



**St George's Wilton
Taunton**

**In the heart of
Wilton & Sherford**

**Growing
in Spirit
Growing
in Number**
ST GEORGES
WILTON

APCM REPORTS

ST GEORGE

Tuesday 20th May 7.30pm APCM 2025



St. George's Church, Wilton Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) May 2025 Report

**Churchwarden's Report for the year 1st January to 31st December 2024
Including the 'Premises, Goods and Ornaments' Report.**

1.Church Records

In accordance with The Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018, the **Log Book**, **Terrier** and **Inventory** are to the best of our knowledge up to date and accurate. These are available for inspection in the Church Office. Also, the Register of Services has been maintained and is kept in the Vestry. Other current record books (Weddings, Baptisms, Burials and Confirmations) are kept in the small safe in the Vestry.

2.Premises - The Church

2.1 Goods and Ornaments

- The goods and ornaments recorded in the Log Book and Inventory are all present and in good order. There is an up-to-date photographic record of these. We're very grateful that the silverware and brass items are regularly cleaned by members of the congregation.

2.2 Repairs and Maintenance

- **Boiler & Heating:** The Church boiler had its annual service in September 2024. A persistent fault that made the heating unreliable was eventually resolved in November by Vaillant engineers led by Peter Walling. As recommended by the Church Architect, the temperature inside the Church has been maintained at between 13°C – 15°C during the winter but increased for services. Gas consumption and cost is therefore expected to be higher than in 2023.
- **Quinquennial Inspection and Proposed Remedial Work:** The Church Architect, Jonathan Rhind carried out a Quinquennial inspection of the Church in April 2024: broadly he considered the Church to be in good condition. However, his subsequent report recommended some urgent work requiring immediate attention: principally that the lead roof of the tower should be replaced and one of the pinnacles on the tower to be re-fixed. A specification for this major work is to be prepared and competitive quotations from firms specialising in building conservation work will be obtained.

2.3 Work and Improvements

- **Lightening Conductor:** A second lightening conductor was installed in April to ensure that the protection meets up to date regulations (BSEN 62305).
- **Electrical Installation Condition Report:** The mandatory five-yearly inspection of the Church's electrical system showed the need for a fair amount of remedial work to meet current standards. This was carried out in March and April and the system is now satisfactory.



ST GEORGE'S

- **Audio-Visual System:** Extensive improvements have been made to the AV system and special effects lighting by Matt Norman and Matt Elliot, particularly with the extension of live streaming for all main services. 'List B' faculty approval was received from the Archdeacon in December allowing two new loudspeakers to be fitted on the walls above the arches at the front of the nave. These have improved the quality of sound, especially the music.
- **Removal of Pews:** A 'Temporary Minor Re-ordering' license was approved in May, allowing the removal of up to seven pews in the North aisle to provide more accessible space for wheelchair users, children and families. A temporary ramp up to the pew platform was installed.
- **Drains:** A specialist company eventually managed to clear a blockage of the main rainwater drain at the east end of the Church in December. However, this work revealed that the drain is extensively damaged by Yew tree roots and will need to be replaced in due course.

3.The Churchyard

- **Box Trees Removed:** 'List B' approval was received in July to fell two large Box trees (with eight limbs) outside the Vestry that were dead or dying from Box-tree moth infestation. The area is being cleared of weeds and will be grassed over.
- **Gardening and Maintenance.** Churchyard Gardening Volunteers (typically 4 – 6 people per session) continue to carry out tasks, including weeding, pruning shrubs and raking up grass cuttings. They do this mainly on the third Saturday morning of each month (March – November), or on an individual basis at other times, to keep the Churchyard looking well cared-for. We continue to be grateful to them, and to Stuart Colwill for his very generous annual donation which pays for the contract gardening in the South side of the Churchyard.

4.Premises - The Church Hall

- **Maintenance:** Routine maintenance has been carried out, including servicing the gas boiler. Following the five-yearly inspection of the Hall's electrical system, including the fire alarm and emergency lighting, necessary remedial work was completed in March, and a satisfactory Electrical Installation Condition certificate was issued.
- **Basement:** The basement was cleared and re-organised for both church and Scouts' storage with the help of the Scouts in September. This then allowed one of the Scouts' sheds behind the Scout Hut to be demolished so that space could be created for the Men's Shed group to install a second-hand summer house building for their group's activity.

5.Thanks

We would like to thank the many volunteers who, over the last year have helped with all the tasks that come within the sphere of the Churchwardens' responsibilities, and which are needed to support and encourage the life of our church family.

Peter Joyce and Lisa Westlake, Churchwardens

1st April 2025



Safeguarding

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

The work of safeguarding is an important and substantial part of the administrative work at St Georges. This year we have focused primarily on refining and improving our safer recruitment processes so that they are robust enough to fulfil our obligations and speedy enough to make the church work efficiently.

This year I have held the position of safeguarding officer, ably supported by Hilary McKegney. This has meant that our policy development has slowed down, and it is part of the target for 2025 to improve this aspect of the work.

At the end of the year Hilary McKegney took on the role of safeguarding officer.

Nick Griffin, Safeguarding Coordinator

St. George's Pastoral Care and Support

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

Pastoral care and support is provided in a variety of ways by many individuals and groups at St. Georges. Pastoral care extends to all age groups, and we are lucky that St. Georges' offers so much to so many. Simply looking out for one another, noticing if someone hasn't been to church for a while, flagging the need for prayer, paying a visit are all examples of the informal support that is provided by so many members of our congregations for those in particular need.

More formal visiting is carried out by a team of pastoral visitors who provide care and support for the vulnerable and those in need in the parish and wider community. Pastoral visitors serve as the eyes and ears of the church and are commissioned to visit by Rev. Nick Griffin who is ultimately responsible for pastoral care at St. Georges. Visits are carried out in the person's home whether this is in their own residence, hospital, nursing or residential home. The focus of the visit is to provide Christian fellowship and to meet any spiritual or emotional need which may involve conversation, reading and/or prayer. Visits are tailored to the individual needs of the person but will often include simply listening, practical tasks and signposting, if required, to other agencies.

Very sadly one of our very valued team members, Rose Cole, died during the past year. We miss her sunny personality and contribution very much indeed. Understandably Paul has taken a break from pastoral visiting.

