



St Paul's Boundary Road Annual Report

For the year ending
December 2024

The Annual Report of the Parish of St Paul’s Wilford Hill

for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 11/5/2025

St Paul’s Wilford Hill is situated on the corner of Boundary Road and Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham. It is a Church of England parish within the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The correspondence address is:

St. Paul’s Church, Boundary Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham. NG2 7DB

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Members of the PCC act as Trustees for the charity. Charity number 1133058.

Structure, governance and management

1. The method of appointment of PCC is set out in the Church Representation Rules.
2. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll.
3. Those on the roll can stand for election and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Aim and purposes

St Paul’s Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in enabling the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical within the Parish, Deanery and beyond. The PCC also has responsibility for the facilities provided in the adjoining church halls, which are used for public and private lettings as well as church meetings.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and become part of the parish community at St Paul’s. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities, we have considered the Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable all people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- **Worship and prayer, learning about the gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.**
- **Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.**
- **Missionary and outreach work.**
- **Use of our hall facilities by community organisations and private individuals.**

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and the hall complex.

Achievements and performance

Essentially the ministry of the church is not about achievement or performance. Spiritual life and the presence of care and love cannot be measured or judged in these ways. Worship has been provided each Sunday, usually Holy Communion with sermon and prayers.

Role Holders

Vicar	Revd Tim Fox
Children, Youth and Families Ministry Co-leads	Leslie Avendano, Sue Buckby
Retired Clergy with Permission to Officiate	Revd Mary Griffiths, Revd Hilary Smart, Revd Ros Donovan, Revd Howard Bateson
Reader	Bob Oldroyd
Church Wardens	Wendy Pearce and Ann Shepheard
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Ann Shepheard
Electoral Roll Officer	Maureen Hollins
10:30 service Lead Musician	Adam Baker
Sacristans	Ros Donovan, Charlie George, Maureen Hollins, Margaret Oldroyd, Ann Shepheard, Hilary Smart, Jill Hannaford-Bray

Parochial Church Council 2024/2025

(the number denotes the years served since last election and term)

Debbie Caine – Treasurer	1 of 3 (until 2027)
Janet Coleman – PCC Secretary	3 of 3 (until 2025)
Russell Daxter	2 of 3 (until 2026)
Revd Ros Donovan	Co-opted April 2024
Ian Duce	1 of 3 (until 2027)
Charlie George	2 of 3 (until 2026)
Liz Jones	1 of 3 (until 2027)
Leia Morales	3 of 3 (until 2025)
Gearldine Wilkes	Co-opted May 2024
Andrew Little – Lay chair & Deanery Synod	2 of 3 (until 2026)
Carol Williams – Deanery Synod	2 of 3 (until 2026)

Thanks to all who contributed to the life of St. Paul’s by serving on the PCC this year. We met nine times to discuss a wide range of topics from growing disciples to purchasing a mini-bus, from finance and parish giving to toilets, from safeguarding to our first (in a long time) Church weekend away. At the time of writing there will be 2 vacancies on the PCC and one on the Deanery Synod.

Janet Coleman, PCC Secretary

Electoral Roll 2025

In line with electoral rules, the Electoral Roll has to be renewed every six years making 2025 the year when a new form has to be completed by everyone wishing to be included. It will be presented at the APCM on Sunday 11th May. Forms were accepted between 23rd February and 6th April. As of 26th April 2025, the new Electoral Roll stands at 123. We welcome 17 new members. There are 67 who live in the parish and 56 out of it. Of the 123, 81 are women and 42 are men. Forty-five of the replies received were online and 78 on paper.

Maureen Hollins, Electoral Roll Officer



Vicar's report: 2024 at St Paul's

Growing Team, Worship and Witness

In my previous report, I remember writing that my prayer was to see St Paul's grow in *Worship* and *Witness* over the next year.

I am pleased then, to be able to reflect on where we have seen this growth in 2024. I will also be mentioning four fantastic additions to our Employee team that were made in 2024.

So, how have we, as a church, grown in our Worship and Witness in 2024?

Well, considering Witness first; it is clear that St Paul's took a strong step forward in our community work in 2024.

Whilst we have been a church that offers generous *gift* to its community through our Café and Wellbeing Hub for three years now, the arrival of National Lottery funding offered a real boost. In 2024 we were able to employ a 'Community Connector', Wendy Cranefield, to run community meditation projects (such as the incredibly well-received 'Relax Refresh Restore' sessions for parents/carers and children) as well as a Community Forum; and also to act as a link between church and Hub. Welcome Wendy.

Thanks to the extra funding we were also able to grow our Café team; employing two new members of staff, John and Rebekah in part-time roles. Welcome on board to you both.

The above has enabled opening hours to be extended; the Café and Wellbeing Hub are now open for parts of all 7 days in the week. This in itself represents growth in our witness to community. But perhaps more importantly, there are now clearer 'pathways' between our Wellbeing Hub and church activities.

For example, it is quite possible for someone to attend the Café, see an advert for (or receive an invitation to) a Community Meditation session, then be invited from there to a Love Joy Peace course (more of which below), and from there to explore faith more fully in a further group or by attending Church.

It is worth noting that such 'pathways' are intended to be nothing more (or less) than a description of how we offer the gift of faith to our community. We do feel that we, as followers of Jesus Christ, have something unique to offer others, and we should be confident in offering that gift of faith in Jesus Christ openly, transparently and generously.

We also, during 2024, relaunched the Love Joy Peace Course (a five-session 'enquirer course' aiming to offer people the gift of Christian spirituality without obligation or requirement). This re-launched course was run for the first time in the Autumn.

2024 also brought further growth in our witness to young people in our Community. Thanks to Strategic Development Funding from the Diocese, we have been able to employ a part-time Children, Youth and Families Co-Lead, Sue Buckby, on a 2-year contract to help Leslie with provision for Children and Youth, but also to develop two projects; a Youth Drop-in at the Café and a Football Church project. Welcome to Sue!

Thus, the late Autumn saw the trial of the new Youth Space 'drop-in', led by Sue. This quickly developed into a regular give-away of up to 80 free Hot Chocolates to passing young people, and presents a further opportunity to witness to the love of God by offering gift to our community.

So, if that covers 'Growing Team', and 'Witness'. What then of Worship?

Well, in 2024 we saw some growth in both of our Sunday congregations, and also were able to benefit from some new lay preachers. Musically; as well as our home team of faithful and dedicated singers and musicians (thanks to you all), we were able to benefit again from the great gifts of both Adam Baker and Paul Beswick leading our 10:30 sung worship. However, there is still a sense that we are a little under-resourced for musicians in our contemporary worship. This will remain an area for prayer. Does anyone know a bass player?



2024 also brought a new way of worshipping together as a community; on our Parish Weekend Away in September. Staying at the Youth Hostel site in the National Forest near Swadlincote we spent a wonderful 2 days together building relationships, worshiping, praying, eating and walking. If you missed out in 2024, do think about coming along in '25!

Finance

The financial outlook for the church remains both challenging and hopeful. As mentioned above, the addition of National Lottery Communities Funding allowed us to expand our community activities, and bring new team members onboard. However, the PCC still set a deficit budget in 2024, and although we were able to get very near to the full amount of Parish Share requested by the diocese, our contribution eventually came in slightly below.

Positively, the take-up of the Parish Giving Scheme (which became available in the diocese for the first time in 2024) combined with a good response to the autumn giving campaign encourage me that the support of our worshipping community remains strong and generous. This is something for which I am tremendously grateful. As I sometimes say during our worship; every single thing that happens here at St Paul's is enabled by the giving of time, talent and money by our congregation. All that follows in this annual report is a direct result of your generosity, so thank you again for your partnership!

