

# St John's Church, Flixton

Correspondence address: St John's church & hall, Irlam Road, Flixton, Manchester M41 6AP

Registered charity no. 1180125

## **Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Priest in Charge:** Debra Blair

**Bank:** The Royal Bank of Scotland, 9 Crofts Bank Road, Urmston, Manchester, M41 0TZ.

**Independent Examiner:** Mr John Holdsworth

The Parochial Church Council of St. John's Church, Flixton, (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest in charge in promoting within the parish the mission of the Church of England.

### ***Membership***

The PCC is a registered charity, no. 1180125. Members are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

#### **During the year the following served as members of the PCC:**

Neil Barnes, churchwarden

Geoff Andreassen, churchwarden until APCM 2023

Carol Cosham, churchwarden from APCM 2023 and deanery synod representative

Pat Beale, reader emeritus

Joyce Gardner, reader emeritus

Janice Mortimer, deanery synod representative until APCM 2023

Irene Pennington, deanery synod representative from APCM 2023

The Rev Rodney Green, OLM, associate minister

The Rev Nick Watson

**Elected members up to APCM 2023:** Michelle Byrne, Eileen Kelly, Gill Hampson, Sue Thatcher, Robert Beale, Graham Dey, Andrea Lester. Angela Easdon and Matt Thorne were co-opted from 10 May 2022 in key roles.

**Elected members from APCM 2023:** Matt Thorne (Safeguarding officer), Andrea Lester, Gill Hampson, Robert Beale, Graham Dey, Geoff Andreassen, Angela Easdon, Jan Smith and Eileen Kelly. Michelle Byrne was co-opted from 25 April 2023 and Stuart Johnson from 11 June 2023.

The Vice-Chairman was Geoff Andreassen until 25 April 2023, Carol Cosham from 25 April 2023.

The Treasurer was Michelle Byrne until 25 April 2023, Gill Hampson from 25 April 2023.

The Secretary was Angela Easdon.

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

The PCC has had regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance on public benefit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts and Payments method.

<b>St Johns Financial Statement</b>	Code	Unrestricted General Fund	Mission & Ministry Fund	Hall repairs Fund	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
		£	£		£	£
<b>Receipts</b>						
Tax efficient planned giving	1, 101, 201	22778.00	9240.00	-	32018.00	31717.52
Other planned giving	2, 102, 202	4250.00	0.00	-	4250.00	2988.00
Cash collections at services	3, 103, 203	6934.84	0.00	480.00	7414.84	5989.81
Recurring donations or gift days	4, 104, 204	730.16	0.00	-	730.16	0.00
Non-recurring donations	5, 105, 205	362.00	0.00	630.00	992.00	3149.31
Tax recovered	6, 106, 206	12693.71	4871.32	0.00	17565.03	2286.33
<b>Total Direct Giving</b>		<b>47748.71</b>	<b>14111.32</b>	<b>1110.00</b>	<b>62970.03</b>	<b>46130.97</b>
<b>Other Income</b>						
Grants received	8, 208	1559.00	0.00	11800.00	13359.00	1250.00
Interest from bank - current a/c	10	712.58	0.00	-	712.58	90.15
Interest from bank - deposit a/c	10	2.08	0.00	-	2.08	0.26
Interest from bank - CCLA a/c	10	1646.81	0.00	-	1646.81	667.06
PCC fees	11	257.00	0.00	-	257.00	392.00
Income from trading - Hall rents	12	22422.00	0.00	-	22422.00	24046.50
Income from trading - Book Unit	12	309.91	0.00	-	309.91	290.63
Other income	13	0.00	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>74658.09</b>	<b>14111.32</b>	<b>12910.00</b>	<b>101679.41</b>	<b>72867.57</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
Tithes & donations	18	5602.00	0.00	-	5602.00	7194.74
Parish Share	19	27825.60	0.00	-	27825.60	30920.00
Clergy expenses	21	209.08	0.00	-	209.08	106.23
Printing & mission expenses	22	785.81	0.00	-	785.81	2027.84
Church running expenses	23	11381.91	0.00	-	11381.91	11623.35
Utility Bills (church & hall)	24	4699.89	0.00	-	4699.89	4433.15
Cost of trading church hall	25	2056.40	0.00	-	2056.40	5694.34
Cost of trading Book Unit	25	194.72	0.00	-	194.72	230.54
Governance costs	26	200.00	0.00	-	200.00	200.00
Major repairs to church	27	0.00	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
Other major repairs	28	21717.20	0.00	12910.00	34627.20	5190.00
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>74672.61</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>12910.00</b>	<b>87582.61</b>	<b>67620.19</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit</b>		<b>-14.52</b>	<b>14111.32</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>14096.80</b>	<b>5247.38</b>