Holy Communion is offered to people in their own homes if they, for whatever reason, are unable to come to church. This includes people who are ill, dying or



housebound. Family members may also attend the short service of communion which is carried out in the home.

Meetings are held for the pastoral visitors as a means of support as well as discussing how things are going and how we could extend our reach. Visitors are trained in all matters related to safeguarding, confidentiality and maintaining appropriate boundaries. "Soup" is promoted by the visitors as an excellent way for people to meet and socialise in a safe space.

A link with the prayer circle provides opportunities to contact people who may need support if only for a short time however the team seem to be visiting the same people with very few referrals coming through. It seems as if it may be the time for a fresh approach, something to be discussed with Nick and the team.

The team is aware that there are many people of all ages in our community who have pastoral needs, and we would like to be able to extend the offer of support to all those who need it in whatever way they need it. Please do contact the team on pastoralcare@stgchurch.co.uk if you would like to refer someone for pastoral care or if you are interested in joining the team.

Hilary McKegney, Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Care Home Communion

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

As part of the pastoral care and support St. George's Church continues to offer services to three residential homes. They each receive a monthly visit from a member of the team.

Ellisfields Court have a monthly communion service which is well attended by the residents. Mary Toomey has been a great help in organising the publicity, setting up the room and finding readers. Lin Woods stepped down in December 2024 after ten years of loyal service.

St George's Residential Home and Elizabeth House have a different form of service based on Messy Vintage materials. Holy Communion is offered on an individual basis.

Each setting receives support for both residents and staff.

The Carol Services are always a highlight of the calendar and St. George's residents were delighted to receive Christmas gift bags made up of goods donated by members of the congregation.

Jenny Jeffrey continues to offer home communion to the housebound and has a funeral ministry. Lin Wood has a group of regular people who receive home communion and will continue to offer this service.

We are pleased to offer this pastoral care enabling the church to maintain links



with those who are unable to attend services on a Sunday. We look forward to continuing and developing this ministry in 2025.

Kate Taylor, Reader and Care Home Coordinator

St. George's Children and Families Work Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

2024 has been a year of growth, joy, and deeper connection in the Family, Children, and Youth Ministry at St. George's. We've shared many exciting moments and milestones - strengthening our relationships with children and families while nurturing faith in everyday life.

Volunteer Support

Our volunteers across all groups, events, and ministries have been absolutely fantastic! In 2024, we said thank you to a few who moved on to serve in other areas, and we welcomed new faces to our team. However, we continue to need more hands to help sustain and grow these ministries in the year ahead.

Sunday Groups – Tots, Kids & Youth@11

All three groups remained steady through 2024. There were a few venue changes:

- **Tots** now meet in the Dunning Room
- **Kids** are in the Church Hall
- **Youth** gather in the Winston Room

We're grateful that the PCC approved funding for a youth room makeover - this will allow our young people to create a space that feels like their own, while still being usable by others.

The spaces we use are quite contained for Tots and Kids, and Tots@11 occasionally felt tight as older toddlers remained in the group. However, as some children moved up to Kids@11, things have become more manageable.

Youth@11

Led by Jay Lanchbury and team, Youth@11 has grown into a close-knit community. Friendships and faith deepened this year, particularly as some of our young people attended **SPREE camp** in Exeter for the first time - we hope to be able to send the young people to a camp every year.

We also continued to engage with the **Taunton Youth Gathering**, an ecumenical initiative that brings together Christian youth from local churches a few times each term. We'd love to resource this further but currently don't have volunteers available to support with planning or attendance. We're praying for this gap to be filled in 2025.



Kids@11

Kids@11 has seen continued growth and change throughout 2024. We said a fond farewell and thank you to **Hilary Hayes**, who faithfully led the group until July. Bryony Griffin has taken on the role for the time being.

The group serves children aged 3–9/10. While attendance for many is weekly, sometimes it can be every 2, 3, or 4 weeks for some families. It has been a joy to welcome new families. Planning for such a wide age range can be challenging, and ideally, we would love to split the group into two smaller age-based groups (ages 3–5 and 6–9/10). However, due to limited volunteer capacity, this hasn't yet been possible.

Tots@11

Tots@11 has flourished this year with the introduction of a weekly **Circle Time**, thanks to **Charlotte Kelley** for running the group/team so creatively. Each week includes a simple Bible story, a game, a song, and themed crafts or toys during free play.

Parents - who stay in the session with their children - have formed encouraging friendships, building community around shared experiences. The group has relied heavily on a small team, and we would love to see more leaders step forward to help with Circle Time and setup.

Mossy Church Themes

Our outdoor Mossy Church sessions continued to creatively engage children with themes such as **Woodland Creatures, Earth Day, Light and Colour, Stargazing**, and **Jungle**, all pointing to God's wonderful creation.

Buggy Buddies

This year saw natural transitions in **Buggy Buddies**, as some parents returned to work while others joined us with new babies. The group continues to offer a warm, supportive community for young families, and remains a valued part of our ministry.

Church Family Events and Holiday Club

A highlight of the year was our **July BBQ's**, which brought families together and strengthened relationships.

In partnership with **Carmen and Pulse Ministries**, we also hosted our **first holiday club** in decades, with a fun **Jungle** theme! It was a joy to welcome so many children over the three days—and even more wonderful to see them and their families at the Sunday service afterward. We hope this is the first of many holiday clubs to come.



Uniformed Organisations and Schools Work

Links with the Uniformed organisations have continued well, with Nick being invited to lead the service after the annual St George's Day town parade in Vivary Park. Each of the groups have also visited the church and Nick has helped to lead games, and topics for sessions as part of the faith badges in the groups. Nick and Rob have continued to lead regular assemblies at Bishop Henderson school as well as welcome the school to take part in the Christmas Tree festival at the Christmas fayre.

Harvest Service and Christmas Fayre

The **Harvest Service at the Barn** was lively and well-attended, featuring lots of fun activities for children.

Our **Christmas Fayre** was a joyful success, including a brand-new '**Elf Village**' filled with crafts and games as well as Santa who once again delighted lots of families. The fayre provided a lovely way to connect with local uniformed organisations and strengthen community ties.

