,197	(123,928)	1,162	514,570

The funds of the church are held for the following purposes:

Designated funds

Organ and music fund – designated for use on music and the maintenance of the organ.

Building fund – designated for expenditure on building maintenance.

Overseas mission fund – designated for expenditure on donations for overseas missions.

Church flower fund – designated for expenditure on church flowers.

Pop In fund – designated for expenditure on the Pop In.

Church hall general fund – designated for expenditure on the church hall.

Bequests fund (formerly called the Amity balanced fund) – money set aside from bequests to the church.

Gift day fund – designated for use on Gift Day projects.

Capital projects fund – money set aside from the sale of the Church Cottage, designated for use on the new hall and Annexe projects.

Little Dragons fund – designated for Little Dragons toddler group.

Tangible fixed assets fund – being the net book value of the church's tangible fixed assets.

Eco Group fund – designated for use by the Eco Group.

Food Bank fund – funds raised for donation to the Shrublands Food Bank.

Endowment fund

CK endowment fund – funds from a bequest made to the church.

Restricted funds

Church hall appeal fund – for use on the maintenance on the church hall.

Capital projects restricted fund – for use on the new hall and Annexe projects.

Missen Fund – to be spent on children's ministry costs.

Buildings restricted fund – money raised for building projects from restricted grants.

Pop In restricted fund – funds received for the Pop In from a restricted grant.

15. Related party transactions

During 2024, Jan Payne, who is trustee, was also employed as Hall Manager and Church Administrator. Remuneration of £11,051 was paid during the year (2023: £10,027).

No expenses were paid to trustees during 2024 (2023: £172 of expenses were paid to three trustees). Note that this does not include expenses claimed by the clergy for fulfilling their duties as members of the clergy.

The aggregate value of donations by PCC members was £14,754 (2023: £12,470).

In 2024, the charity paid Gleeds to fulfil the role of quantity surveyor as part of the Annexe building project. Martin Kennedy, who is employed by Gleeds, is the son-in-law of Susan and Ray Wheeler, who are both trustees of the charity. In the year, the charity paid £12,000 to Gleeds (2023: £nil).