It is my prayer that we will see St Paul's continue to grow in our Worship and Witness as we go forward together, and that our invitation to receive the great gift of faith in Jesus will be taken up by young and old in our community and beyond. Please do pray for Sue, Rebekah, John and Wendy (the new members of the team who joined in 2024), as well as our wonderful team of staff, wardens, PCC members, retired clergy and volunteers. Finally, please will you join me in continuing to pray for growth, provision and celebration in all areas of our shared life together.

Thank you!

Reverend Tim Fox
Vicar of St Paul's Boundary Road



Our Vision

St Paul's aims to be a church where people of all ages can:

- **Experience the presence and vision of God in their lives, through worship, prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit.**
- **Explore what it means for them to be a disciple of Jesus Christ – walking the 'Way of Jesus'.**
- **Engage with an authentic and loving community, where divisions and differences are overcome.**

Or to put it more succinctly:

At St Paul's our vision is to be a place where people can:

- **Experience God.**
- **Explore the Way of Jesus.**
- **Engage with community.**

Or even simpler still:

- **Experience, Explore and Engage.**

Our Values

St Paul's uses the following distinctive values to help shape our work. These values help shape and guide our worship, our activities, and our place in the wider Christian community.

At St Paul's we aim to demonstrate the following values in all that we do:

- **Invitation & Grace.**
- **Generosity & Celebration.**
- **Inclusion & Safety.**

Inclusion at St Paul's

St Paul's is a member of Inclusive Church, and aims to be a place where all are welcome and valued – in safety. In particular we feel the need to be clear that we are a church that welcomes, includes and affirms those in same-sex relationships and all LGBTQI+ people. We believe that all of us – every human being – bears the 'Image of God', and that all deserve our welcome and inclusion in safety.

The Inclusive Church Statement:

As a member of 'Inclusive Church' the PCC has agreed that:

*"We believe in **inclusive church** – a church which **celebrates and affirms every person** and does not discriminate.*

*We will continue to challenge the church where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of **disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.***

*We believe in a Church which **welcomes and serves all people** in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."*



Church Wardens' report

In our capacity as Church Wardens, Wendy and I have cared for and supported Tim as our incumbent, our retired clergy and our reader in their roles. We have endeavoured to relieve them of unnecessary administrative and other tasks and, from time-to-time acted as 'critical friends' and provided feedback from you, our congregation, whom we also support and encourage. We have taken seriously our responsibility for the Church building and its property and I am happy to report, that with the help and support of members of the PCC, including Charlie's willingness to continue to manage the site, we have between us, met the requirements of the role.

Ann Shephard, Church Warden – 17/01/25



Site report

One of a warden's key responsibilities is maintaining the fabric of the church. Having said that, the arrangement we have here is just a little different from the normal in that continuing from my time as a warden, I agreed with Wendy and Ann that I would retain responsibility for the site while, of course, being answerable to them for all steps taken, as well as reporting to PCC.

This arrangement seems to be working well enough, I like to think.

In terms of significant work undertaken on site, the main one was the replacement of three windows in the second hall in late July 2024 by Acorn Windows at a cost of just under £3,000. This concludes the work carried out by Acorn to the windows throughout the site over recent years.

As to other notable work, there was the 5 yearly electrical installation survey carried out by our regular electrician, Martin Crew. The necessary rectification work was subsequently carried out. We had an issue with the magnetic lock operating the relatively new door into the café and, therefore, I arranged for Halls to replace that lock in early August. That seems to be working well.

Last year I reported about the five-yearly Quinquennial Survey (report dated 3 November 2023). Pleasingly, this did not give rise to anything major as regards repairs, but through the year I arranged for some minor works to be undertaken so that we could move things forward.

It is the nature of quite a heavily used site that things get broken, and, in that respect, I have valued the help and assistance of Ian Duce, who has been available to carry out running repairs to such as problematic locks, leaking toilets and faulty Lincat boilers; to give just 3 examples of the issues that arose.

A pleasing improvement was the decision approved by PCC that we should replace the worn-out blue plastic chairs in the main hall. We placed an order with Spaceist in Brentford for 45 "snow chairs" for £2,928 including VAT. They were delivered on 17 September 2024. I like to think this was money well spent.

Briefly looking forward, there is the long overdue planned replacement of the door that leads out of the second hall onto the back patio. This is due to take place in the

Easter holidays 2025. In addition, we are in the relatively early stages of the toilet project. The development of the Hub and café has highlighted the need to improve the available toilet facilities. In truth this has been in need of attention for a long time. We are very much at the preliminary stage (such as draft plans and the like), but hopefully some positive progress can be made over the next few months.

Finally, there is the time-consuming exercise of keeping the gardens, hedges and shrubs in reasonable condition. Indeed, a lot of the beds have started looking rather tired and last year, and into this year, the process of clearing them and replenishing has begun. As ever, I am particularly grateful to Ann and Jon Shephard and Jane George for all their tireless work keeping things in order – and also to Geraldine Wilkes for looking after the Garden of Hope. I would also like to thank the small number of volunteers who help me keep the grass mown, although we do let the bank at the back grow a little wild as befits an Eco Church. There is also another thank you to the Shepherds for redecorating the café in late August last year.

Charlie George

Safeguarding

I am very pleased to report that, despite all the adverse news we have heard during the year, 2024 has been a 'normal' year as far as the ongoing role of Parish Safeguarding Officer at St Paul's is concerned. One addition now is that I have completed a 'Train the Trainers' course which enables me to deliver face to face safeguarding training at both the Basic and Foundation levels.

This year the national church introduced five 'National Safeguarding Standards' of which you may become increasingly aware as you see some posters regarding them around the building. Essentially they are broad statements of what the Church of England wants to achieve in the various dimensions of its safeguarding work. Part of my role, therefore and that of the PCC and others, will be to continue our ongoing assessments in the coming year to measure our policies and practices against these standards.

The ongoing support of the diocese in continuing to emphasise the importance of safeguarding within the Church and the provision of termly Zoom briefings to keep us up to date with current practice is hugely helpful. As previously reported I have the opportunity to report to PCC at each meeting and to the best of my knowledge therefore, everything is in order.

Once again I thank all of you who offer your gifts to serve at St Paul's, for those who are new to roles, those who have undergone DBS checks, those who have engaged in safeguarding training, those who have completed forms for me, those who have done all of the above.

Special thanks go to Tim and members of the PCC for their continued support.

Ann Shephard, Parish Safeguarding Officer and Lead Recruiter – January 2025

Deanery Synod

Synod met three times during 2024, covering a range of topics. We heard from David McCoulough about his role as Diocesan Chaplaincy lead. Discussed the launch of the Diocesan vision. Had a refresher on the roles within Synod. Tony Brown from the Diocese explained the launch of the Parish Giving Service within the Diocese as part of a talk on Generous Giving. This was followed up with a Deanery led launch meeting of "PGS" to all Deanery Treasurers later in the year. October saw Richard Kellet (Associate Archdeacon) lead an extended session as we prayed for Gaza. At each synod we shared good stories from across the Deanery. It is encouraging to see so much good work. Andrew Little will stand down as one of our representatives on Deanery Synod at our APCM in 2025.

Andrew Little

Eco Church

We continue to work towards the A Rocha Silver award. A couple of new activities have been important in achieving that aim in 2024:

- The siting of the Sharewear collection bin in the car park which is an excellent way of reusing resources. It is a community facility and of course also benefits the people who receive the clothing.
- We had a 'one-off' collection of rigid plastic bottles and containers which were recycled through a national scheme.

We have also replaced the windows in hall 2 with double glazed units, replaced lighting with energy efficient units, had successful outcomes from the composting of food and garden waste.