Tuk Tuk Caroling and Christmas Services

Tuk Tuk Caroling was a delightful way to bring cheer to the wider community! Our **Christmas services**, including the **Christingle**, were very well attended. A brilliant team of volunteers assembled the Christingles in record time, and we were especially pleased to welcome young people from both church and the wider community to sing in the choir for the Carol Service.

Buggy Services: Easter and Christmas

Our special **Buggy Services** at **Easter** and **Christmas** created a warm and relaxed space to share God's love through songs, stories, crafts and play with babies, toddlers, and their families.

Many of those who came aren't regular churchgoers but are connected through our toddler and outreach groups. It has been encouraging to have conversations about faith - and even more encouraging to see some families begin attending Sunday services after experiencing God's welcome in these spaces.

Looking Ahead

As we look to 2025, we're filled with hope and anticipation for what God will do next. We're committed to building on this year's growth and continuing to support faith journeys for children, youth, and families.

A heartfelt thank you to all who have given time, energy, prayer, and support. Your involvement is what makes this ministry possible.



With gratitude, Bryony

Bryony Griffin, Families, Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator

Small Groups

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

I am pleased to share an update on the life and growth of our small groups ministry over the past year.

We currently have 10 home groups meeting regularly and 4 interest groups, which include Men's Shed, Stroll for the Soul, Women in the Pub, and Men's Pub Club. Together, these groups provide a variety of opportunities for fellowship, discipleship, and spiritual growth.

At present, 83 people are attending home groups regularly. Encouragingly, two new home groups have recently launched and are actively looking for new members. Once these groups are

filled, we anticipate an increase of around 20 more participants, which will bring the total to over 100 people engaged in small group life.

There is a growing recognition of the importance of small groups in fostering a sense of belonging, spiritual development, and support within our church family. With this in mind, we hope to increase awareness and promote small groups more intentionally, with the goal of encouraging everyone who begins attending St George's to join a group within their first year.

To help ensure our group leaders feel supported and equipped, we are aiming to gather all leaders twice a year for training, encouragement, and mutual support. These sessions provide a valuable space for sharing ideas, praying together, and growing in confidence as leaders of our small group ministry. We have met successfully once this year, and the leaders found it a very valuable experience.

Looking ahead, I want to share that I am planning to gradually step back from my role as Home Group Coordinator. We will be praying and seeking God's wisdom about who might take on this role in the future, and how best to facilitate a smooth transition. Please join us in prayer as we discern the next steps.

Carmen Cromwell, Small Groups Coordinator



Deanery Synod

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

The Deanery Synod is part of the structure within the Church of England to enable people at different levels discuss key issues as well as helping to organise the church's ministry and mission. It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish and the synod of the diocese as a whole. Its priorities include Mission Action Planning and the allocation of the "share" from the deanery to the parishes.

Each parish is entitled to send two lay representatives as well as the licenced parish clergy. Currently I am the elected lay member and attend the meetings with either Nick, Rob, or Richard.

Richard Carpenter, who is a long-standing member of St. James' church in Taunton is the Lay Dean and as such chairs the meetings which are held quarterly. Meetings sometimes begin with a short act of worship prior to the formal business element.

As well as general deanery news which provides an overview of appointments, retirements, changes to personnel, vacancies, finances etc meetings tends to focus on one area of specific interest. The Deanery Services of Reflection are continuing in 2025.

At the October 2024 meeting, Andy Levett from the Diocesan Go Team gave a presentation entitled "Growing Faith with Children, Young People and Families". He emphasised the importance of putting children, young people and families at the heart and that change is required in the Church of England to achieve this. It's not about shiny new resources but rather changing the way we think. Relationships between School, Church and Home were explored.

I reported back to our PCC that we are encouraged to put "growing faith conversations" on the agenda over the next year to spend time considering what change is needed in order to place children, young people and families at the heart of all we do.

In February this year, the speaker was Revd Ann Fulton, Spiritual Care Co-ordinator at St Margaret's Hospice, who has led Spiritual Care at St Margaret's for the past ten Years. She was joined by Simon Helliard-Moore and Louise Tredwin, two local funeral directors who also contributed to the meeting. There was discussion in groups using "Grave Talk" cards. Ann talked about her role at the hospice and encouraged anyone who is interested in becoming involved in the ministry to contact her directly.

Hilary McKegney, Deanery Synod Representative

Worship

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025



The nine thirty

We now have Ian Carson regularly playing the organ as well Ed Jenkins once a month. Stephen Page and Ian Gouge play occasionally. And Elaine and Nick Thomas fill in if we have a gap.

The choir has had some developments over the last year. With a vision to attract more members we no longer have a regular robed choir or process in and out. What once was the 'Come & Sing' choir that sang occasionally is now the regular choir that sings twice a month. Kenneth, Amala and Gladys have been a wonderful addition to the team. Christmas saw the biggest and best choir yet, around 25 singers including some children joining us. We pulled off a big programme of proper choral music and it was a big achievement.

We now have about 12-18 singers regularly in the choir with the aim to have a regular choir of 20.

The eleven

We said that if we wanted to lead the church deeper in worship then we needed to start ourselves and so our worship times together have now birthed Worship+ as an opportunity to invite the wider church to join us on this journey.

We have been blessed with new musicians joining the church and have now grown to have 20 people regularly involved in leading worship at the eleven.

We have installed a new speaker system that has been hung up on the pillars and greatly improves the sound quality and spreads the sound more evenly across the church. We have also recently bought a computer that runs Waves software that processes the sound as it goes through the mixing desk and will enable a significant improvement in sound and clarity in the room and on the livestream.

We will be training up tech teams which is an important next move forward for the church. A normal service requires one person to run sound, one to run projection and another to run cameras. We need more volunteers and so we are hoping to run training sessions for sound, projection and camera teams.

The average size of our band last year was 2 or 3, we recently had 7 people leading on a Sunday and 9 at the Worship+ evening.

I've loved being part of the church here. It's been the best team to work with, and an exciting privilege to see the church grow so much in the last two years.

Chris Sampson, Worship Director

Bell ringing

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025



Bell ringing continues to be an important and active part of the life of St George's. Apart from our regular practice sessions on Tuesday evenings and ringing every Sunday for the 9.30 service we have marked various national events, and other more local, domestic events, with additional ringing, bringing in assistance from other churches where necessary. Most of our ringers also attend practices at other local churches and help them out as required in reciprocation.