**Note:** Church and hall expenses and utility bills are bound up with each other because of shared items (insurance, cleaning, gas, electricity, water, fire extinguisher servicing, PAT testing, etc), but if hall expenses were to be stated separately we estimate that £3760 would be added in 2023 to Hall Costs of Trading and subtracted from Utility Bills, and a further £4,128 would be added to Hall Costs of Trading and subtracted from Church Running Expenses.

**Note:** The Mission and Ministry Fund was set up by the PCC on 5th October 2021 with the object of 'contributing to the ministry and mission of the Church of England in the parish of Flixton St John and elsewhere, as decided by the Parochial Church Council members of St John's Church Flixton, the trustees of Registered Charity no. 1180125'. The Hall Repairs Fund was the result of grant appeals made for the hall roof project in 2023 and was also open for specific donations.

**Note: transactions by PCC as agent** (It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of some organists and vergers at funerals and weddings, and to pass these fees in full on to the individual providing the service. In these cases, and in respect of diocesan fees charged for funerals, weddings, and interment of ashes, the PCC is acting as agent)

<b>Receipts</b>						
Fees to Diocese received		1162.00	0.00	0.00	1162.00	2667.63
Scargill church weekend fees received	999	2039.00	0.00	0.00	2039.00	771.00
<b>Payments</b>						
Fees to Diocese forwarded		878.00	0.00	0.00	878.00	3088.63
Scargill weekend fees forwarded	999	2520.00	0.00	0.00	2520.00	300.00
Inclusive total receipts		77859.09	14111.32	12910.00	104880.41	76306.20
Inclusive total payments		<u>78070.61</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>12910.00</u>	<u>90980.61</u>	<u>71008.82</u>
Inclusive surplus/deficit		-211.52	14111.32	0.00	13899.80	5297.38

## Sponsorship Fund (restricted) 2023

**Note:** The Sponsorship Fund was created by the PCC so that members of the church could make specific donations in support of children overseas and contributions are made from it to "Compassion" or other charities.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Standing Orders	737.00	802.00
Gift Aid Reclaim	338.50	49.50
Interest	8.52	<u>1.39</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b><u>1084.02</u></b>	<b><u>852.89</u></b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Compassion Sponsorship	761.00	808.00
Other	0.00	30.00
<b>Total payments</b>	<b><u>761.00</u></b>	<b><u>838.00</u></b>
Surplus/deficit	<b>323.02</b>	<b>14.89</b>
Balance as at 1st Jan	717.61	656.97
Balance as at 31st Dec	1040.63	717.61

**NOTE: Book Unit bank account 2023**

2022

	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
Income from sales	282.73	290.63
Donations	27.18	0.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>309.91</u></b>	<b><u>290.63</u></b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Maranatha	194.72	230.54
<b>Total payments</b>	<b><u>194.72</u></b>	<b><u>230.54</u></b>
Surplus/deficit	115.19	60.09
Cash In hand & current account 1st Jan	1482.87	1422.78
Cash in Hand 31 Dec	128.13	18.22
Current account 31st Dec	<u>1469.93</u>	<u>1464.65</u>
Total at 31 Dec	<b>1598.06</b>	<b>1482.87</b>
Value of stock at year end	100.00	500.00

St John's Church, Flixton. Statement of assets and liabilities as at **31 December 2023**