Wendy Pearce



Fairtrade

Our involvement with Fair Trade has been through supporting Transform Trade (formerly Traidcraft Exchange). Jane George organised a successful, awareness raising event for the Big Brew in March with cake sale. We also ordered Christmas cards from Transform Trade in support of their work with overseas producer groups.

Wendy Pearce





Children's, Youth and Family Ministry

The last year has focused on continuing to grow our presence in the community while trying to engage more children and youth to be a part of the community of St Pauls Boundary Road through gift and invitation.

Our youth group on Saturday evenings has continued to grow throughout the year with consistent numbers regularly in attendance. Our focus has been to offer a fun evening that includes both team games with scripture and prayer. We have also encouraged them to take part in various activities outside of our Saturday Youth Nights. In June 2024, they took part in running a Youth Led All-Age Sunday, which was well received by the congregation with many asking us coordinate more often which was very encouraging. They reported how happy they were to see the youth participate in a such a positive way to bring a message of Justice to the church. The youth also really enjoyed it with many demonstrating a real knack for the upfront presence. They were part of the entire service that included from welcoming at the door, presentation of service all the way through to the music and running of tech. They were brilliant.

They have also taken part in running our Community Movie Night by volunteering to serve popcorn, beverages and hot dogs. They assisted with set up and clean up with all the monies raised during the event to be donated to Nottingham Night Stop, their chosen charity for this year's Sleep Out Fundraising Event.

Over the summer we ran our second Camp Activate: Olympikids, using the inspiration of the GB Olympians and Olympic Event to bring a message of faith and community prior to the start of the new school year, in a day full of craft, sport, games and friendship while incorporating meaningful Bible stories. This is a day hosted by the local churches for the community to bring the community together throughout West Bridgford. Our focus continues to be offer a low cost camp experience for children of faith to connect. We were able to cater to 60+ children with the help of volunteers across the various churches. Our next Camp Activate planning is underway and will take place August 2025.

Thanks to the funding through the Diocese 'Growing Disciples Plan', we were successfully able to recruit a new part-time

Children's, Youth & Families Co-Lead after the summer. Sue came on board at the start of October and, as well as integrating into the life of St. Paul's and supporting Leslie in existing CYF provision, she has been establishing our new 'Youth Space'. Youth Space is a weekly after school outreach/ drop in, where children and young people can come and receive a free drink, a warm welcome, and a safe space to socialise if they wish. In the four weeks before Christmas, the team gifted 230 hot chocolates to the local community, peaking at a whopping 99 in week four! Youth Space continues into the new year, as connections strengthen with our local children and young people.

Sue is also working towards a new season of Football Church with planning well underway. She is training as a coach and has met with volunteers who could help run the sessions which are intended for parents and children to attend together to foster a more family centred approach.

Our collaboration with Jesse Gray has continued and continues to be quite successful in incorporating our presence in the community and as part of their RE curriculum. We have continued to have the students of Jesse Gray in for both the Easter and Christmas Experience over the last year with great reception from the children and teachers alike. It has been a real testament to faith, bringing those of faith, those of other



faith, and even those with no faith at all, to place where they feel welcome and included to participate from exactly where they are and with a real focus on community and working together to make this world a better place.

As for our Sunday groups, we have made changes to our groups to incorporate more young children as that number has continued to grow despite little change in volunteer numbers. As a result, we now are offering Sunday groups to our Kids Groups, those from reception to Year 4 and our Youth Group, from year 5 up. This change has helped to accommodate the numbers and younger families with our hope for continued growth of our groups and support to families. It has grown our volunteers slightly which is also encouraging.

We are looking forward to the year ahead, with more events planned for continued presence in the community and engagement of our children and youth. We are grateful for the support of our congregation, volunteers and growing staff. We ask as always for continued prayer to sustain our energy and passion to facilitate community based programs through gift and invitation for all to feel welcome in all that we do.

Leslie Avendano and Sue Buckby
Children's, Youth and Family Co-leads



Toddler Group

Happily 2024 was another good year for the Toddler Group as it continues to be part of our Church in the Community. We continue to welcome a number of 'regulars' each week as well as those who pop in on a more irregular basis.

Each week we are able to offer a welcome to all who come, valuing the opportunity to get together for a drink, a chat and a play. Parents/carers and children benefit greatly from the facilities offered by the Church and the opportunities provided by the wide-ranging group activities that take place here. They particularly enjoy song time, especially when it is their turn to dip into the song bag to choose what we will sing.

Particular thanks again this year go to my husband Jon, who regularly helps me prepare the hall early on a Wednesday morning and to Sue who pops in from time to time whilst we are in session, for a chat with the children and their parents/carers.

Ann Shephard



Messy Church

Messy Church continues to run on the 3rd Saturday of the month, apart from August. Messy Church is a space for all ages to learn and grow in their faith. We start with a time in church where we worship, hear a Bible story and learn about what it means. Then it's time to go and get messy with some crafts linked to what we have learnt. There's a space for babies and toddlers to enjoy too. We then move back into church for a time to look at the crafts children have done alongside a time of prayer and end with a song. Then it's time to have food together.

We produce a take home sheet linked to the sessions learning which we also provide a craft to go with it.

Messy Church continues to grow in numbers with around 30 children and their parents/carers attending. We continue to have a fantastic group of volunteers who help on a regular basis, enabling Messy Church to happen. Without them it wouldn't be possible to run it and for them I am thankful.

Jenny Daxter





Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 2.30pm usually in Hall 1 but sometimes in the church if the speaker requires IT for their talk. We have a planned programme for the year giving us a variety of speakers, some interactive activities and a meal out at Christmas. We also meet during the summer break with coffee mornings and outings which include a meal out. We currently have 34 members with several from the local community. We have a chosen charity each year and it was agreed that the £417.50 should be shared between St Paul's Memory and Movement Café and the Alzheimer's Society. Once again, we also supported the Nottingham Central Women's Aid donating gifts and festive treats to them at Christmas.

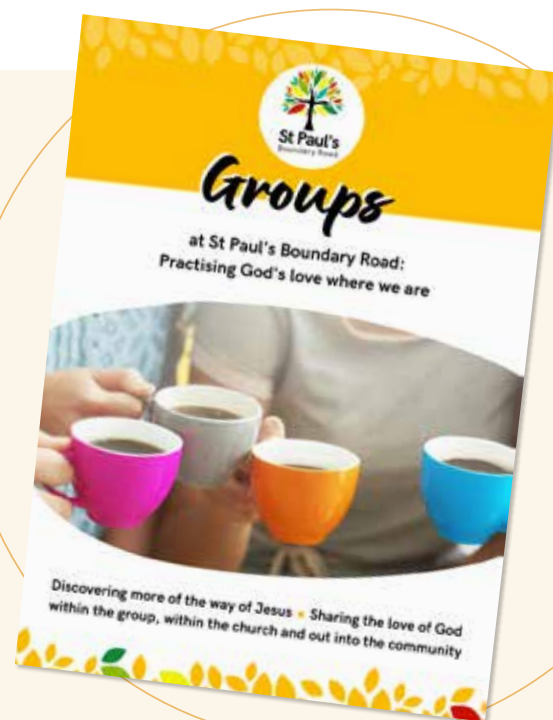
Lyn and Maureen

Groups

A recent audit of our Lifegroups makes positive reading. We continue to have six strong groups, several of which have shown their ability to include new members in the last twelve months.

Hopefully details will soon be finalized for a new group to start, looking at how to better understand the Bible. This will be particularly helpful for those new to church life.

Vicky Larkin



Pastoral Team

I begin this report by thanking the lovely members of the team: Jenny Daxter, Maureen Hollins, Betty Rootham, Lyn Lygo, Ann Jordan, Suzanne Astill and extending a warm welcome to our new member Bob Oldroyd.