We continue to help each other to progress by continually pushing ourselves to learn new 'methods' and to improve our 'striking' – where it is important to achieve a small and even gap between the individual bell sounds and avoid the bells clashing.

We rang Quarter Peals (comprising a minimum of 1260 'changes' and taking about 45 minutes) to commemorate the anniversary of D Day in June; as a birthday compliment to Elizabeth Lane also in June (rung by local members of the 'Ladies Guild'); and another on a practice night in August. In July Tim Denovan rang the tenor bell in his first Quarter Peal, a significant achievement for a new ringer.

During the year we have been pleased to welcome visiting ringers from Surrey, Devon and Gloucestershire. On 20th April a visiting band with ringers from Exeter Cathedral and Wimborne Minster were successful in ringing a full peal on all 10 bells; 2 hours 47 minutes of ringing.

In April we were able to enter bands into the 'method' and 'call changes' categories in the Taunton Branch striking competition. Our results were rather more modest than in 2023 but we enjoyed the chance to meet up with other local ringers and have an excellent tea! We will aim to do better in 2025!

In November we had a visit by 23 Beavers as part of their meeting in the church. Groups of 5 or 6 were given a short talk about bell ringing and had a chance to chime a bell.

We are very grateful for the continuing support and encouragement that we have from all the St. George's church family, and we really appreciate our visit from a member of the team before the 9.30 service.

Brenda Arscott (Tower Captain), Jeremy Taylor and Elizabeth Lane.

Hospitality

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

Hospitality continues to be a cornerstone of life at St George's, and in 2024 we've enjoyed a wide range of events designed to bring people together from across our church, parish, and wider community. Through regular gatherings and special celebrations, we've sought to deepen our relationships and live out our calling to be a welcoming and supportive community. As we look ahead, we're excited to keep building on this momentum, and we warmly encourage everyone to join in - and invite others along too. Community is made richer when shared!



A **huge** thank you to everyone on the hospitality team who helped make all of this possible.

Ongoing

- Soup Gatherings – Held every Thursday until Easter, and resumed every Tuesday from October

April

- Home Group Leaders Thank You Meal
- Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion

May

- Wine and Cheese Night

June

- Pentecost Hog Roast
- Rob's Priesting BBQ

July

- Weekly Bring & Share BBQs – Held each Sunday
- Holiday Club Sunday BBQ – A special gathering for Holiday Club children and parents
- Mental Health Day (Soup Lunch)

September

- Harvest Barn Dance

October

- Mental Health Day (Lunch provided)

December

- Christmas Fayre
- TukTuk Carols – Three events
- Mulled Wine and Mince Pies after each carol service

Looking ahead to 2025 and beyond, we plan to continue with a similar rhythm of events - combining regular community meals with larger seasonal celebrations. As always, our aim is to offer spaces where people can connect, feel welcome, and build lasting relationships. Whether it's sharing soup on a weekday, dancing in a barn, or singing carols in the cold with warm mince pies in hand, every moment of hospitality matters. We hope you'll be part of it.

Rob Cromwell, Hospitality Coordinator

Community Fridge



Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

This year the Community Fridge has been successful. Okay we've not had as much donated from ALDI as they've got their ordering sorted out, but that's good news as it means that they're not wasting as much themselves.

The volunteers are working well. In fact, when two collectors and one opener/cleaner/closer were not able to volunteer for various reasons, we had exactly those numbers of new volunteers. One volunteer came from our own congregation and two collectors from elsewhere and they were able to start in time for there not to be any disruptions. Some folks would say, "What a coincidence!" I say that's God at work.

Over the first 18 months we've saved from waste over 6,500 kilograms of food, equivalent to 13 ½ Walruses or 6 Smart cars!!

If we had more people volunteering, we could do more, open more days and save more food. We just ask you to offer an hour a fortnight. If you're interested, please contact me at fridge@stgchurch.co.uk.

Mervyn Roberts, Community Fridge Coordinator

Scouts

Report for St. George's Wilton APCM, 20th May 2025

1st Taunton Scout group has once again had a very successful year. All sections are at capacity with a healthy waiting list. This essentially means we are delivering weekly activities to 120 young people across the five sections that we run, ranging from our youngest Squirrels at four years of age, right up to Explorers at seventeen.

The group has a good level of adult support, but we are always on the lookout for more adults to support us, especially within our younger sections. If anyone is interested, please do reach out for a chat.

In addition to our adult support, we offer opportunities for our Explorer Scouts to volunteer as young leaders within each of our sections. This is a great opportunity for them to develop numerous skills, and many take this opportunity as it also fulfils some of the criteria towards achieving the Duke of Edinburgh awards which is something we are passionate about promoting.

We have had a successful year with regards to our partnership with the church. Alongside the Remembrance service we have taken part in the Christmas Carol service, fundraised at the Christmas fayre, run a number of sessions with Nick's support in the church itself, and have worked with Peter Joyce and the Men's Shed team to create more usable space for the church. The Men's Shed team have made us a wonderful new sign for our camp site at Huish Woods which is due to be installed in the next few weeks.



The list of activities and experiences we run are simply too many to list, but we have another packed year ahead of us with many camps, weekends away, Ten Tors events all to look forward to.

In summary, it has been a pleasure to lead the group for the past twelve months and I look forward to a productive and exciting year ahead. I feel the same can be said with regards to our relationship with the church and I'm very much looking forward to supporting one another as we head into the best scouting time of the year, light evenings and many camps!

Michael Brunton, Group Scout Leader

DRAFT 12/04/24

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Rev. Dr N Griffin
Mr P Joyce
Mrs L Westlake (appointed 7 May 2024)
Mrs H McKegney
Mr M Norman
Mrs M Carson
Mr P Cole
Mr P Underwood (resigned 18 March 2025)
Mr I Pinder
Mrs B Baigent
Mrs K Lanchbury
Mrs H Hayes (resigned 7 May 2024)
Miss L Willetts
Rev. R Kelley
Rev. R Cromwell
Ms D Vickery (resigned 7 May 2024)
Ms L Norris (appointed 5 March 2024)

Charity number

1134647

Independent Examiner

J Farkas
Lentells Limited
Ash House, Cook Way
Bindon Road, Taunton
Somerset, TA2 6BJ

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Parochial Church Council's governing trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

Objectives and activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar, Rev. Dr Nick Griffin, in the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the church's properties.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in deciding what activities the PCC should undertake. It is the PCC's intention that St. George's Church, Wilton, its hall, churchyard and allotments should be available to the local community whether they are church members or not.