					<b>2023</b>	2022	
<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	Current		High Interest	CCLA	Book Unit	Totals	Totals
<b>Assets</b>	£		£	£	£	£	£
Bank accounts total	25839		174	53031	1470	80514	81867
Cash in Hand	0		0	0	128	128	18
Stock					100	100	500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25839</b>		<b>174</b>	<b>53031</b>	<b>1698</b>	<b>80742</b>	<b>82385</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Uncashed cheques	0					0	1294
Loans	0					0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>0</b>	<b>1294</b>
Net Assets	25839		174	53031	1698	<b>80742</b>	<b>81091</b>
<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	M&M Fund	Hall repairs fund			Sponsorship	Totals	£
<b>Assets</b>							
Bank Account	26191	0			1041	27232	12798
Debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26191</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>1041</b>	<b>27232</b>	<b>12798</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							0
Creditors	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Net Assets	26191	0			1041	<b>27232</b>	<b>12798</b>
<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>							
Net Assets	52030	0	174	53031	1698	1041	<b><u>93889</u></b>

**Reserves:** The PCC's policy is to maintain General Fund total unrestricted balances (less funds held against future liabilities) of at least three months' running costs and at most two years' running costs

## **Review of the year 2023**

Joint services of Holy Communion have been held each Thursday morning with our friends from St. Michael's alternating between the two churches. A group of approximately 12 attend and some of these go to Taste and See for coffee and cake and a chat after the service.

Monday evening prayers in the side chapel have continued throughout the year, led by Sue Thatcher.

Carol Cosham, Brian Kay and Gloria Johnson have had applications affirmed to be Eucharistic assistants. Rev. Debra trained them to set up the altar and assist with the chalice.

Matt Thorne and Graham Dey have continued to run the football club with a Christian message on Sunday afternoons at St. John's, supported by Ambassadors Football(ambassadorsfootball.org). We were asked to accommodate a youth worker for Ambassadors football, unfortunately we did not have any volunteers to host a youth worker. Graham Dey managed to get a grant for about £800 from a heart charity towards the cost of a defibrillator. It has been installed in an alarmed box. There is an on-line course available for all hall users. Pre-school are very pleased and have all completed the training. The congregation were informed in the bulletin, with a link to the training.

Our Mission community ran a discipleship course for 8 weeks starting in May called "Fruitfulness on the frontline" It was held at St John's and attended by many of our congregation.

House groups have met regularly throughout the year run by Revd Rodney Green, Revd Graham Smallman and Revd Debra Blair, all groups have studied Psalm 23.

Our Lent course this year, took place on three Thursday evenings in March. The subject explored was 'Failure' based on the book titled "Failure, what Jesus said about sin, mistakes and messing up" by Emma Ineson. There was Bible study, reflection, music, discussion, and prayers.

There were services at St. Michaels and St. John's for us to attend during Easter. There was a healing service at St. Michaels on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

We celebrated Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday (6<sup>th</sup> April) at 10.30am at St. John's, and in the evening, there was a special liturgy with washing of feet at St. Michael's.

On Good Friday (7<sup>th</sup> April) there was a Family Service at St. Michael's. 40 people were on this year's Walk of Witness from St. John's, moving via The Ark on Ambleside Road to St. Michael's, followed by An Hour at The Cross at St. Michael's. A Meditation for Good Friday was held in the evening at St. John's entitled "What's good about Good Friday". Our hand bell ringers rang at this service. The handbell ringers have gone from strength to strength this year under Carol Cosham's leadership. The team has young and older people ringing together.

On Holy Saturday there was an Easter Vigil at St. Michael's.

On Easter Sunday we held our Family Communion service. As most covid restrictions are now lifted, we were given the option to share the chalice once again from Easter Sunday. Those not wishing to share the chalice were able to continue as before with the bread dipped in the wine. It was also decided that it was now safe to share the peace with the people sitting next to us but not to go wandering around church. During the service the children enjoyed an Easter egg hunt in the hall and field.

We held an Easter, Harvest and Christmas Messy church. These were well supported and great fun and enjoyed by all who attended.

A time of prayer and letter writing in support of "Open Doors" was held at St John's on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March, at 9.30am (before morning service) in the side chapel. This was continued bi-monthly.

Work on the church hall roof structure took place over four weeks during the summer holidays. Robert Beale worked hard to obtain grants to help with the costs of the building work.

A Bring and Share picnic was held at St John's on Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the Kings Coronation. We were joined by our sisters and brothers from St Michael's Church and Flixton Fellowship. Radio Wishing Well provided music and there were craft activities for our younger folk to enjoy including a Create a Crown craft.