We've continued to visit members of St Paul's at Christmas and Easter and provided greetings to those that find it difficult to get to church.

Suzanne and I visit The Grange with Tim on a monthly basis, when we hold a service and provide communion as well as sweet treats at Easter and Christmas. It is such a privilege and a blessing to do this and I always come away feeling renewed.

Jenny and I meet with Pastoral leaders from other churches in West Bridgford to discuss how different churches meet their parishioners needs and also to coordinate activities such as warm space, memory café and toddler groups within our churches.

I also know that, as a church, we still care for one another. Lifts are happening to get people to church, hospital appointments and doctor's appointments. We also as a team, visit those who cannot get to church and try and provide support with phone calls and texts wherever possible.

So again, we are here for everyone, young or old. If you feel the need for prayer or a chat, please reach out. We're always up for a chat and a coffee especially if cake is involved. You can also reach out via email at, stpaulschurchpastoral@outlook.com

So thanks to my team, but thanks to you all for all your help.

Hazel Little



J9 Initiative

St Paul's has completed another year as a recognised J9 centre. J9 is named in memory of Janine Mundy, a mother of two, killed by her estranged husband in June 2003 whilst on police bail. The initiative is designed to raise awareness and provide the skills to recognise abuse and the confidence to respond to disclosures, opening the door to safety and support. The pink signs within and outside the church and café show that we are a safe place where anyone who is a victim of domestic abuse can self-identify and be guided to organisations which can help them in complete confidence.

The following are members of our trained team of volunteers: Ann S., Sally, Hazel, Margaret, Helen and Layla, If you would like to know more, come and speak to one of us.

Margaret

Flowers

The flowers for the church pedestal are changed fortnightly and I endeavour to have a change of colour and make them relevant to different times in the church calendar. I hope you agree that the flowers remind us of the beauty of God's creation and thank you to members of the congregation who give donations in memory of a loved one. If you would like to contribute at a time special to you please see me.

Lyn Lygo



Hiring the space

Inside our church complex, a range of community groups are based within our halls, using our facilities. Our facilities are hired with the purpose of encouraging our community and for meeting socially. It also provides an income important income stream.

The Wellbeing Hub uses our main hall alongside the Café, most weekdays for their varied activities. Willow pre-school continues to thrive and uses one hall exclusively, daytime Monday to Friday during term time. Our halls are almost fully occupied across term time weeks with a few spaces left for additional regular weekly monthly activities. Groups using our facilities teach dance (Ballet, Scottish dancing and Salsa), Rainbow and guide packs meet in term time, a yoga group, karate group, Women's institute and a male voice choir.



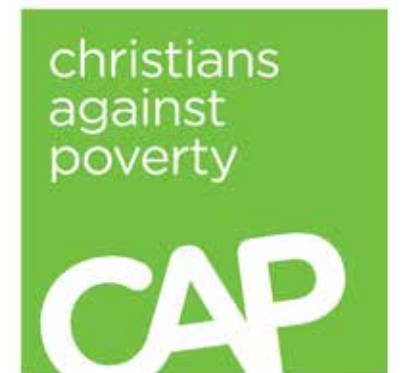
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) operates nationwide and in late 2017, West Bridgford and South Nottingham Debt Centre came into being.

St Paul's is a partner church. Debbie Caine writes – "St Paul's has continued to support the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) West Bridgford & South Nottingham Debt Centre both financially, and with a trustee board member (myself) who was appointed Chair during 2024.

St Paul's was one of the 9 partner churches when the centre was formed in 2017, recognising in particular the need to give debt counselling and appropriate sign-posting to those facing issues with debt in the local area, as an outworking of Christian compassion. Since then St Paul's has given financial and practical support to the charity.

During 2024 the board and centre manager continued to work towards recruiting new debt coaches, volunteers and supporters. Following an interview process we have recruited 2 new part time debt coaches who should complete their training in March 2025. We have continued to face challenges with regard to funding, recruiting new board members and other volunteers, but are beginning to see some positive signs as we look forward in faith towards a potential reopening of the centre in April 2025. St Paul's support for CAP has been, and continues to be, one of the key threads of our charitable giving, and is an important aspect of our identity as an inclusive church, in seeking to promote dignity and agency for those facing financial challenges."



Community Wellbeing Hub

It has been an extremely positive year for St Paul's Community Wellbeing Hub.

This year, we focussed on responding to needs and ensuring that our activities and services are delivered in line with our initial Gantt Chart that we submitted to The Lottery in March 2024. Our Memory & Movement group has seen change and growth throughout the last year, reaching more people living with dementia and other memory challenges. Our Community Matters programme has been developed over the last year and is successfully hosting speakers from across the community in response to local need. We launched a chair-based exercise group in response to a call from local GP surgeries to support the large number of falls that are being reported in our local area. We have piloted and continued twice weekly community meals. We now have a meditation programme embedded across the week and have piloted mindfulness in young children, with a focus on ages 5-8 years old, in response to feedback from our 2 large, local primary schools.

Delivering such a range of support across our week on a modest budget has been made possible by doubling our team of volunteers;

building on established partnerships and developing many new ones. This year, we have been able to work with our local Social Prescribing team, Rushcliffe Dementia Network, ASDA, Fareshare, local GP surgeries, Jesse Gray Primary School, Excel Sports, Diabetes Support, local police, local fire service, neighbourhood watch, Wilford Hill residents association, Pulmonary Fibrosis group, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Heymann Primary School, Sainsburys Melton Road, Aldi Netherfield, Community Coaching-LEGO group, IMPACT dance and INSPIRE libraries. We have learned from each organisation and look forward to continuing these mutually supportive relationships.

We made significant progress this year on improving the charity's operations and effectiveness, as well as ensuring our ethical standards are put into practice. With our grant, we have been able to access HR support from Wirehouse Employer Services, ensuring that our HR policies and procedures are compliant.

Alongside all the hard work, we had great fun hosting our annual social eating BBQ in the summer, with over 300 people in attendance. We were delighted to support the hosting of the Archbishop of York in September 2024, enabling over 100 people to experience a Q & A session with him. We had a very busy lead up to Christmas, with an array of fundraising concerts to suit a range of tastes. And we certainly enjoyed a superb Burns Night social eating charity fundraiser in January which had great feedback from the 120 people in attendance.

As we look to the year ahead, we will be working to increase our sustainability and benefit more people, through developing our existing projects, securing new project grants, and building on budding relationships with local businesses.

Our aims

- **To improve the cohesion of the community**, by involving them in a common effort to enhance social interaction. We aim to provide experiences in the interest of social welfare, recreation and leisure occupations, with the objective of improving the quality of life of those in the local area.
- **To reduce social isolation and loneliness** to a wide range of the community by providing access to a range of cultural, educational, physical, social and artistic activities that will act as a vehicle and motivator to develop actual and transferable skills for people of all ages, from childhood up.
- **To support mental health and wellbeing** by working with services across the local community and enhancing the offering from Dementia support groups, GP surgeries, Mental Health teams and other local wellbeing organisations.
- **To address the impact of the cost of living** by offering social eating opportunities, regular community meals, a warm space for people to gather and socialise and speakers throughout the year. There is a focus on educating our community on aspects of finance and a social supermarket that is donation-led.

Our projects are designed to respond to some of the most pressing needs in our local area:

- **The Memory & Movement project** responds to the inequalities in the community around an above average ageing borough that is in desperate need of more resources to support an increasing level of need.
- **Our Social Supermarket** responds to the impact of the cost of living and further aims to support the drive to reduce surplus food waste across the country.
- **The Meditation and social groups** that we offer are designed to enhance support for the high proportion of older residents in our borough who experience social isolation, poor mental health or low wellbeing.