Achievements and performance

Church Membership and Activity

There are 141 members on the new Church Electoral Roll. The St George's 'worshipping community', as reported to the Diocese at 31 December 2024 was 181.

St George's continues to enable the community to mark life's milestones. During 2024 there were 6 weddings and 10 baptisms in the church. There were 10 funerals either in the Church or at Taunton Crematorium. All of these events bring the church into contact with people at very significant times in their lives and the ministry of the church is appreciated. It also presents an opportunity to make those members of the community aware of other things the church is able to offer.

Overview from the Vicar

2024 was a strong year for St George's, in which we have continued to witness the faithfulness of God as we grow both in spirit and in number. It is a privilege to serve as the Vicar of this parish, and I am deeply grateful to God and to the community for calling me to this place. We break our vision into various categories to help us focus.

Worship

- Our twin services at 9:30 and 11:00 continue to provide a fruitful pattern of worship at St George's, with both services seeing steady growth throughout the year. The close timing of the services offers flexibility for worshippers, and it's not unusual for people to switch between them as needed. This healthy pattern allows our community to enjoy both diversity and continuity of space and ministry.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- The 9:30 communion service offers a steady yet energetic liturgical form, following *Common Worship*. Twice a month, additional choral offerings are led ably by Chris Sampson. Partway through the year, we chose to stop using robes for the choir, which has successfully encouraged greater participation. Alongside Chris, our worship has been enriched by a number of talented musicians, including Ian Carson, Ian Gouge, Stephen Page, Jackie and Alana Cottey.
- The 11:00 service has now permanently relocated to the church building, which has facilitated further growth. With current attendance levels, it would be impossible to imagine moving it back. Though the transition took some adjustment for those used to a more informal space, the church has now become home to all our services.
- Preaching, leading, and intercessions are shared across a wide and talented team. As vicar, I'm blessed to draw from this pool of developing gifts.
- We are richly blessed by the many retired ministers among us. Special thanks to Rev. Geoff Treasure, Rev. Jenny Jeffery, Rev. Michael Hayes, Rev. Keith Powell, and Rev. Martin Kirkbride for their dedication, hard work, and unseen contributions.
- Our verging team, led by Michael and Tricia Yardley, do an excellent job maintaining the sanctuary and ensuring that the altar area is kept in good order and the sacrament is appropriately respected.
- All our services are supported by our technical team, led by Matt Norman and well assisted by Matt Ellet and Laurie Jeffery. The growth in this area has been breathtaking, among the strongest technical offerings in the town. This enables us to stream all our regular services, offering excellent outreach to those joining us online, along with a high standard of musical production. I remain genuinely astonished at how far this ministry has come since my arrival in 2021.
- Streaming has become a regular part of our worship life. At the time of writing (April 2025), we have 470 subscribers, with around 100 people tuning in for the 11:00 service and 60–80 for the 9:30.
- We hosted several special services during the year. Highlights include a joint Pentecost service featuring gospel music and a hog roast, as well as a Harvest celebration at Cutliffe Farm — special thanks to the tech team, who dedicated their entire Saturday to setting up at the barn.
- Rev. Rob Cromwell was ordained priest in June 2024, and we are grateful for the leadership he continues to bring and for this new sacramental dimension to his ministry.
- Rev. Richard Kelley has continued to offer strong support as Associate Minister, and we are thankful for his dedicated ministry.
- Carmen Cromwell, our placement student throughout 2024, has contributed much to our leadership and preaching.
- Christmas and Easter services were packed this year! We introduced several new elements, including three "Tuk Tuk" community carol services and a new contemporary carol service alongside our traditional services and Christingles. Christmas Day was particularly memorable, with standing room only!
- We now hold monthly Worship Gatherings, which combine worship, training, and Bible study for our musicians.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Family and Children

I will defer much of the detail here to those leading these ministries. Coordination falls to Bryony Griffin, who manages this large and diverse team. Special thanks to Mrs Griffin, who oversees one of the largest children's and youth ministries in the town, all on a voluntary basis. The growth of this ministry has reached the scale of a full-time role, and the church will need to consider future investment in this area.

Community and Mission

There is so much going on in this area that I may well miss something!

- The community fridge is now well established, running smoothly four days a week and redistributing surplus food from a main supermarket partner. Thanks to Mervyn Roberts for his steadfast leadership of this important environmental work.
- Soup had another strong year, running through the colder months (September–March). The project, led by Rob, offers soup, bread, cheese, cake, and tea, with donations welcomed but not required. Typically, 20–30 people attend, and it has been a great way to welcome people into the space. Thanks to Somerset Community Foundation for their continued financial support.
- The Men's Shed is thriving under Terry Ware's leadership. With help from a Wessex Water Foundation grant, they have now installed a dedicated toolshed. Beyond the practical projects, the true value lies in the relationships built — one member told me the Shed had given them “a reason to keep going.”
- Women in the Pub, led by Kate Taylor, continues to offer creative and social activities for women and is well appreciated.
- Rob's new “Pub Club” at the Vivary Arms has been well received, helping to connect men across congregations and generations.
- Stroll for the Soul continues to draw groups for gentle walks, prayer, friendship, and the occasional song along the byways of Taunton.
- Jane Joyce has led our churchyard gardening team beautifully, creating a much-loved and well-used churchyard space. Thanks to all the team!
- Our Reader, Kate Taylor, has led our care home ministry, supporting St George's Care Home, Ellisfield Court, and Elizabeth House. These visits vary between communion services and more conversational or craft-based sessions, depending on the context.
- The pastoral team, led by Hilary McKegney, continues to offer home communion and visits to those unable to attend services in person. A review in the new year will explore ways to develop this ministry further.
- We held two mental health days, titled *Faith, Hope, and Mental Health*, featuring Kintsugi Hope and Rev. Rob Merchant. Though attendance was lower than hoped (around 30), those who came found them deeply valuable.
- Rob has led Alpha courses this year, aiming for one per term. These have been well received, with a number of participants now attending church regularly.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- Geoff Treasure led two popular courses: one exploring the gospel through *Les Misérables*, and another called *Hymns We Love* — both were so well attended that we ran out of space in the Dunning Room!
- Geoff also ran the bereavement course *Valley Café*, which was greatly appreciated and led to new members joining our fellowship.
- Carmen Cromwell continues to lead our home groups, which currently number around 10 groups. Demand often exceeds supply, and we need more leaders. Groups follow a variety of study materials and are self-led. An “Extra Slice” video resource is regularly produced to accompany the sermons.
- In June, our cheffing-curate, Rob Cromwell, ran a month-long barbecue, providing a fantastic opportunity for fellowship and outreach.
- Our refreshments and coffee team is now led by Rob, who took over from Barbara Reeves after many years of faithful service. Managing the needs of the 9:30 coffee time and the turnaround for the 11:00 children's work is a challenge, but thanks to all who help!
- Finally, our Christmas Fayre was a fun and joyful occasion despite the bitter weather. The team delivered an outstanding event with music, food, stalls, and crafts, raising around £2,000 for the church. Special thanks to Hilary McKegney, Bethan Baigent, Bryony Griffin, and Carmen Cromwell.