Our Spring Church work morning was held on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> May which was also Help out for Britain day. A second workday was held in September, much work was completed.

Joan Stott re-opened our book unit in June after the Sunday service.

Rev Debra and Angela Easdon met with Fiona Jones who is the eco warrior for St Mary's. Fiona helped us to see what needed to be done at St John's. We were able to achieve a Bronze Award in Eco Church ratings. This was a brilliant result as we only signed up this year, being the last in this Mission Community to do so. Lots of people have worked hard to help us achieve this award. Work included a regular eco slot in the bulletin from Rev. Debra, reviewing our lighting, water usage (particularly in the toilets), looking at which products we purchase e.g. paper cups and bio-degradable flower arranging foam. Outside work has included our new bike rack, bird nesting boxes and a bug hotel.

Stuart Johnson was confirmed by The Bishop of Middleton, the Rt Rev Mark Davies on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm at St Michael's Flixton. Members of St. John's went along to this service to share this special service with Stuart.

We held our Annual Parochial Church meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September members of our Mission community went on a prayer walk which involved walking to all 7 churches in the Mission Community. The prayer walk started with a short time of prayer at 9.45am at St Michael's Church. They then walked to St John's then onto St Mary's, Christ Church, St Clement's, St Matthews and finally ended at All Saints in Stretford.

JC squad has continued to meet with 2 to 8 children meeting together. They have become used to coming back into church at the end of a service to tell the congregation what they have been doing. They have produced many posters that have been displayed in church. They have contributed to our eco award by making a bug hotel for our grounds. They have also read in the All-age services.

The All-age team have continued to produce thought provoking and inter-active monthly services for all ages of our congregation to be involved in. We have also had

guest speakers from Football Ambassadors, Open doors and Compassion in our Sunday morning services.

On the Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September St John's hosted a meeting of the Christian Ministry amongst Jewish People (CMJ)- an international group. They were celebrating 200 years of ministry.

Mission Community wanted a project that the whole community could work together on, this proved difficult as we are such different churches. Rev. Debra suggested Stepping Stones which is a programme to look at where your church is at and where it is going to. A Stepping Stone event was held at St John's, this was well attended and resulted in many good ideas. There was a request for more social events e.g. coffee morning. It was suggested that we engage more with our hall users especially pre-school with perhaps a drop in for parents once a month. Baptism follow up was also discussed: 6 from last year and one this year. Bereavement follow ups were suggested. Rev. Debra worked with a part time OLM from All Saints and two other people to set up a bereavement workshop using the Grave talk literature. It was held 2 -4pm on a Saturday afternoon in November at All Saints. It aimed to support people struggling with bereavement.

We held our harvest festival on the 1<sup>st</sup> October, donations of food were taken to the Booth centre, Manchester.

19 members of St John's thoroughly enjoyed a church weekend at Scargill House in Wharfedale, near to Kettlewell, from November 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>. There was input from members of the Christian community at Scargill, with free time to enjoy the surrounding countryside and to enjoy each other's company.

Mission Community Prayer meetings have been held monthly in a different church in our Mission community, either in the afternoon or in the evening. We hosted the prayer meeting in December.

Monthly morning services were again held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at DeBrook Lodge. There are normally around 9 to 15 residents who join us for this act of worship. At Christmas we held a carol service for them at which our handbell ringers rang their bells. It was an enjoyable event, the residents, staff and visitors all joined in.

We collected shoeboxes again for Samaritan's Purse shoebox appeal, members of the congregation also donated to the on-line appeal.

An Advent series called "Follow the star" was held on 3 evenings in December.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. some of our members went to the Toy house to sing Christmas carols with Rev. Nick on guitar. There were 8 carol services held at St John's church, Acrehall and Wellacre schools came in. Our main carol service was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> Dec with the choir singing and the hand bells ringing.

Rev. Debra has been visiting St. John's preschool on a regular basis. The pre-school children have been coming into church for an inter-active story time with Rev. Debra and Angela Easdon. The stories covered so far have been Noah, Jesus telling the disciples where to fish and the Nativity story.

It has been a very busy year and we thank God for all that has been achieved.