Café on the Corner

Our community café, Café on the Corner, is becoming the signposting system for our local community.

It is open 7 days a week and, over the last year, it has increased its opening hours to 48 hours per week. It is a place of welcome to all who enter; and it is especially suitable for those who are looking for an inclusive space where they can socialise and/or be guided to other areas of our project. We also ensure that we keep up to date on local events and support groups so that we can signpost people on further afield wherever necessary.

Over the last year, the volunteer team in the café has increased to approximately 25 volunteers, who give up their time each week. We have also recruited an additional part-time café manager and an additional shift leader to support sickness and holiday cover.

Over the last year we have doubled the number of community groups that are hosted within the café. Approximately 14 different groups run across the 7 days every week.

The café managers have implemented a thorough training programme for the volunteers, including food allergen awareness, coffee training and basic food hygiene. Café staff have all undergone a certified training course for food hygiene and were recently subject to the statutory Environmental Health inspection, where they maintained the maximum level 5 rating.

'It has changed my life. I can't imagine where I would be right now if it weren't for the group of people I see each week at the hub.'

'I now have purpose. I didn't feel like that last year. The hub staff, volunteers and everyone do so much to bring us all together.'



'Both A and myself enjoy the community hub. We also have met some lovely people. We look forward to our time spent there.'

Community Meals

Over the last year we have increased our community meal offering to twice per week. These are donation-led meals and, for those who are in need, it is a free offering. We have been fortunate over the last year to have a volunteer who has been solely focussed on creating very hearty nutritious dishes. Over the last 12 months, the total number of meals distributed has doubled to approximately 30 each Friday.

Lego Café

A part of café life is the number of friendship/social groups that now use the space throughout a week. The Lego Group, run by the Community Coaching Company, have embedded a fortnightly programme that has approximately 20 families join each time. In addition to this, over the last year, the group have a school holiday themed event every 6-8 weeks, which we host and support. Attendance for these averages at 30-40 people per event.

Social groups

Through our Social Supermarket, we redistribute food back into the community. Approximately 3,840 tonnes of food have been redistributed over the last year. This has gone to our local community, into food parcels for those who need it the most and our local shelter. Any donations that we receive go towards funding the community meals that we offer.

We work closely with our Social Prescribing team, who are directly linked to the GP surgeries in our borough. They signpost potential volunteers to our Hub and anyone who they feel would benefit from one of our groups. Over the last year, their referrals to us have grown by 50% and we now work closely with this team each month, and at their new hub, to hopefully strengthen the links between the two services. The team now run a friendship group each month at St Paul's Hub which sees 18+ people attend every week.

At a glance

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Social Supermarket	1500 tonnes	3,840 tonnes of surplus food redistributed
Community meals	9-10 meals per week	28-30 meals per week
Lego Café	20 families per fortnight	20 families per fortnight
		Additional event every 6-8 weeks with an additional 30-40 people in attendance every time
Social Prescribers Friendship Group	-	Since May 2024 18-20 attendees per week



'I celebrated my 90th birthday in the café. I didn't think I'd see anyone on my birthday, I don't normally. I got a cupcake with a candle in it. It was the best part of my day.'

'The community hub is not just a social food hub, since it has opened, I have met some wonderful people and we enjoy having a coffee or two at the venue. We have a chat and laugh, it brightens my day!'

Brand new for 2024-25

With our Reaching Communities funding, improving the cohesion of the community and supporting mental health and wellbeing were priorities for us as a Hub in 2024-25.

Over the course of the year, we have designed and implemented a meditation group for beginners, piloted a wellbeing course for children aged 5-8 years and created a 'Community Matters' monthly schedule for the community.

Chair-based exercise

In response to discussions with the local community and our links with the GP surgeries, it was suggested that an exercise group should be set up that could support wellbeing but also explore strengthening exercises to prevent falls. The long-term aim is to link this group with a carers group to give the 'cared for' visitors a structured place to attend when necessary.

The chair-based exercise group has steadily grown to a group of 12-15 attendees each week. Led by a yoga professional, the group focus on calming music whilst doing chair-based (if necessary) yoga moves and stretches. Members of the group now pay a small donation towards the cost of the instructor as we lost INSPIRE funding for this in December 2024.



'I have been in such a dark place over the winter. I am so glad to be back with my friends at the memory group. They keep me going each week.'

Community Matters

Our monthly forum 'Community Matters' has enabled our Hub to increase our mechanisms to assess impact, gain feedback and uncover areas of unmet need. Each month Wendy, our Community Connector, leads a forum-based session. Through her engagement with the community, she can signpost our community to what we have going on across the Hub but also to other projects in the local community. Her role is fundamentally about building relations, listening to the need across the community and gathering feedback to enable the Hub to develop organically. Within the monthly meet up schedule, speakers are invited in to engage with our community visitors on varying topics. We have been joined by our local police; fire service and neighbourhood watch team over the last three months. This was launched in January 2025 and has had very positive feedback so far.

Our forum has also been complemented by the start of two new partnerships, who now also join us monthly (on different weeks): a Diabetes group and a Pulmonary Fibrosis group. Both groups also have bimonthly speakers on various health-related topics, which further enhances the life of the Hub and what we have on offer.

'I couldn't get him out of the house. Now he looks forward to coming to the Hub each week. The exercise group has spurred me on to lose 3 stone. I want X to try the diabetes group next.'

Social Eating

The aim for the year was to increase our larger social eating events to one every two months. Our vision for this project has always been to take the focus away from the apprehension for some people that can sometimes come from a donation led offering of a meal. We believe that if we can try and refocus visitors to the themed 'event' you are more likely to see different walks of life eating at the same table. Every social eating experience we offer differs across the year, and the offering of a meal compliments the experience. Over the last year we have hosted a movie and hotdog evening, a curry night, a summer BBQ, an afternoon of tea and tennis, a harvest meal and a gingerbread giveaway to name a few. We average around 150 people in attendance per event.

'Thank you for all you do here-the community groups are so helpful, and I love the exercise. It is so important and it gets me out of the house.'

'My health is so much better since joining the yoga group. The music and calmness is wonderful each week.'

'They fixed my smoke alarm after the meeting last week-superb! Fire engine outside my house doing all the checks. I was very pleased!'



Policy, Recruitment and Governance

Though the annual report is one to celebrate and reflect on our project achievements, it is also important that we acknowledge the time that has been taken to recruit and train new staff and embed new policies.

Over the last year St Paul's Community Wellbeing Hub has: increased the hours of working for the existing part time Café Manager and Project Coordinator; recruited an additional part time Café Manager, a part time Community Connector and 2 part time Café Shift Leaders. New job descriptions, person specifications and contracts had to be created, as well as an induction programme for all the new starters.

In response to the growth of the existing team, it was also identified that a comprehensive staff handbook was needed to support the new structure of the staff hub.

In addition, our volunteer management has also involved a significant amount of management time this year to ensure communication is clear and systems are effective for everyone involved. We have grown the volunteer team by 33% over the last year. We currently have approximately 80 volunteers involved in the project. All volunteers are expected to attend a safeguarding training session, access relevant training if needed e.g. barista training, and go through a DBS process if it is relevant to the role. Once in the volunteer role, volunteers are given an induction process in line with the role that they are involved with.

At the beginning of the year we identified that our Hub Steering Group needed to increase in size to account for more 'community voice'. We now have 7 members on the Steering Group and meet every quarter. The Project Coordinator also reports to the Parish Council monthly, including the treasurer who oversees the management of the Hub accounts.

Layla Anderson
Community Project Coordinator

Community Connector

My role started in May 24, working a couple of hours a week, until the school term was completed in July.