Finance and Resources

Our treasurer has provided the Financial Review, so I will focus here on our physical and human resources.

- Over the past year, we've seen growth in the staff team, which naturally came with the challenge of establishing a new working rhythm for the longer-standing team members, Bethan Baigent and Nick. I'm pleased to say the team now operates with a clear weekly structure that supports both community availability and preparation time. The new office set-up, with its clear reception function, has improved our welcome to the community, though we continue to face challenges in recruiting suitable volunteers for office support.
- Governance remains under the oversight of the PCC, with its membership listed earlier. Two sub-committees support the PCC's work:
 - The Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, Curate, Administrator, Treasurer, Wardens, and one PCC representative, holds delegated spending authority and has successfully expedited day-to-day decisions.
 - The Buildings Sub-Committee, consisting of Paul Cole, Peter Joyce, and Nick Griffin, has been instrumental in progressing essential works on our buildings.
- We remain deeply grateful for Ian Pinder's ongoing wisdom and work as Treasurer, and for Robin Stamp's faithful service as Christian Giving Officer. Special thanks go to Geoff Winterson who has now stepped back from organising the banking of collections. Geoff did this 'temporarily' over 5 years ago and has been faithful and organised in this important task.
- A special thanks to Helen Clegg for her service as PCC Secretary. This role has now been taken up by Lucy Norris, whose steady hand and clarity have been invaluable as we develop policies to manage the church's growth. As Vicar and Chair of the PCC, I am personally grateful for her wise counsel.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- In 2024, we welcomed Lisa Westlake as a new Churchwarden, bringing fresh energy alongside Peter Joyce's faithful tenure. Peter plans to retire from this role at the 2025 APCM, and we are immensely thankful for his dedication, kindness and insights.
- The MES programme continued through 2023–24 with a fresh focus, drawing participants from beyond our immediate church community.
- Regarding safeguarding, Hilary McKegney and Nick Griffin shared the role through much of 2024. By year-end, Hilary fully took over the post, and I am especially grateful for her meticulous work in safer recruitment — a demanding but vital responsibility.
- The long-overdue quinquennial inspection of the church building identified both minor and more serious issues. Peter's fabric report will provide fuller details, but notably, the church tower roof requires significant repairs.
- Meanwhile, future development plans for the church have been actively pursued, with the expert and generous guidance of Paul Cole.
- We successfully introduced new church management software this year. Rob Cromwell led this project with great skill, and the system has already made our administration significantly more efficient.
- Bethan Baigent continues to serve with remarkable dedication as Administrator and PA. Over her nine years with us, her role has evolved greatly. I remain deeply thankful for her professionalism, her high standards, and the grace-filled character she brings to her work.

Prayer

- We launched a new monthly Sunday evening prayer gathering, Pray, combining music and intercession. While attendance varies, it has been warmly appreciated.
- Morning prayer continues twice a week in church, sustaining the rhythm of prayer in our life together.
- The Prayer Space, once used weekly, unfortunately ceased around mid-2024. We will need to reconsider its use.
- The Prayer Shed, though a wonderful resource, is currently under-used. We need to rethink its role to make it more accessible and inviting for the community.
- Prayer ministry has been offered weekly, though the layout of our church has posed challenges for providing a quiet, dedicated space. Both congregations have expressed a desire for more opportunities for prayer ministry, which we will aim to address.

Conclusion

- 2024 has been a wonderful year of blessing for us as a whole community and I am confident of the grace of God in this next stage of life and development.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Financial Review

- Although St George's total income and total expenditure for 2024 as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities look very similar to the equivalent figures in 2023, there are notable differences between the two years. In 2023 the figures were boosted by an appeal for the upgrading of the church office which brought in income of £24,588 and incurred expenditure of £29,515 but there are no equivalent income and expenditure figures in 2024. Also in 2023 we received legacies of £7,000 whereas no legacies were received in 2024.
- The improvement in total income in 2024 is largely attributable to a 16.9% increase in the Christian Giving Scheme arising from more people joining the scheme and we are grateful to the members of the congregation who have responded generously.
- On the expenditure side, the Parish Share increased by £8,544 which is 10%, the maximum permitted, and was paid in full. Expenditure on equipment and repairs increased by over £15,000 although some of this was funded by grants and special donations. Utilities costs also increased significantly.
- The overall outcome for the year was a deficit before investment gains of £3,309 which has been funded from reserves. The outlook for 2025 and beyond remains very challenging and we will need a further material increase in Christian Giving if we are to continue to cover our running costs and to fund our opportunities for growth.

Reserves Policy

A charity's reserves fund the working capital which is required to pay for day-to-day operations. In addition, reserves are held to meet unforeseen costs, to finance new initiatives and to fund the gaps between cash receipts and payments.

Our policy is to maintain a minimum level of free unrestricted reserves equivalent to three months revenue expenditure. As at 31 December 2024, the PCC's unrestricted reserves stood at £46,196 which amounts to just under 3 months regular revenue expenditure payable from unrestricted income. The Trustees are aiming to restore the reserves to the required minimum level by 31 December 2025.

It is the longer term aim of the Trustees to set aside reserve funds to cover unexpected repairs to the church, the organ and the church hall.

Investment Powers and Policy

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that sufficient cash is held to cover the day-to-day expenses of the charity and for achieving the best returns available on surplus funds and the endowment fund. The PCC's endowment funds are invested in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund - Income Shares administered by the CCLA.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Risk Management

The Trustees consider risk and other uncertainties regularly at their meetings. Where possible, policies are established and procedures adopted to mitigate those risks, whether they are financial or not. Cash flow is monitored and a financial update is provided at every PCC meeting. The level of voluntary income and our ability to pay the Parish Share are regularly discussed, together with safety and protection issues for those visiting the charity's premises.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity number 1134647. It was registered on 4 March 2010.

The Trustees are the PCC members. The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Rev. Dr N Griffin
Mr P Joyce
Mrs L Westlake (appointed 7 May 2024)
Mrs H McKegney
Mr M Norman
Mrs M Carson
Mr P Cole
Mr P Underwood (resigned 18 March 2024)
Mr I Pinder
Mrs B Baigent
Mrs K Lanchbury
Mrs H Hayes (resigned 7 May 2024)
Miss L Willetts
Rev. R Kelley
Rev. R Cromwell
Ms D Vickery (resigned 7 May 2024)
Ms L Norris (appointed 5 March 2024)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC has a Working Group overseeing the maintenance and management of the churchyard. It has produced a Churchyard Management Policy which has been approved by the PCC and which is reviewed annually.

PCC members are the Managing Trustees of the Church Hall and the Scout Hut; the Diocesan Board of Finance is the Custodian Trustee.

The Church is the land owner of the Wilton Church Allotments (a charity) and the PCC is responsible for ensuring that they are kept in good order; that income and expenditure are in balance, and that a reasonable surplus is generated for "ecclesiastical purposes"

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

Specific roles fulfilled by PCC members are as follows:

Vicar:	Rev. Dr Nick Griffin (Chair)
Churchwardens:	Mr Peter Joyce
	Mrs Lisa Westlake
Deanery Synod Representative:	Mrs Hilary McKegney
Secretary to the Church Council:	Ms Lucy Norris
Treasurer to the Church Council:	Mr Ian Pinder

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

.....
Rev. Dr N Griffin
Vicar

Date: May 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Parochial Church Council and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Parochial Church Council for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Parochial Church Council and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Parochial Church Council and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Parochial Church Council's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council of St George's Church, Wilton (the Parochial Church Council) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Parochial Church Council you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Parochial Church Council's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 in respect of the Parochial Church Council as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

J Farkas
Lentells Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants

Ash House
Cook Way
Bindon Road
Taunton
Somerset
TA2 6BJ

Dated.....

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes					
Income and Endowments						
from:						
Donations, grants and legacies	3	168,028	26,831	-	194,859	198,297
Other trading activities	4	14,453	-	-	14,453	15,454
Investments	5	2,390	-	-	2,390	2,020
Other income	6	10,552	115	-	10,667	7,247
Total income		195,423	26,946	-	222,369	223,018
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	197,842	26,371	-	224,213	218,851
Other expenses	10	1,465	-	-	1,465	1,888
Total resources expended		199,307	26,371	-	225,678	220,739
Net gains on investments	11	-	-	558	558	2,097
Net incoming resources before transfers		(3,884)	575	558	(2,751)	4,376
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(3,884)	575	558	(2,751)	4,376
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		50,080	8,909	24,392	83,381	79,005
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		46,196	9,484	24,950	80,630	83,381

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes				
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations, grants and legacies	3	148,613	49,684	-	198,297
Other trading activities	4	15,454	-	-	15,454
Investments	5	2,020	-	-	2,020
Other income	6	5,576	1,671	-	7,247
Total income		171,663	51,355	-	223,018
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	170,277	48,574	-	218,851
Other expenses	10	1,888	-	-	1,888
Total resources expended		172,165	48,574	-	220,739
Net gains on investments	11	-	-	2,097	2,097
Net incoming resources before transfers		(502)	2,781	2,097	4,376
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(502)	2,781	2,097	4,376
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		50,582	6,128	22,295	79,005
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		50,080	8,909	24,392	83,381

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Investments	12		24,950		24,392
Current Assets					
Debtors	14	22,810		23,293	
Cash at bank and in hand		54,347		68,735	
		<u>77,157</u>		<u>92,028</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Other creditors	15	<u>21,477</u>		<u>33,039</u>	
Net current assets			55,680		58,989
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>80,630</u>		<u>83,381</u>
Capital funds					
Endowment funds			24,950		24,392
Income funds					
Restricted funds	17		9,484		8,909
Unrestricted funds - general			46,196		50,080
			<u>80,630</u>		<u>83,381</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 2025.

.....
Rev. Dr N Griffin
Vicar

.....
Mr I Pinder
Trustee and Treasurer

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	20	(16,778)		9,792	
Investing activities					
Investment income received		2,390		2,020	
Net cash generated from investing activities		2,390		2,020	
Net cash used in financing activities		-		-	
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(14,388)		11,812	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		68,735		56,923	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		54,347		68,735	

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

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

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church Council of St George's Church, Wilton is a charity registered under number 1134647. It was registered on 4 March 2010. The correspondence address for the Parish of St George's Wilton is: St George's Church Office, Fons George, Taunton TA1 3JT. The telephone number is: 01823 284253. Website: www.stgeorgescofetaunton.co.uk. Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Parochial Church Council's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Parochial Church Council is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Parochial Church Council. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment assets which are shown at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Parochial Church Council has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notice to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Parochial Church Council. Only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Parochial Church Council is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Parochial Church Council has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Income (continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Parochial Church Council has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Dividends are accounted for when receivable. Interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that the transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made-up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure recognition

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid or awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation. Parish Share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure on charitable activities is generally recognised when it is incurred. As the charity is not VAT registered all expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT where applicable.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	Fully written off in 2006
Computers	Fully written off in 2011

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

The Parochial Church Council has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Parochial Church Council's balance sheet when the Parochial Church Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Parochial Church Council's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Parochial Church Council is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Parochial Church Council's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (continued)