This time was spent observing and reflecting on what was happening in the Community Wellbeing Hub, (CWH) where I needed to focus, and how my role was going to develop. I connected with “gate keepers” within the local community and hub. These times of meeting were essential, to help me form and develop a vision for the future.

After meeting with local head teachers, I developed an idea about forming a club, for children who struggle to regulate, who need time to stop, and for parents/carers to come and work with their child/children in this. Relax, Refresh, Restore was formed, and in the six weeks provided tangible objects and ideas for parents and children to use at home. Each child had their own tool bag (a canvas drawstring) that they designed, to filled with different ideas/concepts, practical things to support in calming and regulating at home.

**St Paul's Boundary Road**

Supported by
COMMUNITY FUND

Relax Refresh Restore

A 6-week club for children in reception to year 2 and their parents/guardians, making space in our busy lives to pause, regulate and be refreshed

Learn and practise mindfulness techniques with your child(ren)

We'll rediscover how to slow down, listen to our breathing and relax in the moment.

Create your own calming kit

Over the 6-week course you'll create together a collection of things to use at home to promote calm when children feel stressed or anxious.

Drink and fruit snack provided

Mondays 3:45pm - 4.45pm
Nov 4th / 11th / 18th / 25th • Dec 2nd / 9th



Scan to book your **FREE** place >>>
or visit stpaulsboundaryroad.churchsuite.com/events/lrsoqh14
St Paul's Church, Boundary Road, NG2 7DB
Get in touch: st.paulschurchconnector@outlook.com

Each time we met, we did rainbow breathing to calm down, and have that space of quiet, getting ready to engage. Parents/Carers joining in too! There was a sense of peace and calm. I also led guided meditation about a blanket, and each child rested with a blanket over them, and there was silence, a peace fell over this space. A much-needed space, especially as it was in the build up to Christmas!

This club finished mid-December and another one is being run in the new year. In the evaluations, everyone felt it was a warm and welcoming environment, and that even though the Church building was big, we were able to create a small and cosy space. We had one parent who applied for and was granted special permission to take her child out of school early, so that she could get to us on time, as she went to school North of the city.

Once I saw and appreciated what an amazing role all our volunteers play, I wanted to say thank on behalf of the CWH. So, “Thankyou Tuesdays” were formed. These are held once a month, where we meet in the Church, I lead a guided meditation, and then we share breakfast together in the café. It has been great to see the numbers grow, and how these times of “stop, relax and be,” are so refreshing and enjoyed. Even the snow didn’t stop people attending as they trudged through the snow to get there! These too have continued in the New Year.



'It is remarkable! He is so calm and engaged with the group - can we have more like this please?'

During September, Community Matters was opened, and I met with various people, particularly the team at Sharphill woods, and I am supporting them in moving forward with their connections within the local area, in relation to volunteers. This time before Christmas, also enabled me to look at what our wellbeing hub needed in these Community Matters space. A programme of visiting speakers was designed to support and help people live life to the full, while also keeping safe. This programme has a variety of speakers, including police, fire service, a lawyer, and a banker. Ideally from this , we can then explore further working in partnership with the people from the wellbeing hub in what they what to focus on next.

It has been great to get to know different members of the CWH, particularly the Memory and Movement café, which seems to be growing each week. I was able to liaise with Jesse Gray school, so that their school choir could come and sing at Christmas. It was a wonderful time of joy and fun! We have booked them for Christmas 2025, along with some summer singing too!

Getting to know further members in the Wellbeing Hub will continue in the next year.

It has been so rewarding to spend time along this journey with different members of the community, providing a listening ear, and pastoral support in a small way.

It is a great joy and a privilege to be working for the Community Wellbeing Hub, and to see it developing and flourishing.

Wendy Cranefield



Grief Café

The Grief Café has continued to meet every 1st and 3rd Monday afternoon with occasional one to one sessions in the café during the week. We are open to anyone no matter how long ago the bereavement was. Over the past year we have had a number of referrals from Social Prescribers in Rushcliffe, Keyworth and even Gedling as well as local GPs. There is a great need for similar groups but sadly there are none.

Our meetings vary depending on the needs of the people who come along but the main message is always the same, "It's normal to feel this way, you are unique and it's ok to not be ok" Most people just want to be able to talk about how they are feeling with people who are in the same situation and the group provides a safe place to do this.

We have planted a garden in which members have placed name tags to remember their loved ones and at Christmas, which can be a very difficult time, we decorated stars with the names of our loved ones on for the church Christmas tree. Tim very kindly joined us and prayed for everyone . It was a very emotional time but well received.

It's a privilege to run this group but it would be impossible without Anne Jordan and Suzanne Astill. Thank you both.

Glenys



Our Place

Our Place continues to grow and be a busy, safe, community space where people can chat, make friends and simply relax with a free cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.

Our doors are open every Monday morning regardless of Bank Holidays, Festivals and school holidays and this has been a godsend to some of our visitors who live alone. We strive to be an access point for people in our community to receive signposting support and other services that may be able to meet some of their needs. Our visitors too, bring talents, experiences and skills that they may be willing to share locally.

In November we celebrated our 6th anniversary with a party, balloons and a cake. We also enjoyed our Christmas party and always try to mark the birthdays of our members which at present number 18 and more.

All this would not be possible without the time, dedication and commitment of the volunteers who take turns in the actual making and serving of the refreshments.

They extend a warm welcome and a listening ear to all and take time to build and encourage friendships; offering support and simple acts of kindness. (if you could spare some time on a Monday and would like to join our rota of volunteers, please have a word with me or one of the team.)

Currently, there are 86 Places of Welcome in Nottinghamshire and given the current landscape, now more than ever, local community responses like Our Place are desperately needed. Over the next year, we will continue to work in partnership with other local groups to connect people in our church and local community, something we have already done with the Café on the Corner.

Angela Harriss



Friendship Group

We are delighted to welcome new members to our group when we meet on alternate Wednesday afternoons in the café at 2.00 pm. Join us to share friendship and fun, whether playing tabletop games, your choice of crafting brought from home or just chatting. Drinks and tasty treats are available from the café. Our members come from St Paul's and the community.

Financial Review

The PCC met 10 times during the year and as part of those meetings processed and agreed the financial business of the church. The annual accounts follow this review and below is a summary of the main points of interest.

General Fund

Committed giving and regular donations increased by 5.3% as compared with 2024. Lettings have reduced by 2.9% as compared to the previous year.

The overall church running costs have increased by around 3.6% as compared with 2023, mainly due to increases in parish share, maintenance and employee costs before the reallocation of some costs to the Wellbeing Hub.

The overall result was a deficit for the year of £11,155 (2023 surplus £1,448) leaving a balance to carry forward of £16,172.

Designated Funds

Leader of Children, Youth and Families Ministry (LoCYFM) Fund – during the previous year a large anonymous donation was received, and the PCC took the decision to allocate this, together with the gift aid tax reclaimable to the LoCYFM Fund, in order to improve the ongoing funding position. The fund balance stood at £6,270 at the year end (2023 £6,075).

Charity Fund – Designated – the closing balance was £0 (2023 £0), after accounting for all amounts collected for and then paid out, or earmarked to be paid out in the near future to charities. A small sub-committee was formed, and the congregation were invited to suggest appropriate charities that should benefit. In addition to the amounts shown in the accounts further amounts were received from collection boxes and other sources and paid directly, the main beneficiary charities being the Children's Society, Emmanuel House and the Friary

Community Fund – the closing balance was £0 (2023 £1). The fund was set aside to meet local charitable needs as they may

arise, but given the small balance remaining has been allocated to leave a £0 balance at the year end.