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations, grants and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	167,578	20,831	188,409	141,613	39,953	181,566
Legacies receivable	-	-	-	7,000	-	7,000
Grants receivable	450	6,000	6,450	-	9,731	9,731
	<u>168,028</u>	<u>26,831</u>	<u>194,859</u>	<u>148,613</u>	<u>49,684</u>	<u>198,297</u>
Donations and gifts						
Christian Giving - GA	117,201	-	117,201	96,636	-	96,636
Christian Giving - non GA	15,282	-	15,282	17,595	-	17,595
Collections Charity	-	12,885	12,885	-	11,823	11,823
Donations - Coffee	1,131	-	1,131	298	-	298
Bursary Fund	-	1,356	1,356	-	-	-
Office Building Appeal	-	2,000	2,000	-	24,588	24,588
Donations - Others	4,664	4,590	9,254	2,908	3,542	6,450
Tax recoverable CG	29,300	-	29,300	24,176	-	24,176
	<u>167,578</u>	<u>20,831</u>	<u>188,409</u>	<u>141,613</u>	<u>39,953</u>	<u>181,566</u>
Legacies receivable						
Legacies	-	-	-	7,000	-	7,000

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Hall hire and allotment rent	12,482	13,484
Fundraising and church events	1,971	1,970
	<u>14,453</u>	<u>15,454</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Income from listed investments	677	667
Interest receivable	1,713	1353
	<u>2,390</u>	<u>2,020</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fees - weddings and funerals	5,331	115	5,446	4,193
Churchyard income	1,903	-	1,903	1,413
Church events income	3,318	-	3,318	-
Church bells funds introduced	-	-	-	1,641
	<u>10,552</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>10,667</u>	<u>7,247</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7 Charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	29,560	28,493
Charitable Giving	13,185	12,025
Parish share	93,986	85,442
Staff and speaker expenses	991	661
Altar expenses and flowers	899	790
Music and organist costs	11,352	12,873
Education, Outreach and Community	2,947	11,537
Youth activities and education	1,967	621
Office costs	9,100	6,312
Church and hall establishment costs	26,236	15,548
Church and hall repairs and maintenance	33,990	44,549
	<u>224,213</u>	<u>218,851</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	197,842	170,277
Restricted funds	26,371	48,574
	<u>224,213</u>	<u>218,851</u>

8 Trustees

The Charity considers its key management personnel to be its Trustees. No remuneration or expenses were paid to the Trustees for their work within the PCC in this or the previous year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024	2023
Number	Number
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>29,560</u>	<u>28,493</u>

In 2024 and 2023 the Parish Administrator was the sole employee.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Other expenses

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Professional fees	654	575
Independent Examination	500	1,020
Bank charges	311	293
	<u>1,465</u>	<u>1,888</u>

11 Net gains on investments

	Endowment funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2023 £
Revaluation of investments	<u>558</u>	<u>2,097</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12 Fixed asset investments	Listed Investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2024	24,392
Valuation changes	558
At 31 December 2024	<u>24,950</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	<u>24,950</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>24,392</u>

Fixed asset investments revalued

In 1971 the trustees of the allotment fund, at the request of the Parochial Church Council, and with the consent of the Charity Commissioners, sold a plot of land as a site for two houses. The PCC is entitled to the income arising on the accumulated fund and to the rents from the allotments, but not to the capital.

All investments are carried at their fair value. Holdings in common investment funds are at their market value.

13 Financial instruments	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	<u>24,950</u>	<u>24,392</u>
14 Debtors	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	9,257	13,587
Prepayments and accrued income	13,553	9,706
	<u>22,810</u>	<u>23,293</u>
15 Other creditors falling due within one year	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	11,952	28,056
Accruals and deferred income	<u>9,525</u>	<u>4,983</u>
	<u>21,477</u>	<u>33,039</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

16 Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent assets which must be held permanently by the Parochial Church Council. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Parochial Church Council and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the assets form part of the fund.

Permanent endowments

Wilton Church Allotments – CBF Church of England Investment Fund – income shares:

	£
Balance at 1 January 2023	22,296
Revaluation gain	2,096
	<hr/>
Balance at 1 January 2024	24,392
Revaluation gain	558
	<hr/>
Balance at 31 December 2024	24,950
	<hr/>

This comprises 1079.06 units at market value of 2312.27 pence.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Pews	3,750	-	-	3,750
Hall refurbishment	1,308	-	(465)	843
Charitable giving	-	11,823	(11,823)	-
Mossy Church	9	178	(91)	96
TukTuk	-	2,500	(1,990)	510
Warm Spaces (Cosy Café/Soup)	961	3,250	(2,322)	1,889
Ministry Experience Scheme	-	981	(981)	-
Prayer Room	100	140	(240)	-
Church Bells Fund	-	1,821	-	1,821
Community Fridge	-	6,074	(6,074)	-
Church Office Building Appeal	-	24,588	(24,588)	-
	6,128	51,355	(48,574)	8,909

	Balance at 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Pews	3,750	-	-	3,750
Hall refurbishment	843	-	(843)	-
Charitable Giving	-	12,885	(12,885)	-
Mossy Church	96	-	(96)	-
TukTuk	510	-	(510)	-
Warm Space (Cosy Café/Soup)	1,889	2,500	(3,463)	926
Church Bells Fund	1,821	115	-	1,936
Community Fridge	-	1,209	(517)	692
Church Office Building Appeal	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
Buildings and Projects Fund	-	3,381	(3,381)	-
Bursary Fund	-	1,356	(176)	1,180
Hall kitchen grant	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
Men's Shed grant	-	1,000	-	1,000
	8,909	26,946	(26,371)	9,484

Charitable Giving represents cash collections for specific charities which are distributed to those charities as they are received. All other restricted funds represent donations and grants for specific church purposes which are treated as restricted income and used as the projects are undertaken.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2024 are represented by:				
Investments	-	-	24,950	24,950
Current assets/liabilities	46,196	9,484	-	55,680
	46,196	9,484	24,950	80,630

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:				
Investments	-	-	24,392	24,392
Current assets/liabilities	50,080	8,909	-	58,989
	50,080	8,909	24,392	83,381

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WILTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

19 Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2023: None).

20 Cash generated from operations

	2024	2023
	£	£
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(2,751)	4,376
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(2,390)	(2,020)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(558)	(2,097)
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	483	(12,998)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(11,562)	22,531
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	<u>(16,778)</u>	<u>9,792</u>

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The Parochial Church Council had no debt during the year.