Restricted Funds

There are a number of restricted funds, which arise from amounts given to the church for specific purposes, as follows:

Memorial Fund – income mainly from donations associated with the book of remembrance and the sale of cards. Currently the fund requires the incumbent to give instructions for its use. The fund has been utilised to purchase two new projectors in 2021 and 2022. In accordance with existing policy the new equipment is being written off over 3 years. The year end balance was £2,026 (2023 £2,446), which included £0 (2023 £430) in respect of the written down value of the projectors purchased in previous years.

Barnabas Fund – established in 1994 to assist in the spiritual direction of individuals. This was originally an endowment fund, with the capital and tax recovery total sum of £1,400 being preserved and therefore any expenditure being made out of interest. However, due to the recent low rates of interest the donor has since removed the endowment condition, to allow the capital to be expended in line with the fund purposes. The year end balance was £1,585 (2023 £1,536).

The Flower Fund – is maintained by donations received specifically for the provision of flowers in the church, often in memory of loved ones as noted in the main report, with any shortfall being covered by the General Fund. The year end balance of the fund was £0 (2023 £0).

Charity Fund – Restricted – specific collections and payments received for charities and charitable events are allocated to this fund. The individual charities supported are listed at the end of the accounts. The year end balance was £357 (2023 £0), which represents a balance of £278 from and a small sundry balance of £78 due to the Friary as it related to the Youth sponsored sleep out.

Community Wellbeing Hub (formerly Social Eating & Café Fund) – during the year grants totalling £90,120 were received in respect of the ongoing social eating project and café. The majority of those were from the National Lottery received in advance (in March and September) towards the following six months overheads. A summary of the income and costs is included on Page 8 of the accounts. The balance at the year end stood at £32,996 (2023 £15,074), after adjusting for the proportion of the grant received in September 2024 in respect of January and February 2025 costs, and of which £0 (2023 £2,679) relates to the written down value of equipment, being written off over 3 years.

Maundy Fund – is administered by the incumbent. Income arises from Maundy Thursday collections and the fund may be used to relieve hardship or to enable members of the congregation (especially younger ones) to take up specific opportunities to engage in mission or grow in their faith. The balance at the year end was £1,177 (2023 £1,177).

Music Fund – income is from donations towards the purchase of music equipment for the worship band. The balance at the year end was £0 (2023 £107).

Tech Fund – during 2022 a legacy of £2,000 was received for the purposes of sound and vision equipment, and in 2023 a grant of £2,000 was received from the Diocese towards new media equipment, the majority of which was expended. A restricted donation of £3,000 was received in 2023. The costs of the various purchases of equipment is being depreciated over 3 years. Therefore the balance of £2,604 (2023 £2,250) includes £1,892 (2023 £1,700) of expenditure already incurred.

Children, Youth and Families Ministry (CYFM) Fund – following the receipt of grant funding, regular and one-off donations and other income in the previous year, the opening balance of the fund was £13,052. Further monies were received from the same source during this year and utilised to pay

salary and employment related costs. The closing balance was £33,501 (2023 £13,052) some of which is to cover future years' costs.

Holiday Fund – during the year a church weekend away took place, some of the cost of which was met by the General Fund, and therefore the year end balance stood at £0. A deposit has been paid for a church weekend in 2025, which has been allocated as prepayment.

Minibus Fund – during the year funding was received from Rushcliffe Borough Council to purchase a second hand mini-bus for the use of the church and Wellbeing Hub. In addition various fund raising events were held to cover ongoing running costs. At the year end the balance stood at £20,970, of which £18,169 is in respect of the written down value of the vehicle, with a balance of £2,801 available to cover future running costs.

Refurbishment Fund – following the very successful fund raising in the past couple of years, and a partial designation of a legacy received during the year, the fund was utilised in 2022 to purchase and install a new front door for the church premises, as well as carpeting and new foyer signage. During 2024 a significant contribution was received from the Toddler Group and together with an allocation of surplus funds from the Wellbeing Hub, this was used to purchase replacement chairs for the halls. The costs of these and the door (but not the carpet and signage) are being written off over 10 years and therefore the balance at the end of 2024 stood at £11,467 (2023 £9,759).

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is to invest fund balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund which bears interest. At the year-end £49,318 (2023 £21,959) was held in this fund, though it should be noted that the majority of this relates to restricted and designated funds rather than the General Fund.

Independent examiner’s report to the members of the Parochial Church Council of St Paul’s Church, Wilford Hill

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Paul’s Church, Wilford Hill for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011(‘the Act’).

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner’s statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair view’ which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Eddy George

Eddy George ACA
9 Magpie Crescent
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7ZJ

Date: 21 March 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PAUL'S, WILFORD HILL


STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

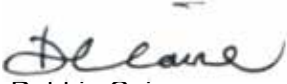
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
Income and Endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2 (a)	86,998	21,619	108,617	106,365
Other voluntary incoming resources	2 (b)	0	125,777	125,777	28,383
Charitable activities	2 (c)	34,438	-	34,438	35,894
Other income	2 (d)	77	36,439	36,516	31,823
Investments	2 (e)	785	1,810	2,595	682
Total Income		122,298	185,645	307,943	203,147
Expenditure on					
Giving and Donations	3 (a)	6,000	2,569	8,569	9,564
Charitable activities	3 (b)	134,515	114,533	249,048	197,561
Raising funds	3 (c)	0	-	0	3,500
Total Expenditure		140,515	117,102	257,617	210,625
Net Income/expenditure		(18,217)	68,543	50,326	(7,478)
Transfers between Funds		7,256	(7,256)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(10,961)	61,287	50,326	(7,478)
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2024		33,403	45,401	78,804	86,282
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2024		£22,442	£106,688	£129,130	£78,804

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5 (a)	31,976	15,468
Current Assets			
Debtors	6	14,435	19,907
Stocks		937	727
Short term deposits	5 (b)	49,318	21,959
Cash in hand		21	21
Cash at bank		56,695	33,271
		<u>121,406</u>	<u>75,885</u>
Liabilities : Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>24,252</u>	<u>12,549</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>97,154</u>	<u>63,336</u>
Liabilities : Amounts falling due after one year		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Assets	8	<u><u>129,130</u></u>	<u><u>78,804</u></u>
Funds	9		
Unrestricted		22,442	33,403
Restricted		106,688	45,401
		<u><u>129,130</u></u>	<u><u>78,804</u></u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on the 24 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by :


Revd. Tim Fox
Vicar


Debbie Caine
Treasurer

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Incoming Resources

Collections, planned giving, grants and legacies are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised on income received in the year ending 31 December 2024. Rental income and income from investments are recognised on receipt.

Resources Used

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over or awarded if the award created a binding obligation on the PCC. The parish share is accounted for when payable, with any amount unpaid at the year end being provided for as an operational liability and shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Giving to charity is calculated on Total Incoming Resources from Donors (Unrestricted Funds). The PPC make the majority of specific beneficiary decisions relating to this amount shortly after the year end, and therefore this amount is included as part of the Restricted Funds at the year end and payments to the beneficiaries are included in creditors.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficial property is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over 3 years. Motor vehicles are depreciated at a rate of 20% per annum on a reducing balance basis. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £300 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at the year end in respect of fees or other income, which are expected to be collected are shown as debtors in the balance sheet.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2	Income & Endowments	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	2023 £
2 (a)	<i>Donations & legacies</i>				
	Planned Giving:				
	Gift Aid donations	68,420	5,770	74,190	70,578
	Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations	15,495	1,871	17,366	18,456
	Collections (open plate)	1,492	-	1,492	1,367
	Sundry donations (including charity)	1,591	13,978	15,569	15,964
	Legacies	-	-	-	-
		86,998	21,619	108,617	106,365
2 (b)	<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>				
	Events for charity	-	-	-	-
	Grants	-	125,777	125,777	28,383
		-	125,777	125,777	28,383
2 (c)	<i>Charitable Activities</i>				
	Lettings	34,230	-	34,230	35,250
	Parochial fees	208	-	208	644
		34,438	-	34,438	35,894
2 (d)	<i>Other income</i>				
	Other	77	1,915	1,992	18
	Café/Social Eating income	-	34,524	34,524	31,805
		77	36,439	36,516	31,823
2 (e)	<i>Investments</i>				
	Interest from short term deposits	785	1,810	2,595	682
	Total Income	£122,298	£185,645	£307,943	£203,147

3	Expenditure	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	2023 £
3 (a)	<i>Giving and Donations</i>				
	Collections or events, and PCC decisions, during the year	4,890	2,569	7,459	4,832
	Giving decisions by PCC post year end	1,110	-	1,110	4,732
		6,000	2,569	8,569	9,564
3 (b)	<i>Charitable activities</i>				
	Ministry : Parish share	81,000	-	81,000	77,000
	Ministry expenses	1,434	-	1,434	1,400
	Upkeep of services	3,120	-	3,120	2,915
	Insurance	2,013	-	2,013	1,974
	Sundries	828	-	828	272
	Heat, light and power	12,432	-	12,432	14,260
	Rates and water	514	-	514	1,011
	Maintenance	10,424	123	10,547	6,657
	Cleaning	3,890	494	4,384	2,728
	Grounds upkeep	422	-	422	1,707
	Events	952	2,125	3,077	-
	Christian education	316	1,086	1,402	1,529
	Gifts	434	-	434	116
	Flowers	-	915	915	910
	Mission	-	-	-	604
	Employee salary NI & pension (Note 4)	9,668	80,268	89,936	57,205
	Employee expenses	208	1,358	1,566	1,555
	Stationery, office, telephone	4,074	-	4,074	2,479
	Café/social eating costs	-	17,582	17,582	14,035
	Honorarium	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
	Bank charges	334	-	334	311
	Mini Bus running costs	-	1,588	1,588	-
	Depreciation/Loss on sale	452	8,994	9,446	6,893
		134,515	114,533	249,048	197,561
3 (c)	<i>Raising funds</i>				
	Grant applications	-	-	-	3,500
		-	-	-	3,500
	Total Expenditure	£140,515	£117,102	£257,617	£210,625

4 Staff costs, including Pension

	2024	2023
	£	£
Employee salary NI & pension	<u>89,936</u>	<u>57,205</u>

During the year the PPC employed, 2 CYFM workers, a Café & Social Eating project manager, 2 café managers, 2 baristas, a community connector, a communications officer and a cleaner. None earned more than £50,000 per annum and there were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members or related parties.

St Paul's, Wilford Hill participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of St Paul's, and other participating employers. CWPF has two sections, the Defined Benefit Scheme and the Pension Builder Scheme, the later having two subsections - Pension Builder Classic, which is a deferred annuity scheme, and Pension Builder 2014. The Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme, which provides a lump sum that members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member and discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The whole account is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme. The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable to the Pension Builder 2014 scheme were £4,892 (2023 £2,518).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022. For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, St Paul's could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

5 Fixed Assets for use by the PCC

5 (a) Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	52,562
Additions	25,954
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>78,516</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2024	37,094
Charge for the year	9,446
Disposals	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>46,540</u>
Net Book Value at 31 December 2024	<u><u>£31,976</u></u>

5 (b) Investment Assets

The PCC holds no investment assets. All surplus funds, outside of normal day to day requirements, are held in a Central Board of Finance (CBF) Deposit Fund.

6 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Other debtors - HM Revenue & Customs	10,594	1,529	12,123	18,456
- Other	270	1,237	1,507	455
- Funeral Fees	805	-	805	996
	<u>£11,669</u>	<u>£2,766</u>	<u>£14,435</u>	<u>£19,907</u>

7 Liabilities : Amounts Falling Due within one year

Amounts payable to suppliers etc	5,742	851	6,593	4,838
Amounts payable to charities, collections etc		17,659	17,659	7,711
	<u>£5,742</u>	<u>£18,510</u>	<u>£24,252</u>	<u>£12,549</u>

8 Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

Fixed Assets	449	31,527	31,976	15,468
Current Assets	27,735	93,670	121,405	75,885
Current Liabilities	(5,742)	(18,510)	(24,252)	(12,549)
Fund Balance	<u>£22,442</u>	<u>106,688</u>	<u>129,130</u>	<u>£78,804</u>

Fund Details

Summary of transactions in Restricted Funds

	Memorial £	Barnabas £	Flower £	Charity* £	** Well Being Hub £	Maundy £	Music £	Tech Fund £	CYFM £	Holiday £	Minibus £	Refurb £	Total £
Opening Balance at 1 January 2024	2,446	1,536	-	-	15,074	1,177	107	2,250	13,052	-	-	9,759	45,401
Income :													
Interest	-	49	-	-	1,022	-	-	-	739	-	-	-	1,810
Other	10	-	500	2,926	110,827	-	-	3,000	39,743	1,915	23,914	1,000	183,835
Funds Transfer	-	-	420	-	-	-	-	-	-	445	760	1,928	3,553
Total Income	10	49	920	2,926	111,849	-	-	3,000	40,482	2,360	24,674	2,928	189,198
Expenditure	430	-	915	2,569	83,118	-	107	2,646	20,033	2,360	3,704	1,220	117,102
Funds Transfer	-	-	-	-	10,809	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,809
Closing Balance at 31 December 2024	2,026	1,585	5	357	32,996	1,177	0	2,604	33,501	-	20,970	11,467	106,688
Movement in year	(420)	49	5	357	17,922	0	(107)	354	20,449	0	20,970	1,708	61,287

Summary of transactions in Unrestricted Funds

	General £	LoCYFM £	Charity £	Community £	Total £	** Community Well Being Hub (formerly Social Eating/Café Fund) at 1 January 2024
at 1 January 2024	27,327	6,075		1	33,403	15,074
Income						
Interest	590	195			785	
Fund Transfer	1,257	-	6,000		7,257	
Other	121,513				121,513	
Total Income	123,360	195	6,000		129,555	
Expenditure						
Fund Transfer	-	-	-	1	1	
Other	134,515		6,000		140,515	
at 31 December 2024	16,172	6,270			22,442	
Movement in year	(11,155)	195		-1	(10,961)	
						at 31 December 2024
						32,996

CHARITABLE GIVING YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Collections or Events during the year

	2024 £	2023 £
Children's Society	730	698
Friary Drop-in	639	606
Night Shelters (Emmanuel House)	822	796
The Big Brew	210	-
Bishops Discretionary Fund	-	36
Toy Appeal	168	176
Sub Total	£2,569	£2,312

Giving decisions by PCC

Christians Against Poverty (West Bridgford & South Notts)	880	960
Church Mission Society	650	600
Friary Drop-In	960	960
Night Stop	1,000	-
Refugee Roots	1,400	-
Sub Total	£4,890	£2,520

Amounts still to be allocated	£1,110	£4,732
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Total Giving per accounts	£8,569	£9,564
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Subsequent paymets

Balance of Refreshments Fund and small restricted balance	1,590
Total to distribute	6,322

Christians Against Poverty (West Bridgford & South Notts)	1,000
Church Mission Society	1,000
Friary Drop-In	1,000
Safe Families	1,200
Street Aid	750
Cecily's Fund	500
Emmanuel House	500
Arocha	100
	6,050

Balance to distribute at 31 December 2024	£1,382	£272
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